

31 killed in fresh Nasarawa attack

From **Msugh Ityokura**, Lafia

HEAVY fighting yesterday eraged in some parts of Nasarawa State alleged to have been carried out by Fulani mercenaries in the state with 31 dead.

This latest killing came just barely 24 hours after the state governor, Tanko Al-

Makura, held a peace summit at the State House, Lafia, seeking an end to the ethnic crises between the Eggon ethnic majority and the Fulani.

The community under the latest sledge-hammer of the insurgents is Gidan Mai-Akuya, an Eggon commu-

nity located about 20 kilometres away from Lafia, the state capital.

However, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), an Assistant Superintendent of Police Ismaila Nuuman, put the casualty figure at six, saying two houses were also torched.

A victim, Ayaka Ibrahim, told journalists in Lafia that over 10 houses were razed and hundreds of persons displaced by the mercenaries in the attack.

Another victim, who kept panting while speaking with *The Guardian*, said the insurgents attacked the vil-

lage at about 5:00 a.m. as some people were still asleep only to be awoken by sounds of gunshot that surrounded the entire village.

He said the gunmen attacked the village for about two hours before a detachment of military personnel could repel them.

Shekarau blames exams' failure on poor motivation of teachers