

Terrorist herders massacre 9 in Benue

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At least nine people, including women and children, were on Thursday night gruesomely massacred by invading terrorist herdsmen when they made incursion into Abagena, a sprawling community in Makurdi, housing thousands of Internally Displaced Persons of Fulani attacks.

Two of those killed are inmates of the Abagena IDP camp located along Makurdi-Lafia Expressway. A family of six, including a father, wife and four

children, were all wiped out in the unprovoked attack.

Saturday Telegraph gathered that the bandits, who did not come with herds of cattle but armed to the teeth, killed several other persons in sight while leaving trails of blood.

They also beheaded and took away the heads of other victims, as eight other persons were badly wounded with three of them in critical condition.

As at the time of filing this report, nine corpses, including those of women and children, had been recovered while several oth-

ers seriously injured were evacuated to hospital for treatment.

The attack which took place when the community had retired for the night is the second in two years in an attempt to hit the Abagana IDP camp itself where hordes of IDPs have been living since January 2018 when armed herdsmen attacked and killed 73 persons in Guma and Logo local government areas of the state.

In April last year, the armed bandits attacked the Abageria camp in a guerilla style and killed eight IDPs. The incident forced angry youths to block the busy Makurdi-Lafia road with the bodies of the victims in protest against the attack.

The state Police Command through the PPRO, Catherine Sewuese Anene, a Superintendent of Police and the Special Adviser to Governor Samuel Ortom

on Security Matters, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Hemba (rtd), all confirmed the latest brutal incident.

Hemba said the attack was unprovoked, adding that eight corpses, including women and children, were recovered while several others seriously injured were evacuated to hospital for treatment.

According to him, "the casualty figure may likely rise as some other persons

who were fatally shot and wounded may not survive the injuries in their chest".

The security adviser gave the names of those killed as; Gbashaor Acho, Gbashaor Joseph, Anshe Dekera, Ancho Kpor, Eunice Gbashaor, Sewuese Gbashaor, Terlumun Ajoh, Emberga Gbashaor and Donald Gbashaor.

He further disclosed that two of those killed were IDPs while the bandits stole two motorcycles belonging to the villagers.

