

2 killed, 8 abducted in Kwara

In the same vein, two people were killed and eight others abducted when bandits invaded Shagbe community in Ifelodun Local Government Area of Kwara State over the weekend.

The armed men, who stormed the town close to midnight, reportedly shot sporadically, sending residents scampering for safety before attacking the palace of the Onishagbe of Shagbe in an attempt to kidnap the traditional ruler.

Sources said the assailants met stiff resistance at the palace, leading to a heavy exchange of gunfire.

A Fulani vigilante was reportedly killed in the process, while the bandits abducted eight residents as they retreated from the town.

A community leader in Ifelodun, who preferred anonymity, disclosed that the attackers have contacted the community to demand a ransom of N200 million.

“They killed two people and injured two others. They are asking for N100 million for the kidnapped victims and another N100 million from the monarch not to return to the community.

But we are working closely with security agencies to fortify the town and palace,” he said.

Kwara State Commissioner of Police, Adekimi Ojo, confirmed the incident in a telephone chat on Sunday night.

According to him, “Two people were killed and eight kidnapped. They also rustled an unspecified number of cattle. The bandits shot dead a herder in the forest on their way out after killing another person in the town.

“All the victims were Fulanis. No arrest has been made yet, but we have leads, and the investigation has been intensified.”

The latest incident comes shortly after security forces, in collaboration with the state government, launched an onslaught on suspected bandits in the area, neutralising some of them and rescuing kidnap victims.

Meanwhile, 46 suspects riding motorcycles were intercepted and arrested over the weekend around the Babanla axis of Ifelodun Local Government.