

Bandits kill 18 in Katsina villages

By Habibu Umar Aminu, Katsina | Published Date Jul 5, 2019 4:42 AM

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Governor Aminu Bello Masari of Katsina State commiserates yesterday with the state's former Special Adviser on Intergovernmental Affairs, Dr. Lawal Usman Bagiwa at the Federal Medical Centre, Katsina yesterday. Dr. Bagiwa was involved in a motor accident within Katsina metropolis.

Bandits killed 18 people at several villages in Kankara and Danmusa Local Government Areas of Katsina State Wednesday evening.

Locals said the bandits first attacked Unuwar Nagwande at about 4.30 pm where they killed four people before moving to Unguwar Rabo and killed nine.

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They said the assailants later attacked Gidan Daji and killed two persons there.

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The bandits were said to have moved to Maidabino village in Danmusa Local Government at about 5.10pm and opened fire on people attending the town's market day.

Three people at the market were reportedly killed and many others injured.

Residents evacuated 11 bodies to the Katsina General Hospital ahead of their funeral prayers expected to take place at the palace of the Emir of Katsina.

Survivors attributed their safety to God.

They said the bandits stormed the area in large numbers and shot sporadically.

One Malam Abubakar Daberi, who lost a son to the attack, said bandits' attackers were disheartening and heartbreaking.

He called for government intervention.

Kabir Saidu, a resident of Unguwar Aiki, lamented that the area was no longer safe as a lot of people had been killed in the last two months.

“We were attending our market day at Maidabino and suddenly, we saw people running to escape being shot. They robbed shops, took away valuables and animals” he said. The spokesman of the state police command, Gambo Isah, confirmed the incidence.

He said 11 people were killed in Kankara Local Government Area and two others were shot at Maidabino.

The Chief Imam of Katsina, Muhammadu Mustapha, yesterday led the funeral prayers of the victims.

They were later buried at old Dan Takum cemetery in the metropolis.

The Emir of Katsina, Abdulmumini Kabir Usman, alongside many district heads and traditional title holders of the emirate and scores of sympathisers, attended the prayers.

The victims were identified as Inusa Bawa, Kabir Yusuf, Haruna Garba, Murtala Gaba, Ganuso Zubairu, Aminu Abdullahi, Sagir Yusuf, Salisu Damanya, Tasiu Nasiru and Muktar Nasiru.

Their bodies were brought to the palace of the Emir of Katsina.

Residents of Batsari had on May 22 brought 18 bodies of those killed in a similar circumstance to the palace and state government house.

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