

# News

## 3 killed, 7 injured as gunmen attack Taraba cattle market

**N**O fewer than three herders have been killed and seven others injured after gunmen opened fire in a market in Taraba State, weekend.

According to the Police, the attack occurred at Mararraban Kunini, a major livestock trading community in Lau Local Government Area of the state and that the killers were still at large at press time.

The Mararraban Kunini Market was recently opened, following an ethno-religious conflict that engulfed Mayo-Lope town, which was formerly home to the central cattle market. The violence forced most of the traders in Mayo-Lope to flee the community.

Eyewitnesses, who spoke on the latest attack, said the gunmen stormed the market at the peak of business Saturday afternoon.

Mallum Kawu, a cattle dealer, who said he narrowly escaped the attack, said: "People were busy buying and selling cattle, sheep, goats and farm produce when gunmen suddenly appeared and opened fire. Three traders were killed instantly and 11 others injured."

Josiah Bante, a used clothes trader, said people fled in different directions to escape the violence.

His words: "The attackers did not steal cows or any other merchandise at the market, indicating that they only came to wreak havoc."

Spokesman of the state Police Command, Assistant Superintendent David Misal, who confirmed the attack, said the Police were informed of three deaths, while seven persons sustained injuries.

"At least, three herders have been killed and seven others injured after gunmen opened fire in a market in Taraba State on Saturday at Mararraban Kunini, a major livestock trading community in Lau Local Government Area," he said.

## Commercial bus