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HOME DAILY TRUST GUNMEN KILL VILLAGE HEAD, 22 OTHERS IN KADUNA

## Gunmen kill village head, 22 others in Kaduna

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Gunmen believed to be armed robbers attacked a village in Birnin Gwari local government area of Kaduna State early morning yesterday, shooting dead the traditional ruler and 22 other people.

The attack happened at Dogon Dawa village, about 90 kilometres from Zaria, in what was apparently a rescue mission to free robbers captured by local vigilante days earlier.

Residents said Dogon Dawa had suffered robbery incidents recently, and so a vigilante group from the village went to neighbouring Kuyallo where they arrested four suspects believed to be operating in the area.

This, locals said, provoked colleagues of the detained suspects to attack Dogon Dawa yesterday to free the captured four.

The attackers killed village head Makama Ahmad Aliyu, in whose home the captured robbers were detained, as well as one of his sons and some neighbours.

The robbers then freed two of their colleagues but shot dead the other two because they broke their legs in the process of unshackling them, a son of the late village head told Daily Trust. Witnesses said as the assailants headed out of the village after the rescue, they ran into worshippers coming out of the mosque after the dawn prayers, and opened fire killing nine people.

The village head's wife, who was injured in the attack, passed away late yesterday at a hospital.

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“We are suspecting that the attackers are those that were chased from Zamfara who moved to our local government to unleash havoc on our people,” said Dahiru Adamu Kuyallo, interim chairman of Birnin Gwami local government area.

“It is true that they have killed residents of Dogon Dawa, including the village head of Dogon Dawa, his son and neighbours. Six people are also receiving treatment at hospital, while the armed men have killed two of their colleagues that they came to rescue,” he added while speaking to Daily Trust when he visited Dogon Dawa to assess the level of damage.

“This is coming at a time when we have set up a joint committee with Zamfara State government in order to unravel those that are behind these recurrent attacks.”

When Daily Trust’s reporter visited Dogon Dawa at about noon yesterday, residents were seen grieving soon after the funeral rites of those killed in the attack.

Blood stains were seen in the vicinity of the mosque.

Abdulrahman Ahmad, son of the deceased village head said the gunmen stormed the village in the early morning hours.

“What actually happened was that the vigilante group of

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