

Herdsmen attack community in Benue, kill 5

JOHNSONBABAJIDE-MAKURDI

A GAIN, herdsmen are gradually making inroads into Makurdi, the Benue State capital, with the killing of two persons and another three in the troubled Logo Local Government Area of the state.

The latest attack is coming barely 48 hours after the killing of 10 people in Logo and Ukum local government areas of Benue State, another five people were reported killed, on Thursday, by suspected herdsmen.

The attack on Agboughul, a suburb of Makurdi, is causing pandemonium among residents of the state capital.

4 die as mining pond collapses in Plateau

FOUR miners died instantly, on Wednesday, in Funga village of Wase Local Government Area of Plateau State, when a mining pond collapsed on them.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reported

Three persons were said to have been killed in Ig-boughur Mbavuur and Tse-Ward communities in Logo Local Government Area and two persons in Agboughul, a suburb of Makurdi, the state capital, on Thursday afternoon, by suspected herdsmen.

Among the injured in the latest attack on Logo was a 70-year-old woman identified as Mama Uhaen Ndiisaa, mother to a former Logo Local Government Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chairman, Mr Terhemmen Ndiisaa

2. Terhemmen Ndiisaa told Nigerian Tribune on phone that "the herdsmen attacked my community, Ig-boughur Mbavuur, in Logo Local Government last night around 10.00 p.m., killing two persons.

"This time, they did not set ablaze houses, but resorted to breaking into people's houses, but luckily many were able to escape after they heard gunshots in the community.

"Unfortunately, my mother was shot while she was fleeing, but she is still alive and many others also

sustained injuries.

"As we speak, our people are packing out of our villages, communities and fleeing to any safe place, but the truth is that nowhere is safe for now because we cannot tell the next target."

Also speaking, a former aide to former governor in the area whose community was affected in the latest attack, said the group which attacked Ig-boughur Mbavuur also entered Tse-Wadi, killing three persons and destroying many properties.

"We suspect that the same gang which attacked Ig-boughur Mbavuur was responsible for the early morning attack on Tse-Wadi in the same Logo Local Government where they sacked the community and killed three persons, leaving scores with injuries around 5.00 a.m. on Thursday.

"As we speak, there is palpable fear and tension in several communities of the local government, especially those bordering River Benue and Nasarawa State from where the in-

vaders came to attack our communities.

"Usually, they cross River Benue from Nasarawa State to attack, after which they beat a retreat.

"With this development, I am adding my voice and actually toeing the lines of the call by the former Army Chief, Theophilus Danjuma and Governor Samuel Ortom that the people should resort to self-defence.

"I want to affirm to you that since the 10th of this month till today, there had been continuous attacks everyday on our communities. How long will we watch helplessly while our people are being killed like animals? It is, indeed, a source of worry to us all," he said.

Chief Press Secretary to the acting governor of the state, Mr Ogaba Edeh, described the killings in the state as saddening and unwarranted.

"It is sad that the killings have continued despite the presence of security personnel in some of these areas.

"I condemn the act and it's a pointer to the fact that the Federal Government has to do more to stop these ceaseless killings in the state by herdsmen," he said.

On the attack in Ag-

