

Ansaru terrorists, bandits clash claim 30 in Kaduna

From Lami Sadiq,
Kaduna

A clash between terrorists belonging to the Ansaru group and bandits has claimed the lives of at least 30 bandits around the Damari axis of Birnin Gwari Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

Multiple sources confirmed to *Daily Trust* that the clash which started last week was a battle for supremacy between the two criminal groups.

The report came three weeks after terrorists fleeing military onslaught in Zamfara State took refuge in Saulawa and

Damari villages of Birnin Gwari LGA where they hoisted their flag.

Following telecommunication shutdown in some LGAs of Kaduna including Birnin Gwari, a resident, Samaila Yakubu, who spoke with *Daily Trust* from Zaria said the crisis between the two criminal groups followed a new law instituted by terrorists,

which restricted bandits from abduction and invading communities.

Yakubu said the bandits had resisted the new law which led to a wrangle that claimed the lives of four bandits and one member of Ansaru group last Tuesday.

He said a tit-for-tat attack had ensued between the two groups which climaxed with the

killing of about 30 bandits last week.

Also corroborating the incident, Hassan Ibrahim from Giwa LGA said the terrorists had warned bandits to desist from rampant abductions, adding that the warning had not been heeded by the bandits which led to the clash.

Ibrahim said, "The killings between the

two groups are ongoing but abductions are on a decline. The focus of the terrorists is now on how to get fuel and money from travellers.

"Two days ago, they ambushed my nephew along the Birnin Gwari- Zaria road on a motorcycle and they emptied his fuel tank. They then collected his phone and money he had

on him and set him free. I believe the new security measures are working," he said.

When contacted, Kaduna State Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Mohammed Jalige, asked for time to clarify the situation from the DPO in charge of the area but hours later, he did not respond to calls to his phone.

