

# ① Gunmen kill 12, injure 28 others in Plateau

Isaac Shobayo | Jos

**G**UNMEN suspected to be Fulani militia have killed 12 people and injured 28 others at Chando Zerreci community in Bassa Local Government Area of Plateau State.

The Irgwe land in the council area has been under attack by gunmen for a while

now, with about 10 people killed last week and crops on farmlands worth millions of naira destroyed.

A member of the community, Michael Danjuma, who escaped the latest attack by a whisker, disclosed that the gunmen, who were in their large numbers, attacked the community on Saturday at about 11:45 p.m.

Danjuma said 10 people were initially killed, while

another two were killed at a location where people were observing their annual festival.

He said those injured were now receiving treatments at various hospitals in Jos, the state capital.

The Irgwe Development Association (IDA), in a statement signed by its publicity secretary, Mr Davidson Mallison, confirmed the incident, just as he alleged that the at-

tack was carried out by Fulani militia.

He said: "Apart from this, early this morning [Sunday], they also attacked our people at Ritivo while observing their traditional and cultural festival and two persons have been confirmed killed, while others sustained gunshot injuries."

"In total, 12 people have been killed, while about 28 people have sustained vary-

ing degrees of injury.

"As of now, searching for victims is still ongoing, and that means the report can be updated in case of any new information."

Speaking with the *Nigerian Tribune*, the National President of IDA, Prince Robert Ashi, who condemned persistent attacks on the Irgwes, said the government and security agencies have the responsibility to fish out the

perpetrators.

Prince Ashi added that the attacks were deliberate to annihilate the Irgwe and to take over their land.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Ubah Gabriel Ogaba, confirmed the attack.

He, however, added that operatives of the command had been deployed in the affected community.

One killed as police patrol