

ce to investigate alleged killing of 4 persons in Nasarawa Benue violence perpetrators

ld be brought to book, matter how highly placed y are," he said.

Nigerian Tribune gath- ed that the herdsmen re- tedly killed scores of Tiv ners in Nasarawa State in e past four days.

t learnt that settlements longing to the Tiv farm- s, cutting across Awe and eana local government eas of the state, were re- ced to rubbles by the mpaging Fulani herds- en who were said to be rmed with sophisticated weapons.

Speaking to newsmen n Lafia, President of Tiv Development Association (TIDA) in Nasarwa State, Benard Kyegna, gave a graphic picture of the kill- ings, saying, "on the fateful day of the New Year, a man was macheted to death at Gidan Wurji in Awe Lo- cal Government Area while

moving his farm produce to Awe town."

He added that another killing occurred on the same New Year day when some armed herdsmen were re- turning after an attack on Benue State, and gunned to death a man whom they sighted in front of his com- pound on Awe-Tunga Road, in Awe Council Area of the state.

"We also received a report that two Tiv people were reportedly killed at Bakin Kortaa, a border settlement which is about 12 kilometres from the Benue/Nasarawa border line at about 7:p.m.

"Also a report in my vil- lage (Kwarra), in Keana Lo- cal Government Area, has it that the herdsmen equally gunned down three farm- ers while working on their farm."

It was gathered from a victim, Terzungwe Tachin,

who escaped death by the whiskers in the ongoing herdsmen serial attacks in the state that eight Tiv farm- ers had so far been killed in different locations in the aforementioned two council areas of the state.

He gave names of the loca- tions where the eight people were killed by the herdsmen as Tse Kwaghtser - Tunga settlement, Kuduku, Nya- shashu, Obosidoma and Kaambe - Jangaru.

When contacted, the Na- sarawa State Police Com- mand Public Relations Of- ficer, DSP Kennedy Idirisu, however, confirmed that only one person was killed.

In another development, northern states chapter of the Christian Associa- tion of Nigeria (CAN), on Thursday, urged the Federal Government to arrest and prosecute perpetrators of recent killings in Benue and

Kaduna states.

Chairman, Reverend Yakubu Pam, who con- demned the attacks in a press statement made avail- able to the **News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)** in Kaduna, said that the gov- ernment should also take proactive measures to curb future occurrence.

It said the killing of the District Head of Numana in Kaduna State and 50 people in Benue was condemnable, disturbing and worrisome.

"We call for calm in both communities and appeal to government to step up se- curity not only in these vic- tims' communities but the entire country to forestall future killings.

"CAN is disturbed by al- legations of security com- placency and should be thoroughly investigated by the government to assuage already frayed nerves."

The statement assured the government of the church support and urged church leaders nationwide to calm their members and to report any threat to security law enforcement agencies.

Jigawa clinics treated 4.5million patients in 2017