## Many feared killed as herdsmen/ mers clash in Benue

JOHNSON BABAJIDE - MAKURDI

**EVERAL** persons were feared killed and many others injured on Monday in a renewed crisis between suspected herdsmen and farmers at Ipiga Village in Ohimini Local Government

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The students made bonfire at Oke Baale area, Ibokun road and the untarred road, leading to the institution.

Area of Benue State

Metro learnt that the suspected herdsmen had invaded the community around 2:00p.m. on Monday, killing and maiming people.

A source who spoke with Metro on phone from the bush said the invading herdsmen stormed the village and started shooting sporadically, killing everyone in sight.

The source further said that the invasion took the villagers unawares, adding that the herdsmen had, on Sunday, stormed Ajegbe, a neighbouring village and wreaked havoc.

The source said that while the issue of Sunday attack on the neighbouring village was at the front burner, they were surprised of the sudden attack on Monday at Ipiga.

However, a national coordinator of Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association (MACBAN), Garus Gololo, claimed that two Fulani herdsmen were killed in Ohimini on Sunday, with several missing, and over 1,000 cows unaccounted

The invasion is coming barely three days after the state Commissioner of Police, Bashir Makama, called

a peace meeting of all stakeholders to forestall incessant clashes between herdsmen and farmers in the state.

When contacted, the Benue State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Moses Yamu, said he was yet to be briefed of the matter, promising to get back to Metro as soon as he was briefed.

It will be recalled that only last week, the state governor, Samuel Ortom, alongside his Nasarawa State counterpart, Tanko al-makura, mediated in the crisis between the Fulani herdsmen and the people of Agatu in Benue State.

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