

8 killed in Ondo fresh attack

By Dayo Johnson

AKURE —IN a renewed attack by suspected herdsmen, no fewer than eight persons, mainly farmers, have been killed in Imoru, Arimogija and Molege axis of Ose Local Government Area of Ondo State, in the last two weeks.

It was gathered that that in the fresh attack, several houses were set ablaze, women raped while over 40 hectares of farmlands were destroyed at Imoru, Arimogija and Molege communities by the herdsmen.

Locals who spoke with newsmen, alleged that "the recent attack was triggered due to efforts by farmers in the two communities to repel the continued wanton destruction of their crops by the rampaging herdsmen."

According to them, the herdsmen also killed some traders and passengers in

commercial vehicles.

It would be recalled that herdsmen have continued to attack the two communities, which share borders with neighbouring states.

The state government had expressed concern over the attacks by herdsmen, who allegedly sneak into the communities from neighbouring states to wreak havoc and sneak back unnoticed.

One of the community leaders, Owolafe Folorunsho, who narrated their ordeals to newsmen, said: "The herders have continued to invade our farmlands at night, harvest our crops to feed their cows and on many occasions, they will come during the day, force us to uproot the cassava by ourselves at gunpoint, command us to cut

them into pieces to feed their cows.

"In order not to take laws into our hands, we reported this act of economic sabotage to the appropriate authority, which took prompt action to chase them out of the farming areas only for them to come back and attacked us with AK-47 rifles, pump action, axes and cutlasses and killed our people at night.

"In broad daylight, they laid ambush, attacked some traders coming from Akure and killed all the occupants before taking their money and set the car ablaze."

Speaking on the attacks, the Onimoru, Oba Rotimi Obamuwagun, lamented the atrocities of the herdsmen in the three communities and expressed anger at the criminal activities of the herdsmen in the last

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By Emma Una

burglary, "unlawful intercourse" and so on were lined up by officials of the prison at

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