

## Gunmen kill 13 in Benue

From Joseph Wantu, Makurdi

**N**OT less than thirteen (13) persons were reportedly killed by gunmen in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State with nine of them burnt beyond recognition.

Sources revealed to *The Guardian* that the gunmen suspected to be Fulani marauders have ambushed and attacked some communities in the local government area of the state in the early hours of Sunday morning while the people were preparing to go to church.

Another informant told *The Guardian* that the victims were transiting from Agatu neighboring villages when the gunmen ambushed them.

Following this, villagers living at the borders of both Apa and Agatu local government areas fled for fear of more attacks.

Confirming the report, the state Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, DSP Daniel Ezeala said that thirteen people were confirmed dead in the crisis with nine of the victims burnt to death.

The PPRO stated that security operatives have been drafted to the area to beef up security, calling on people not to panic as everything is under control.

## Rights groups charge UN on graft

Petroleum  
association of  
(N), Warri Zone  
the setting up of  
a "kangaroo  
by the House of  
issues

By Chereke Salau