

good omen for the media industry in Nigeria.

In a statement by Felix Ofou, his press secretary, the governor said the support given to Mr Adesina to run the NGE for another two years, unopposed, was a demonstration of the confidence reposed in his leadership by editors all over the country and urged him not to engage in acts that will betray the public trust.

"I see Femi Adesina's re-election for a second term as a vote of confidence on him and his executive. I therefore urge him not to betray the public trust reposed in him by editors all over the country," he stated.

Governor Uduaghan particularly applauded the moderating and patriotic role of the guild, under Mr Adesina in the nation's delicate transition from one regime to another, noting that the NGE added its voice of reason to ensure that Nigeria's democracy was not truncated.

He said, "the guild add-

peaceful elections today, the editors must also share in the praise."

Meanwhile, Osun State

20 killed as Fulani herdsmen attack Benue villages

JOHNSON BABAJIDE-MAKURDI

NO fewer than 20 persons were feared dead and several others injured in three villages of Mbadwem district of Guma Local Government Area of Benue State, after Fulani herdsmen carried out reprisal on the area, last Saturday evening.

Also, tension heightened at Adeke, a suburb of Makurdi, over the influx of Fulani herdsmen presumed to have come from neighbouring Nasarawa State, leading to presence of heavy security men patrolling the area.

An eyewitness, one James Gbudu, said the marauders sacked the villages and in the process killed over 10 people,

the Nigerian Guild of Editors (NGE) said the Guild has the task of ensuring that journalists are alive to

while several others were wounded.

The attack, which was said to have been occasioned by the alleged killing of two Fulani herdsmen by some youths in the area left Tse Uosu, Gbudu and branch Umenger completely deserted.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Austin Ezeani, who could not confirm the number of deaths, told the *Nigerian Tribune* on phone, on Sunday that "there were killings but we have not ascertained the exact number."

According to him, "it was as a result of two Fulani herdsmen killed the day before. The two Fulani men were just going on their own when some

tute leadership trait and prudent knowledge in the management of affairs of people.

youths robbed them and dispossessed them of their personal belongings, in which they were travelling with, killed them and abandoned their corpses."

"So, other Fulanis informed their brothers in Nasarawa and they came and carried out a kind of reprisal."

Ezeani, who regretted the incident, advised youths in the area to desist from engaging in criminal activities in order to prevent any negative consequences on their communities.

"These are the kind of things we tell this people, they should desist from fomenting problem. The bad elements in those areas are the one causing all these problems," he said.