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MAKURDI

**T**he death toll in the attacks by gunmen suspected to be herdsmen on the Ukohol community in the Guma Local Government Area of Benue State

## Benue Killings: Death toll hits 20

increased to 20 yesterday

About 18 persons among them, children and security personnel were reportedly killed when the gangsters invaded the community on Thursday and Friday

Several persons were

also injured, with hundreds of those displaced seen fleeing to the neighbouring town of Daudu with their few belongings on their heads.

One of the survivors Saakuma Udenyi said the attackers first struck on Thursday evening when residents were retiring for the day.

According to him, the attackers shot indiscriminately at people and attacked those who tried to escape with machetes. He said the hoodlums returned the next day to kill a security official and burnt down several houses.

The latest attack on the community came barely two weeks after similar attacks took place in Gbeji, a settlement in the Ukum Local Government Area.

Recall that 36 persons, including two policemen, were massacred with others missing following an attack on Gbeji by gunmen.

## Drama as Abuja community resists demolition

**Caleb Onwe**  
ABUJA

**A**mild drama ensued over the weekend when indigenous people of the Magaji-pe community in the Jabi District of the FCT trooped out to resist a demolition attempt in the community by the FCT Administration's Department of Development Control.

Trouble broke out soon after the officials arrived in the small community with two bulldozers.

While the officials said the demolition squad was

attracted to the community by the illegal structures built under high-tension electricity installation, and other environmental nuisances, the villagers argued that removing their structures, without adequate notice was a violation of their fundamental human rights.

The angry villagers, mostly women and youths, said they were ready to die.

Seeing the reaction of the villagers, the demolition squad tactically withdrew from the community with the bulldozers.