Vigilantes from Tawari community were said to have killed the herdsmen whom they alleged were kidnappers; a development that must have angered the militia to attack the community." The source said

The source also said one of the herdsmen was killed and his body mutilated by suspected ritualists around the community last year, which the herdsmen pointed accusing fingers at the Tawari community, and threatened reprisal.

"But following persistent persuasion by the community head, Alhaji Yahaya Tawari, against a reprisal, the herdsmen lived in the community with their host community in peace until a few days ago when they started moving out en masse.

"While efforts were made to pacify them as to their reason for the mass movement, the herdsmen said their movement was a way of life, assuring that it had no ulterior motives.