

Gunmen Kill 26 Residents In Askira Uba Village

BY KAREEM HARUNA, Maiduguri

Not less than 26 residents of Mussa Village in Askira Uba local government area of Borno State lost their lives after gunmen believed to be Boko Haram terrorists attacked on Wednesday, witnesses said.

A fleeing resident of the village, John Manassa, confirmed the incident to newsmen on phone when he called from a village called Uvu, where he and some of his kin were taking refuge.

Manassa lamented that, in the last

14 days, about 42 persons have been killed in separate incursions on his village by Boko Haram terrorists who have continued to torment them.

"The latest and, of course, the biggest attack was [that] of today (Wednesday) during which 26 of our people were killed when the insurgents attacked us early in the morning.

"They killed 20 people at Birri area and six in Burga village which is very close to my house. They had also destroyed many houses after carting

away foodstuff, motorcycles and anything that can be removed from houses, such as metal windows and doors.

"We are passing through difficult times and I wish to appeal to government to come to our aid," he said.

Askira Uba local government had been partially occupied by the Boko Haram who had launched a major attack on settlements in the council, forcing 70 per cent of the residents of the council, including their monarch, to relocate to Maiduguri, the state capital.

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