

Two kids, six others killed as herders attack Plateau community

NO fewer than eight people, including two children aged four and five years, were reportedly killed by herdsmen during separate attacks on two communities in Plateau State.

Two others were said to have sustained various degrees of injury in the attack that started late Thursday night.

A statement by the National Publicity Secretary Irigwe Development Association (IDA), Davidson Malison, said the attack was unprovoked.

"Residents of Cinke and Zarama villages of Kwall District, Rigwe Chiefdom of Bassa LGA, Plateau State, woke up on the wrong side of the bed following the unprovoked attacks launched by herders on Thursday May 5, 2022 in the aforesaid areas, resulting in the killing of eight persons and injuring of two others.

"The attack is no doubt the continuation of the terror and mayhem in Rigwe land in an

■ **Innocent Duru and Kolade
Adeyemi, Jos** ■

attempt to forcibly eject the peace-loving Rigwe people from their ancestral land as well as complete the annihilation of the entire tribe.

"The attack has become a daily affair as the marauders have assumed an 'immunised' set of people and are feeling untouchable daring the authorities concerned."

He added: "The spate of wanton killings and destructions of lives and property, stealing of valuable items of the Rigwe people has passed a condemnable level, requiring a drastic decision and action that will call and treat the attackers in the language they comprehend in order to place them in their cocoons.

"It's no doubt that the system has to a large extent failed to stop the unleashing of carnage because of the kid gloves treatment

channeled on the entire issue rather than calling a dog by its name and have it dealt with accordingly.

"We are yet again thrown into deep mourning and painfully and sadly commiserate with the entire Rigwe people, especially the immediate families, over the loss of gallant people of the land.

"Once again, our call for the authorities concerned saddled with the protection of lives and property of the citizens to step up and double efforts in safeguarding the Rigwe people cannot be over-emphasised."

He gave the names of the victims as "Irah Weyi (48), Elizabeth Weyi (21), Ladi Mandu, Mary Gya (4), Esther La'aji (5), Titus Agah (40), Aweh Ngwe (47) and Sunday Dada (Corporal).

The injured persons are Munto Gado and Sarah Weyi while the destroyed or stolen items include three phones, a television and an MP3 (Jambox)."