

2 Nine family members, two others killed in Plateau attack

GUNMEN have launched an attack on a community in Bokkos council of Plateau State, killing 11 people.

Eight people were injured in the attack which took place late Tuesday night in Maikatako community.

Houses were also burnt down by the assailants suspected to be herdsmen.

They stormed the community around 11pm amid sporadic shooting, overwhelming the local vigilantes.

Nine of the dead were re-

• Lalong to security: catch perpetrators

From Kolade Adeyemi, Jos

portedly burnt beyond recognition in a compound, while bodies of some other victims were found yesterday morning around the bushes.

According to a member of the community, the violence was sparked after the weekly Monday market when a boy was shot at Hilltop, a community about a kilometer from Maikatako.

The shooting led to tension around the community on Tuesday even as the vigilante group members made efforts to secure the area and repel attack attempts after observing strange movements and calling security operatives.

Police spokesman Alfred Alabo confirmed the attack, saying that nine of the victims were of the same family.

Governor Simon Lalong has asked security agents to fish out the killers and bring them to justice.

In a statement by his spokesman Dr. Makut Simon Macham, Lalong lamented the spate of attacks in the general Bokkos area, adding that they must be curbed.

Commander of Operation Safe Haven and GOC 3rd Armoured Division Maj. Gen. Ibrahim Ali has visited Maikatako and inspected the houses burnt and properties destroyed.