

Bandits Attack Niger Communities, Kill 13, Abduct Scores

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Bandits have continued their attacks on communities in Niger State where they killed 13 and abducted 26 people in two separate attacks in Mashegu and Munya local government areas.

Sources hinted that no fewer than eight communities in Mashegu local government area have been constantly attacked by bandits, killing seven and abducting many villagers. It was learnt that communities around Kulho, Sahon Rami and

Tashan Hajiya were worse affected by the bandits' attacks as the local vigilante struggled to foil some of the attacks.

The chairman Mashegu local government area of Niger State, Hon. Umar Jibrin Igede who decried the development confirmed that in the last two weeks the bandits have renewed their attacks in the area. The chairman stated that seven of the communities in the local government have been deserted and most of the villagers in the affected communities have relocated from their home

to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camp in Kontagora and other places for their safety.

He confirmed that a total of seven people were killed and 26 others abducted in the affected communities by the bandits in their renewed deadly attacks saying that "the attacks of these bandits in Mashegu is becoming unbearable, we need assistance from the relevant security agencies to come to rescue us."

Similarly, some communities in Munya local government were also attacked by bandits killing

six people and abducting 14 villagers who were mostly women. It was learnt that among those killed were two vigilantes whom they laid ambushed on and engaged them and the security men in a gun duel.

It was further learnt that with the intervention of joint security forces several bandits escaped with gunshot wound to the forest adjoining Kaduna State.

When contacted the commissioner for internal security and humanitarian affairs in Niger State Mr Emmanuel Umar could not be reached on phone.