Bandits Kill 2, Abduct 4 In Zaria

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Two people were feared dead Monday night when suspected bandits invaded the Kofar Kona area of Zaria City, Kaduna State. Sources said the armed men arrived in the area on foot around 9:40pm and proceeded to the residence of a customs officer.

A resident of the area, who preferred anonymity, said "The bandits who came in large numbers invaded the residence of a customs officer, Malam Abubakar Modibbo and kidnapped his wife Asiya Abubakar along his two daughters, Khadijatul Kubra and Hafsat, with one Falalu Ibrahim.

[&]quot;The bandits also shot to death one Zaharaddeen Mohammed of Amaru and Sunusi Sani of Dorayi who were simply passing by.

"Sani was later reported to have died in the morning at the hospital as a result of wounds sustained from gunshots."

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Another vigilante group member said the bandits who immediately proceeded to Dorayi village in the outskirt of Zaria rustled a number of cattle. According to him, they also abducted scores of people numbering about 20.

He said the bandits abandoned all their captives in the area and retracted to the bush, following a gun duel with security operatives.

The vigilante member stated that the bandits burnt down the residence of one Alhaji Dalha and two motorcycles before escaping due to intense exchange of fire.

Efforts to contact the Kaduna State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Mohammed Jalige were not successful as his mobile phone could not be reached.