

News

Armed herders behead farmer in Benue

By Peter Duru

MAKURDI—A middle-aged man, Gabriel Vandefan, has reportedly been killed and beheaded by suspected armed herdsman on his farm in Uikpam community, Guma Local Government Area, Benue State.

His killers also reportedly chopped off one of his hands and went away with it.

Uikpam community hosts a large number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), who were sacked from their ancestral homes by herders' attacks.

The killing of the farmer came less than a week after the community was thrown into panic following heavy gunshots near the community market square, which caused residents and IDPs to flee for safety.

A source in the community, who identified himself as James, disclosed that the deceased had gone to his farm on Thursday to harvest millet when he was waylaid by the assailants. "He simply went to harvest millet from his farm, which is just a stone's throw from his house, around noon when armed herdsman attacked him."