

## Fulani herdsmen kill 10 in Taraba

### • 40 houses burnt

Ten people were killed and 18 others injured in Nwokyo, Wukari Local Government Area of Taraba State yesterday, following another attack by Fulani herdsmen. Properties worth millions of naira were destroyed.

Police spokesman Joseph Kwaji said the marauders came from neighbouring Plateau State.

Kwaji, who gave the casualty figure as seven, said 40 houses were burnt.

He said: "There was an attack on Nwokyo village by Fulani herdsmen from neighbouring Plateau State. They crossed over through River Benue and killed seven persons in Taraba. They also burnt 40 houses during the attack."

An eye-witness said the invading herdsmen were dressed in military uniform and were over 300.

The source said a woman was burnt as she was trapped when her home was set ablaze.

"An MDG Hospital in the area was razed down as health workers were attending to patients," another eyewitness said.

A former senator, Joel Danlami Ikenya, said he was "dismayed" over the continuous attacks by Fulani herdsmen.

The former governorship candidate of the defunct Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) said he was sad that the government has not found time to visit any of the areas.

Ikenya said: "In some states when there is crisis, government visits affected areas and gives relief materials to survivors.

"But in Taraba, the government has not deemed it fit to visit these areas.

"It is the responsibility of government to protect lives and property so that people can live with each other peacefully."

Ikenya added that the MDG Hospital and some worship centres were torched by the herdsmen.

"No house is standing there now," he said.

The senator said it is unfortunate that lives are no longer valued in Nigeria.

He said: "Now, there is no difference between us (Nigeria) and Somalia. The government must take the issue of security very serious.

"Members of the House of Assembly and National Assembly from Taraba must do something to end the attacks because the people they claim to be representing are being killed daily."