

15 die in fresh Fulani/Agatu crisis

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No fewer than 15 people were said to have been killed with some of them burnt beyond recognition in a renewed hostility between the Fulani herdsmen and the people of Agatu in Benue State yesterday.

Sources from the area told Daily Sun that the Fulanis had invaded Ojantele, Okpagabi and Ibadan in Agatu Local Government Area on Saturday killing

some people.

Our source disclosed that some people from Agatu, who were going to a neighboring village in Apa Local Government Area of the state were ambushed by the gunmen suspected to be Fulanis.

The Agatu natives were said to have gone on a reprisal attack yesterday (Sunday) to the Fulani settlement in a boarder village between Apa and Agatu where a free for all ensued and many people were killed.

The development has

led to villagers living at the border of both Apa and Agatu local government areas fleeing their abode and taking refuge in neighbouring towns and villages for fear of reprisal attacks.

Secretary, Miyette Allah Cattle Breeders Association, Benue State chapter, Garus Gololo told Daily Sun in a telephone chat last night that 20 Fulanis were killed just as the Law Maker representing Agatu at the state House of Assembly, Sule Audu said there was heavy casualty figure from the Agatu side too.

However, confirming the report at the time of filing this report, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Daniel Ezeala said 13 people were killed in the crisis while nine of the victims were burnt.

Ezeala, however noted that security operatives had been drafted to beef up security and restore peace to the troubled area, adding that the police were on top of the situation and called on people to go about their lawful businesses as everything was under control.