

## BENUE

# 5 killed, youth leader missing in Benue attack

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**A**t least five persons have been killed with a youth leader reportedly missing in a fresh attack by armed invaders on communities of two local government areas in Benue State.

Villagers said the incident happened separately on Thursday at Atakpa community in Agatu LGA and Iwili in Otukpo LGA of the state.

① Local farmers of Iwili community in Otukpo LGA alleged that one person was killed during the invasion by the armed invaders while another four, bringing the casualties to five, were killed in Atakpa village of Agatu LGA by the armed invaders suspected to be nomads.

Sunday Oteyi, a former council secretary of Agatu, said that four people were killed in Atakpa, a village close to Oshigbugdu while some are now hospitalised.

Chairman of Agatu local government council, Joseph Ngbede, explained to our correspondent by telephone that suspected armed men invaded Atakpa on Thursday and shot randomly at about 5pm during which four people were killed while the youth leader's whereabouts has not been established since after the incident.

Contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Catherine Anene, confirmed that there was an attack in Agatu but there were no details yet.