

Bandits kill 12 in another Zamfara attack

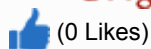
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Suspected armed bandits on Tuesday stormed Bawar Daji village in Anka local government area of Zamfara state and killed at least 12 people, Daily Trust gathered.

Residents told Daily Trust that dozens of gunmen arrived at the village around 1:pm and shot four persons dead and then fled. They later returned to the village around 2:am and killed at least eight people again.

But the state police command through its spokesman DSP Muhammad Shehu gave the figures of the casualties as 3 persons. He said the police confronted the attackers and engaged them thereby forcing them to retreat to the forest.

The attack came barely two weeks after eight people were shot dead in a deadly raid on Dogon Daji village in Maru local government area of the state.

Earlier this month, a notorious cattle rustling kingpin called Buharin Daji was killed by one of the repentant bandits called Dogo Gide in a gang violence in a forest near Dansadau town.

Earlier the residents of the troubled communities in Anka local government area of state had begged the federal government to protect them from the atrocities of a notorious kidnapper in the local government identified as "Gajere".

In a chat with Daily Trust the residents said the horrific assaults on the communities of Duhuwa, Dawan jiya, Gobirawa and Tungar Daji communities were being masterminded by the man called Gajere.

"Gajere is of Hausa extraction but he later grew up in herders' villages. He has imbibed the culture of impunity and crime when he joined the gang of cattle rustlers and armed bandits attacking our communities. He was born at Wuya district of the local government," A resident Ali Mustapha said.

"Gajere took to kidnapping and is the most dangerous kidnapper here. Most of the kidnappings that are taking place in the communities I mentioned are being master minded by him. He collected millions of Naira in ransom and he is still being paid the ransom when ever his gang abducts any resident," he added.

The residents said Gajere is moving freely wielding rifles and no one dares to confront him. He is visiting most their communities on motorbike to buy what ever he wants and a resident's earlier acquaintance with him won't stop him from abducting him/ her for ransom.