

saving interventions at the Agency's National Headquarters in Abuja, yesterday. PHOTO: Loveln Sendave

Kaduna village under siege as terrorists abduct 11, kill 1

By Ibrahim Hassan-Wuyo

**Catholic Priest raises alarm, seeks intervention*

KADUNA — **SUSPECTED** terrorists killed one person and abducted 11 others during a terrifying midnight raid on Gadanaji community in Kachia Local Government Area, Kaduna State.

The attack, which occurred in the early hours of yesterday, forced residents to flee in panic, prompting the Parish Priest of St. John Paul II

Catholic Church, Rev. Fr. Francis Ezeokwelum, to call for urgent intervention.

"At about 1:44 a.m., more than 20 armed bandits stormed Gadanaji. One person was killed, while 11 others, including women and children, were abducted.

"The attackers also stole three motorcycles and other valuables," Fr. Ezeokwelum said. Describing the incident as "tragic and disturbing," the priest said families were

caught off guard as gunshots shattered the calm of the night, forcing villagers to seek safety.

Fr. Ezeokwelum appealed for prayers for the deceased and the safe return of those abducted, while urging security agencies to strengthen protection for rural communities across the state.

In the aftermath of the attack, many residents deserted their homes and

sought refuge in neighboring towns, fearing further raids.

At the time of this report, the Kaduna State Police Command had not issued an official statement regarding the incident.

The Gadanaji attack underscores the growing security challenges facing rural communities in Kaduna, as armed banditry continues to threaten lives and livelihoods across the state.