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BREAKING NEWS

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Renewed Tiv/Fulani crisis claims 35 lives

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By Peter Duru, Makurdi

Despite the alarm raised early in the week by Governor Gabriel Suswam over the persistent attack on Benue villages by suspected Fulani mercenaries, 35 persons have been reportedly killed by the marauders in a fresh attack in Gwer West local government area of the state.

The marauders who sacked six council wards in the attack also killed a 70year old woman, one Tyobam at Terhule Antarctic village where she had gone to visit her daughter.

Saturday Vanguard gathered reliably that this latest attack has displaced no fewer than 80, ,000 persons in the affected communities.

This latest attack which lasted two days came on the heels of a similar attack early in the week, where three villages, including the ancestral home of the paramount ruler of the Tiv nation, Tse-Torkula was sacked by the invaders in Guma local government area of the state.

According to our source, who spoke on grounds of anonymity, “our communities have been taken over and we are helpless; the last two days have witnessed unwarranted killings and destruction of property. I can tell you without mincing words that over 35 persons may have been killed in this renewed attack.

”Houses, huts farmland and economic trees have all been destroyed , people are fleeing their abode, and the most painful part of it all is that the popular Makurdi-Naka road is no more safe for commuters and motorists alike because innocent road users are daily shot on that road .”

The Gwer West local government council secretary, Mr. Mark Dewua who spoke to journalists yesterday in Makurdi, the state capital, on the renewed clashes lamented that Naka, the council headquarters was gradually being deserted.

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