
Gunmen kill businessman, abduct kids in Katsina

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18 March 2021 | 3:03
am

Emir escapes kidnapping as two die in Kaduna

Gunmen have killed a middle-aged businessman, Alhaji Ibrahim Kwatahi, in Jargaba community, Bakori Local Council of Katsina State.

The gunmen, who reportedly stormed the community on foot in their numbers with sophisticated weapons, also abducted two of the victim's children –Ilya, 18, and his younger sister, Shafa'atu, 15.

Kwatahi was into the cotton business which he bought from local farmers and sold to traders across the country.

According to a resident, the bandits, who stormed the victim's home about 1.30 a.m. on Wednesday, carted away money and household items.

He said that local vigilantes, who trailed the gunmen after they had left the community, reported that they moved the abducted children towards a forest in neighbouring Faskari Local Council.

Police spokesperson, Gambo Isah, was yet to respond to inquiries made on the issue as of the time of this report.

IN Kaduna State, armed bandits attacked the convoy of the Emir of Birnin Gwari, Alhaji Zubairu Jibril, Mai Gwari II, on the Kaduna–Birnin-Gwari road.

The incident reportedly occurred when the monarch's convoy was on its way to Kaduna on Tuesday evening.

The emir's driver, Umar Jibril, who confirmed the incident, said the 73-year-old monarch was elsewhere when the bandits appeared in front of the vehicles, released some shots, and threw tree branches on the road to stop the convoy.

“We did not stop. They targeted me, but the bullet missed my head,” he added.

According to him, apart from minor injuries sustained from shattered glasses, no one was injured.

When the Kaduna Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Mohammed Jalige, was contacted on phone, he said: “Initially, the information we got was that the emir was attacked along Abuja–Kaduna highway, but our men said there was no such incident there. I am trying to contact Birnin-Gwari to know whether the emir's convoy was attacked along that highway. When I get confirmation of the incident, I will call you.”



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However, the Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs said the incident happened about 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday, adding that only the driver and an orderly, Insp. Sani Yahaya, were in the vehicle.

The commissioner also said that armed robbers barricaded a bridge leading to Kitansa village, Kauru Local Council, and shot dead Danladi Goriye, while Sunday Garba sustained gunshot wounds.



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He added: “In another development, troops of Operation Thunder Strike neutralised two bandits during a raid at a suspected bandit camp called Rafin Rikamba in Chikun Local Council. Others are suspected to have escaped with gunshot wounds. A kidnapped truck driver escaped from the bandits during the raid.

“Police personnel intercepted two brothers, Abdullahi Samaila and Adamu Samaila, from Toro, Bauchi State, along the Kaduna–Saminaka road with 150 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition concealed in the door of their vehicle.”

