

# 3 killed in Benue farmers/herders clash

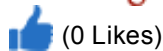
By Hope Abah, Makurdi | Publish Date: Mar 11 2016 5:00AM

facebook

twitter

Google+

LinkedIn



Three people were reported killed yesterday as fighting continued in two local government areas of Agatu and Logo in Benue State despite the deployment of security operatives to restore peace between farmers and Fulani herdsman in the affected places.

Many Agatu residents had been sacked in recent times by the herders who in the past one week had engaged some villagers in Logo area in a gun battle.

Villagers in Agatu told our correspondent that the herdsman at noon yesterday forced their way into Obagaji, the headquarters of Agatu LGA and killed one person while wounding others.

The vice chairman of Agatu LGA, Thomas Ajekonyen and Chief Adoka Adaji said it was in the process of resisting some herders who were still grazing their animals within the FADAMA area in Agatu that the young man from Alokpa village who was one of the displaced victims taking refuge in Obagaji was killed while three other persons sustained gun injuries.

In Logo, the Benue police spokesman, ASP. Moses Yamu confirmed the killing of two persons by the herdsman. He said the security operatives drafted to the area had chased the trouble makers away while efforts were being made to ensure peace.

According to Chief Joseph Anawah who hailed from the area, the herdsman invaded Uwev Gov, Gaambe-Tiv community of Logo at about 3am yesterday and killed two persons, Terhembafan Akaajingir and Saawua Adiape whose bodies were deposited at the Ayiin mortuary.

State Coordinator of the Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association (MACBAN), Garus Gololo said the fresh disagreement was due to the rustling of some Fulani cows by Tiv youths on Wednesday.

Gololo said the insistence of the herders to retrieve their stolen cattle had degenerated into yesterday's fighting.

The state deputy governor, Engr. Benson Abounu who visited Agatu on Wednesday to assess the needs of displaced victims maintained that the invasion, destruction and killings in Agatu were organized and systematic far beyond comprehension, and called on the federal government to treat it as a national crisis.