

NEWS

Gunmen kill policeman, 34 others

GUNMEN on Tuesday killed a police inspector, the district head of Allawa village in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State, his brother and 33 villagers in a midnight attack.

A source said the assailants, who were suspected to be Fulani herdsmen, invaded the village, brandishing weapons, including sophisti-

From **Justina Asishana,**
Minna

cated guns. They shot at the villagers.

The source said people were injured while attempting to escape, adding that 25 houses were torched by the invaders.

The eyewitness said the attack lasted two hours, noting that no security agent rescued the villagers.

The cause of the attack was unknown, as there was no clash between the villagers and the Fulani herdsmen.

Many villagers have been displaced.

Police spokesman Bala Elikana, who decried the incident, said the command had not got the number of casualties.

He confirmed that a police

officer was among the victims.

Elikana said security agents could not get to the village in time because of lack of communication between Allawa and other parts of the state.

He said the divisional officer in Kagara and the area commander in Minna had been deployed in the village to assess the situation.



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