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BY OUR REPORTER ON MARCH 16, 2015

COVER

From ROSE EJEMBI, Makurdi.

Death toll in the early morning Fulani attack on Agatu community has reached over hundred, villagers have said.

Recall that suspected Fulani herdsmen had invaded the Egba Village in Agatu Local Government area of Benue State at about 5am on Sunday killing several people and setting houses and farmlands ablaze.

Commissioner of Police in the state, Hyacinth Dagala who spoke on phone with newsmen on Monday afternoon said 82 bodies have so far been recovered in the area.

Dagala who disclosed that he was just returning from the crisis area maintained that more armed policemen had been deployed to the crisis area to maintain peace and order.

However, some of the villagers who are now taking refuge in Obagaji, the council headquarters and Ogbalu said the death toll was well over one hundred as the herders had taken them unawares.

"We were still sleeping when they entered our village and started shooting sporadically in all direction killing every humans and animals in sight. They also set many houses ablaze. We only managed to escape into the bush and trekked many kilometres in the bush before getting to Obagaji."

Deputy governorship candidate of the PDP in the state, John Ngede and Member representing Agatu/Apa in the State Assembly, Hon. Sule Audu in separate remarks lamented the invasion and called on the federal government to come to the aid of those who have been displaced by the crisis.

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