

# Bandits Kill Five, Injure Others In Katsina Attack

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## Troops Neutralise Many In Kaduna

**S**USPECTED bandits have killed five persons and injured several others at Dangaze community, in Batsari local council of Katsina State.

The incident occurred about 12noon last Thursday while community members were buying and selling goods at a local market.

It was learnt that the market operates every Thursday and several people from neighbouring communities had gathered waiting for it to open.

According to a source familiar with the incident, it was while they were waiting

for the market to commence that suspected bandits stormed the area.

The source said the bandits, who were in their numbers, wielded sophisticated weapons and rode on motorcycles when they stormed the area.

"They shot sporadically and people scampered for safety. The bandits killed five people, and several others sustained injuries.

"Some of the injured are currently at the Batsari General Hospital receiving treatment, while some of the community members have deserted their homes for fear of another attack," an eyewitness said.

Spokesperson of the Police Command in the state, SP Gambo Isah, was yet to respond to inquiries made about the issue as at time of this report.

Meanwhile, security operatives, yesterday, neutralised several bandits in Kaduna State.

According to a statement by the state's Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, the bandits were eliminated and their camps destroyed during clearance operations in Igabi and Chikun local council areas.

Aruwan said that clearance operations were conducted in Faka, Katuka, Barebari and

Maguzawa general areas, spanning Chikun and Igabi local councils.

The statement revealed that an unconfirmed number of bandits were sighted on the high ground across the Maguzawa river. "They were engaged by a NAF attack helicopter and neutralised," he said.

Aruwan added: "Furthermore, the security forces conducted clearance patrols to Katuka, about nine kilometres from Kangan Kadi in Chikun local council. During the destruction of camps, one fleeing bandit was apprehended with the following items recovered: One motorcycle, one AK-47 rifle and 30 rounds of ammunition.