

Bandits kill over 38 persons, destroy property in three Kaduna villages

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NO fewer than 38 persons have been confirmed killed and several property, including vehicles, houses and farm produce set ablaze, as bandits attacked three villages in Giwa Council of Kaduna State.

The state's Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, who confirmed this in a statement yesterday, identified the attacked villages as Kauran Fawa, Marke and Riheya.

He said the identities of the victims would be published once further details are con-

- 'Retirement of active military officers unnecessary'
- Group plans to engage youths on peace building for Plateau, Kaduna
- Insecurity fuels hunger, malnutrition among IDPs in Lake Chad, says UN

firmed by the Kaduna State Government.

MEANWHILE, a governorship aspirant on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Plateau State, Gen. John Sura (rtd), has advised the Federal Government to suspend the retirement of vibrant and experienced military officers who are still very active, knowledgeable and sound.

Sura, who gave the advice yesterday in Jos, said the Federal Government should retain experienced people, who have technical

and other experiences with the military, adding that they do not deserve to be sent home after spending much to acquire the necessary skills.

The Plateau State governorship aspirant advocated special courts for bandits, terrorists and criminals, adding that without this, the leadership will be coasting towards failure.

HOWEVER, Plateau State House of Assembly member, Timothy Dantong, has disclosed plans to engage youths on peace-building in Plateau and

Kaduna states to address insecurity challenges in the two states.

Dantong said this in Abuja at the Middle Belt Youth Peaceful Building Academy Project workshop organised by Plan International Nigeria.

He said the group had done well in training youths that would address issues of conflicts to build peace among communities in Plateau and Kaduna states.

He said that the effort was to help in bringing the communities together and giving people awareness to live

together in peace.

In his remarks, the Country Director of the group, Charles Usie, said that historically, Plateau and Kaduna had been cosmopolitan states that have accommodated people from all parts of Nigeria and have lived peacefully.

IN another development, the United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) has said that insecurity fuels 'hunger and malnutrition' among displaced persons in the Lake Chad region.

The region, which comprises Chad, Niger, Cameroun and Nigeria setup a Multinational Joint Task Force (MJTF) in June 2016 to fight insurgency.

UN-OCHA, which stated this at the weekend in a snapshot made available to *The Guardian* in Maiduguri, Borno State, said: "About 2.8 million people were displaced from the four countries during the over a decade conflict in the region."

