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# Fresh Attack: Gunmen Kill 20 In Zamfara

Abba Abubakar Kabara (http://leadership.ng//reporter/abba-abubakar-kabara/)

— *Sep 12, 2014* | 1 Comment (http://leadership.ng/news/383856/fresh-attack-gunmen-kill-20-zamfara#comments)

After two months of uneasy calm in Zamfara State, unknown gunmen have resurfaced in some villages of Gusau local government, allegedly killing over 20 people and forcing hundreds to flee their villages to seek refuge in some neighbouring communities.

LEADERSHIP Friday learnt that last Sunday, many villagers fled their villages after a coordinated attack on their respective communities by the gunmen at Damba Model Primary School. Hundreds of dejected refugees including children besieged classroom blocks where they spent days in suspense, receiving emergency assistance from the state and local authorities.

One of the victims, Mallam Muhammadu Maidawa from Kungumau village under Mada district of Gusau local government, said that the gunmen have for long been terrorizing many villages, driving away many cows and robbing people of their money and other valuables.

He said that of recent, a gang of hoodlums armed with heavy rifles besieged his village in a house-to-house assault, killing innocent people and "raping our wives and daughters".

He added, "There were times that this happened and we were forced at gunpoint to watch the assault", explaining that in the case of an old woman, they inserted dry cell battery into her private part which eventually led to her death.

"The sight of arms that they were carrying was so terrifying that there was a pregnant woman who had a miscarriage due to extreme fear and shock."

He regretted that all these occurred while security personnel were completely absent, "as we don't have any police post within the locality."

He said the communities that were attacked on the same day included Kofa, Kundubau, Wonaka, Fura Girke, Fegin Mahe, Gangara, Kukar Gandu, Kanawa, Lafiya, Gora and many others from where many people fled to safer places.

Muhammadu Waidawa told our reporter that the gunmen killed 14 persons in Akuzo village, and 19 in Zamfarawar Girke where "I personally witnessed the burial of 16 bodies".

He said there are refugee camps in Yandoto, Shemori, Marke, Faskari, Bilbis, Unguwar Tsamiya, and Gusau, the capital city, while many fleeing victims took refuge outside the state.

A female refugee, Malama Sa'a Muhammadu narrated that they had to flee their village due to persistent threats by the Fulani gunmen who usually attack in broad daylight and rob the community of cattle and other belongings.

"We are not safe; not only our properties are unsafe, but we are often forced into sexual assault by the gunmen," she narrated in tears.

She further said that for many months, their husbands could not spend nights in their matrimonial homes for fear of attacks by the Fulani gunmen who often besiege the village in house-to-house attacks.

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