

# Gunmen kill 25 in Zamfara

From Shehu Umar, Gusau

Suspected gunmen on Wednesday killed at least 25 persons in attacks on several villages in Talata Mafara and Maru Local Government Areas of Zamfara State, Daily Trust gathered.

Residents said armed men invaded Awala village and carted away herds of cows and other domestic animals, and proceeded to neighbouring communities to rustle cows but met a stiff resistance from the residents.

"When they laid siege the residents fought back and killed several of the armed bandits and cattle rustlers. They didn't allow some of the gunmen to get way with the rustled animals, which forced a sudden withdrawal of the invading armed men."

"A day later, perhaps angered by the resistance from residents of the attacked communities, the armed men reinforced and arrived on motorbikes firing at the residents in Zaman Gira, Awala, Yargada Bolakke, Gidan

Runji, and many other villages.

"When the residents were preparing for the burial of the dead ones, the armed bandits resurfaced and started shooting the people at a cemetery in Zaman Gira and many other people were found dead," a resident identified as Sani Halilu said.

When contacted, spokesman of the state police command SP Muhammad Shehu said, "The state commissioner of police will brief you on the matter latter."

25-yr youth arrested for raping 95 yr old woman