

# Bandits kill 10 worshippers, injure 11 in Katsina community

From Tijjani Ibrahim, Katsina

**A**t least 10 worshippers were killed when bandits struck in Yasore community in Batsari Local Government Area of Katsina State, on Tuesday.

The victims were said to be observing Magrib prayer when the bandits opened fire on them.

Daily Trust gathered that their remains were buried Wednesday morning while those who sustained injuries were being treated in a hospital.

There was a suspicion that the bandits came from their hideouts in Birnin Gwari Forest in Kaduna State.

The bandits, who attacked the community at about 6:30pm, were also reported to have burnt

many houses in the community.

A resident, who pleaded anonymity, said the attackers came despite the ongoing military and police offensive.

"We have seen the impact of the recent military onslaught against these criminals because their attacks are not as frequent as it used to be but it is still very difficult for farmers to harvest their farm produce," he said.

He added that many residents who survived the deadly invasion had fled to the headquarters of Batsari Local Government for safety.

Confirming the incident, Police Public Relations Officer in the state, SP Gambo Isah, said the attackers were on a reprisal mission against the outlawed Yan'sakai (vigilantes).

"The bandits were on a

reprisal mission. 10 people were killed while 11 others were injured. Recently, members of Yan'sakai have been going round the community, killing people and the bandits went there on a revenge mission.

"Any member of Yan'sakai caught henceforth would be treated as bandits. Yan'sakai remains outlawed in the state," he said.