

Terrorists kill 20, behead 10 in Niger community



Terrorists on Thursday beheaded 10 of 20 people they killed when they invaded the Bassa community in Shiroro Local Government Area of **Niger State**.

It was learnt that those who were beheaded were young men between the ages of 20 years to 35 years, living in the community.

Sources told The Nation that the terrorists who numbered over 50 were heavily armed with sophisticated weapons and operated freely during the attack which occurred between 3 pm and 7pm. It was also learnt that after beheading the victims, the gunmen asked the members of those killed to carry the headless bodies while they took videos and pictures of them.

The terrorists had selected 20 adults and tried to recruit the 10 young men, who refused, resulting in their deaths while the other 10 were shot at close range.

Residents of the community believe that they were invaded by Boko Haram insurgents and not just bandits.

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“They told us that anybody who refused to be recruited into their fold would be given a similar treatment. They said they used the 10 beheaded youths as an example. These people belong to the Boko Haram.

“They told us that we brought it upon ourselves as they had warned us to leave the community for them but we refused. We were told that it is either our children join them or we vacate the community,” a source said.

The state government or state Police Command was yet to comment on the recent incident at press time. The number of the Niger State Police Public Relations Officer was not going when calls were put across to him.

However, the Senator representing Niger East Senatorial District, Mohammed Sani Musa, confirmed the killing, lamenting that his heart continues to bleed as his people are being killed like animals.

