

have been attacked by BORO

The UNICEF funded clinic

insurgents wanted to invade

Eight die in Niger communal clash

Enyioha Opara, Minna

years ago.

Eight persons have been killed during a communal clash between Gaba and Anfani communities in Lavun Local Government Area of Niger State.

The incident, which occurred on Thursday afternoon, saw scores of other people sustaining varying degrees of injury as some of the deceased had their heads cut off during the violence.

One of those killed was said to have had his two feet cut off instantly.

Saturday PUNCH gathered that the dispute between the communities was over a parcel of land, which the Gaba people was said to have given to their Anfani counterparts over 50

A Bida High Court was said to have ruled in favour of Gaba community last week, directing the Anfani people to vacate the land.

It was learnt that to enforce the judgement of the court, the Gaba community sent 11 men to the disputed land to carry out a survey.

According to an eyewitness, the team was reportedly waylaid by the Anfanis before they were slaughtered.

The assailants were said to have also been assisted by some people from Emikpan Village, a development that made them overpower their victims.

However, it was gathered that the surveyor was spared after it was discovered that he was not a native of Gaba community.

He was however, inflicted

with machete cuts, resulting to his being hospitalised at the Federal Medical Centre, Bida.

Afraid of reprisal, it was gathered that the entire Anfani community had been deserted with some of the villagers reportedly taking refuge at neighbouring villages.

The police on Friday evacuated eight corpses from the troubled area and deposited them at the Bida General Hospital mortuary.

When contacted, Police Public Relations Officer, Muhammad Abubakar, confirmed the incident, saying that the Area Commander in Bida had led heavily-armed operatives to the communities to restore normalcy.

Abubakar said no arrest had been made and that investigation into the disturbance had commenced.