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How robbers' violence-spree crippled Zamfara community

...Over 10 hospitalized with bullet-wounds

Written by Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Gusau Saturday, 13 August 2011 00:00

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After the merciless hunting of notorious armed robbers by villagers in some communities around Dansadau, **Zamfara** State, the robbers launched a deadly counterattack.

Villagers in communities within Dansadau in Maru Local Government of **Zamfara** State were traumatized when gangs of suspected armed robbers shot **10** people to death and inflicted serious gunshot wounds on scores of others during a predawn attack

last Tuesday. The attack was believed to be carried out in retaliation to a community-wide campaign against armed robbers by members of the affected villages late July, which reportedly led to the killing of dozens of suspected armed robbers through mob justice.

The rampaging robbers invaded Dansadau when their inhabitants were asleep and proceeded to fish out community leaders, known vigilante members and other individuals suspected of having a hand in the earlier attack on them.

Eyewitnesses said the attackers used AK 47 rifles and other automatic weapons to wage the fatal attacks. Similarly, they were accused of maltreating and raping housewives after their husbands had fled for their lives. Some of the survivors, now being treated for gunshot wounds at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) Gusau, said they were shot while trying to escape.

Dansadau is said to be notorious for armed robbery and the criminals were reported to have been living an untouchable life in parts of the kingdom, even as they allegedly steal, maim and kill with impunity. The suspected criminals have no-go-areas when it comes to their illegal trade, because they don't spare even the locals - with whom they are fairly acquainted - let alone strangers or

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