

# 66 killed in 8 Kaduna hamlets

Andrew Agbese, Kaduna

No fewer than 66 people were reportedly killed in eight settlements near Maro Gida village of Kajuru LGA of Kaduna State Thursday night. Among the victims are 22 children and 12 women, while four wounded persons were said to have been

rescued by security agents who were alerted on the attacks.

Those wounded are receiving treatment at an undisclosed hospital.

The settlements affected include Rugan Bahago, Rugan Daku, Rugan Ori, Rugan Haruna, Rugan Yukka Abubakar, Rugan Duni Kadiri, Rugan Shewuka, and Rugan Shuaibu Ya'u.

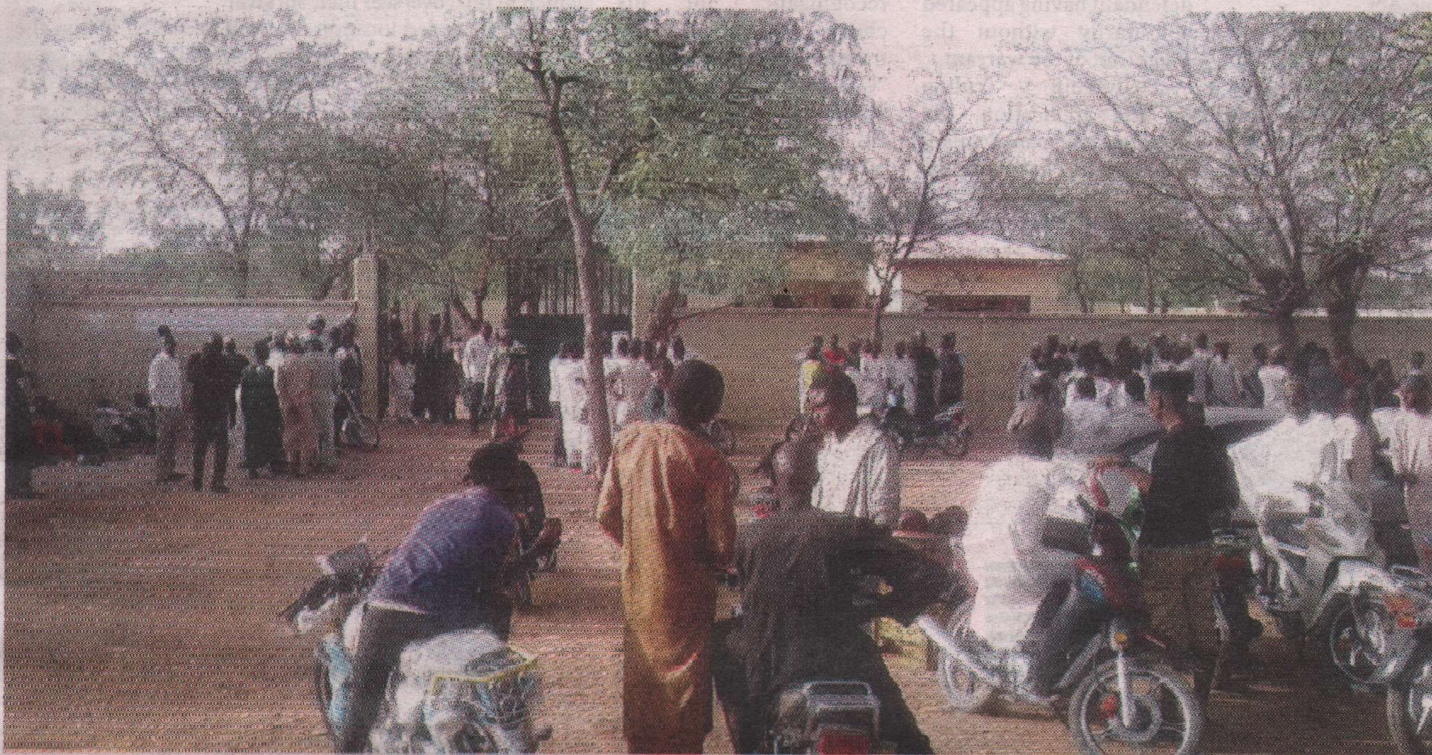
The state government, in a statement by Samuel Aruwan, senior special assistant to the governor, condemned the killings and warned all communities against attacks or reprisals.

The government said security agencies had been deployed to the area while arrests had been made.

"Security agencies today reported the recovery of 66

bodies of people killed in attacks by criminal elements on various dispersed hamlets in the Maro Gida and Iri axis of Kajuru LGA.

"Government condemns the attacks and commiserates with the families of the victims. Security agencies have been deployed to the area and arrests have been made," the statement added as it urged leaders to discourage reprisals.



■ Ad hoc staff engaged by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), at the commissions head office in Daura Local Government Area of Katsina State yesterday

Photo: Ismail Mudashir