## Bandits Kill One, Abduct Three In Kogi Community

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**LOKOJA** 

rmed bandits stormed the Royal Garden Spot, Egwume, in Dekina Local Government Area of Kogi State, killing a man and abducted three persons.

The incident, which reportedly occurred on Thursday night at the hotel located on Anyigba-Ankpa-Enugu Road, left many with broken limbs, as they scampered for safety.

According to an eye witness, the gunmen reportedly dressed in Fulani attires, stormed the open arena of the hotel where

people were relaxing and started shooting sporadically, leaving on its trail a dead man later identified as Anthony Monday, while three were taken away to an unknown destination.

It was gathered that the deceased struggled to escape before he caught by the bandits bullets, while one of his friends sharing table with him, also received a gunshot, but had been receiving treatment in an undisclosed medical facility in the area.

Our correspondent reliably gathered that the manager, his 18-month-old boy, a brother of the late Anthony Monday, and a lady were among those taken away by the kidnappers.

Security sources confirmed the incident, which happened at about 8.30 pm, while the slain Anthony Monday, was identified as a cashew dealer from Ate-Iji Anyigba.

Before the arrival of policemen at the scene of the incident, the sources said the kidnappers had left the hotel with the victims, living late Monday dead in his

Barely 12 hours after the incident, the kidnappers had reportedly been demanding for ransom as the toddler, who was kidnapped along with them was allegedly giving them tough time with his continuous crying.

In his reaction, the National President of

Egume Ome Descendants Union (EODU), Alhaji Muhammed Lawal Ibrahim, expressed shock over the incident, even as he appealed to the police to ensure that perpetrators were apprehended and brought to book.

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Ibrahim enjoined the people of Egume to remain calm and go about their businesses as efforts were being put in place by the law enforcement agents to protect lives and property in the community.

The Commissioner of Police, Kogi State Command, Ede Ayuba Ekpeji, who also confirmed the incident, advised members of the public to be observant and always report suspicious movements to security agents.

He disclosed that he had deployed a team of operatives to hunt for the hood-lums and to ensure they were arrested and made to face the full wrath of the law.