

Bandits kill 2 elders, abduct many in fresh Katsina attack



By Ogalah Ibrahim

Tragedy struck again in Katsina State as bandits, on Tuesday night, invaded Doguwar Šorawa, a community barely two kilometres from Guga in Bakori Local Government Area of the state, killing two elderly community leaders and abducting several residents.

The latest assault, which residents described as “gruesome and heartbreaking,” adds to the unending wave of attacks that have left many dead and displaced across the area, despite the state government’s widely publicised “peace accord” with the marauders.

Confirming the attack in a telephone interview, yesterday, a community leader in Guga, Mahadi Guga, said: “Doguwar Šorawa was attacked Tuesday night. The bandits slaughtered two of the most influential elders, Alhaji Bishir and his brother, Alhaji Surajo.”

According to Guga, the bandits stormed the village about 10p.m., and operated for more than an hour, killing and abducting without resistance.

“I’m on my way there now for their burial and to see the level of damage. Many people were abducted during the attack,” he added.

The community leader expressed frustration over what he called the routine nature of bandit attacks in the area. “It’s now a normal thing to the bandits here. Hardly a day passes without an attack.”

despite the so-called peace deal,” he lamented.

Residents suspect that the assailants were loyal to notorious bandit leaders Idi Abasu Aiki and Kwashen Garuwa, who have long terrorised Bakori and neighbouring communities.

“They parked their motorcycles in the bush and trekked into the village to unleash terror on innocent people,” he explained.

Another community attacked same night

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In a related development, another community, Layin ‘Yannehu, was attacked the same night, with bandits reportedly rustling a large number of animals.

The attacks come barely two weeks after similar raids on Ganjar, Alhazawa, and Gidan Nagari communities, where 43 people were abducted, forcing several families to flee their homes. Government, security officials silent

Residents have continued to express anger over what they described as government silence and indifference in the face of worsening insecurity ravaging rural communities in Katsina’s southern zone.