

Gunmen kill 11 in Kaduna, injure others

From **Odita Sunday** (Abuja) and
Saxone Akhaine (Kaduna)

SUSPECTED Fulani militia, on Sunday night, invaded Apiye Jim village in Atyap Chiefdom, Zangon Kataf Local Council of Kaduna State, killing 11 persons and while injuring several others. The attackers, residents told *The Guardian*, stormed the area in the rain and split into groups and attacked the residents with dangerous weapons.

"Many people are now missing as a result of the attack. It is impossible to ascertain the number of those injured and even those killed; but so far, I have counted 11 dead bodies in different locations this

No excuses for failure, COAS warns commanders

morning," a witness stated. He explained that the attackers came in large number, adding that the operation lasted about 10 minutes.

The source also told Journalists: "What we are experiencing from the attacks of the suspected Fulani militia is a designed programme to carry out unprovoked attack. Besides, the killing of individuals is ongoing, if one is caught within the vicinity close to Zangon Kataf urban.

"For quite sometime, Atyapland has been to carry its cross in the hands of the attackers, who move from one village to another killing,

maiming, burning houses and destroying crops in farmlands at will without arrest."

The attacks, he noted, is hampering farming activities and food production, as most of the villagers are farmers.

Meanwhile, a telephone call and text messages to the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mohammed Jalige, on the unfortunate incident, were not responded to before press time.

IN a related development, the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Lt-Gen. Faruk Yahaya, has warned field commanders in various theatres of operation to desist from giving excuses for failure to dis-

lodge bandits and terrorists.

According to him, commanders must take initiatives and be decisive to tackle threats in their respective areas of responsibility.

In his address at the opening of the three-day Chief of Army Staff Combined Second and Third Quarter Conference 2021, in Abuja, Yahaya stated that the Nigerian Army under his watch would remain resolute and continue to chart progressive paths towards tackling the security challenge in the country.

"I have directed that serious attention be given to sustaining and improving the tempo in all ongoing Nigerian Army operations

across the country. I have also special operations, especially in the North Central and North West regions," he stated.

The COAS, however, acknowledged the logistics constraints in operations across the country and disclosed that efforts were in progress to provide combat enablers that would boost military operations.

Highpoint at the ceremony tagged 'Developing Enduring Strategy to Accomplish Assigned Mission in a Joint Environment' was the launch of seven Satellite Communication Vehicles (SCVs) and conferment of special awards on distinguished officers.