
Military Airstrike Kills 10 In Katsina

BY GODWIN ENNA,
Katsina

.....
An airstrike conducted by the Nigerian Air Force (NAF) has inadvertently resulted in the deaths of at least ten civilians in Zakka village, located in the Safa-na local government area of Katsina State.

The incident occurred

during an operation intended to support vigilantes and the Community Watch Corps (CWC) in repelling a bandit attack amidst election activities.

Local sources report that among the deceased was a family of six, who tragically lost their lives when the airstrike mistakenly struck their home.

Authorities have yet to issue an official statement regarding this tragic event.

In response, Amnesty International Nigeria has condemned the airstrike and called for an impartial and transparent investigation. The human rights organisation expressed deep concern over what it termed a disturbing pattern of mili-

tary airstrikes leading to civilian casualties.

"Airstrikes resulting in high numbers of unlawful killings have become the latest addition to a long list of egregious human rights violations committed by the Nigerian military," Amnesty International stated. "The Nigerian authorities must issue clear directives

to the military to always prioritise and respect human rights."

The Nigerian military has not yet officially responded to the allegations. However, this incident is part of a troubling trend.

In December 2023, a similar airstrike in Tudun Biri, Kaduna State, mistakenly resulted in the deaths

of over 80 civilians, provoking national outrage and renewed calls for accountability.

Despite the military's ongoing efforts to combat insurgents and armed bandits, concerns remain regarding adherence to international humanitarian law and the protection of civilian lives during such operations.