BENUE

## 9 killed in attack on Benue villages

From Hope Abah, Makurdi

t least nine (
persons have been reportedly killed by armed invaders in separate attacks on villages in

two local government areas of Benue State.

Villagers said the incidents happened on Friday and Thursday respectively in two neighbouring local

government areas of Apa and Agatu.

t least nine The villagers said five persons have persons were killed in Agatu been reportedly while the remaining four were killed by armed lineaders in Apa LGA.

A local said, "On 1st March 2024, the attackers killed one person in Edikwu Icho village after the attack in Ikobi. Also, same day, they killed two persons in Akpantavillage of Apa LGA and killed

one person in Ugbobi Apa LGA, making a total of four people killed."

Similarly, Barrister Eche Akpoko, who is the chairman of the Apa Development Association, said the number of casualties could be more as missing persons were still being searched for.

Similarly, a traditional ruler in Agatu, Och'Adogoji, Chief James Edoh, confirmed that five persons were killed in his domain in an attack launched against Alokpa village at about 5pm on Thursday.

He said the incident was promptly reported to all the security agencies operating in the area including the police.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, SP Catherine Anene, however, did not respond to calls for comments about the incident.