

•One of the houses torched by the herdsmen

Fulani herdsmen kill seven in Benue

FULANI herdsmen have attacked Gbise village in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State, killing seven people.

The attack on Gbise followed the killing of over 100 persons in two attacks on Vingir and Gawa, all in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area.

Gbise was reduced to ashes in the latest attack. Its market and shops which spread across the Katsina-Ala-Takum Road were also torched.

The Nation's senior correspondent in Taraba State, Fanen Ihyongo's father, Joshua Ihyongo, fled the village days before the attack.

His cousin, Tavershima Shenge, who witnessed the carnage, said the assailants, numbering over 300, came in two batches with sophisticated weapons.

"Some of the assailants were dressed in military uniform; others wore Hausa-Fulani dresses. They killed people and torched houses simultaneously."

Governor Gabriel Sus-

Relief materials donated

From Uja Emmanuel, Makurdi

LEADERS of Hausa community in Benue State yesterday donated food items to internally displaced people.

Head of the delegation Garuba Bala, who presented the items to the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), expressed his sympathy to the victims.

Bala said the crisis had caused untold hardship and pleaded with the warring parties to sheathe their swords.

Receiving the items on behalf of SEMA, Joseph Akaasar thanked the Hausa community for its gesture.

Items donated include bags of rice, bags of various grains, toiletries, cartons of vegetable oil, cartons of soap, and cartons of noodle, among others.

From Fanen Ihyongo,
Jalingo

wam was at a funeral nearby, when the herdsmen struck at Gbise.

Suswam visited the scenes of destruction on his way to the Government House.

The governor's visit did

not deter the assailants, who continued their onslaught throughout the night.

Our correspondent said he received midnight calls from fleeing residents.

A resident, Wilfred Moughna, said gunshots

were heard throughout the night.

Moughna, who called our correspondent at 2:45am, said the marauders laid siege to the suburbs of Tor Donga – another settlement.

He said many residents were looking for vehicles to leave the area. They gathered at a Catholic church where a cleric prayed for them.

A source said some soldiers watched as the herdsmen destroyed Gbise.

He said the attackers are Fulani, although there were mercenaries with them.

The Fulani have claimed responsibility for the Gbise invasion, including all the attacks on Tiv settlements in Benue and Taraba, saying they are on a revenge mission.

Ripples over PDP membership registration in Kwara

From Adekunle Jimoh,
Ilorin

it attempts to conduct it – it is met with stiff opposition from the people who now have better understanding of

THERE was confusion yesterday over the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) membership registration billed to have started last weekend in Kwara State.

The All Progressives Con-

pated, the aged were involved, the elders registered market women, artisan drivers and all classes of the society were involved.

"We appeal to our members and supporters not to be di-