

## They killed my son who just entered university — Bereaved father

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...Meningitis kills eight in Katsina

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FIVE persons, including a first year student of Ambrose Alli University (AAU), Ekpoma, identified as Collins Ojierakhi, were feared killed by herdsmen in Ugboha, Esan South-East Local Government Area and Odigute in Ovia North-East Local Government Area of Edo State.



About 12 persons are said to have been hospitalized in Benin Central Hospital and other private hospitals in Benin-City, the state capital, as a result of the attacks.

The Ugboha incident occurred on Friday evening as Collins and his friends were reportedly on their way back to the village from Uromi.

The father of the AAU student, Mr Festus Ojierakhi, told Sunday Vanguard, yesterday, "I am just confused. I was actually in the house eating at about 8pm and I started asking about my son who was not there. I was told he went to Uromi with his friends on motorcycle.

"It was around 9pm that the mother of my son's friend started crying that herdsmen had killed her son. I rushed out of the house and I asked about my own son. I was told he died too.

"We immediately ran to the place. When we got there we were told that the police had come to take the corpses to Ubiaja mortuary. I was told my son and two others died. They said the other person that died is an Igbo person.

"The information we heard was that as my son was returning home on Okada, the herdsmen and their cattle blocked the road and they waited for them to leave the road. Immediately they passed, some of their people in the bush opened fire on my son and his friends and they died at the spot.

"I have been to the Area Commander's office and they said they were investigating the matter. I don't know what to do. This is a young boy that just entered university".