

5 vigilantes killed, scores injured as bandits attack market, communities in Niger

From Romoke W. Ahmad, Minna

Bandits have killed five vigilantes and injured scores of others during an attack on a local market and some communities in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State.

The attack, *Daily Trust* learnt, happened at Bassa community in broad daylight while commercial activities were going on at Bassa Market, leading to casualties.

Communities such as Beri, Beri-Kago, Gatawi, Kini, Bmada and other adjoining villages in Manta District of the local government were attacked.

The co-convener, Concerned Shiroro Youths, Sani Abubakar Yusuf Kokki, who confirmed the attacks, said they carried out by bandits, said it had become a daily occurrence in the local government without any help from the authority.

"About five members of the vigilante corps were said to have been gunned

down during fierce gun battle. Also, during the deadly operation, many people sustained varying degrees of gunshot injuries while many others were kidnapped," Kokki said.

He said there was no respite in sight as "terrorists have reduced us to nothingness."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Wasiu Abiodun, could not be reached at the time of filing this report.