

Gunmen kill four as two Kaduna villages are sacked

Tony Akowe

Some gunmen yesterday killed four people in Gwaron Dutse and Gwaska, two villages in Birnin Gwari Local Government Area of Kaduna State, in separate attacks.

Several others were displaced.

The Nation learnt that most of the villagers abandoned their homes and ran for safety when the gunmen, who were suspected to be Fulani herdsmen, stormed the villages at 4pm on Saturday and started shooting sporadically.

Sources said the residents were terrified by the sound of machine guns.

A resident, who spoke in confidence, said: "It was terrifying. We were at home when we started hearing gunshots from all directions. So, we all ran, including our wives, children, adult and the aged, into nearby bush.

"We suspected the attackers were armed bandits who have been terrorising our villages. We need help because there are no policemen or soldiers in our town. These people always come to terrorise us. As I am talking to you now, our villages have been turned to ghost towns. We all abandoned everything to save our lives."

The Nation also learnt that the gunmen invaded one of the villages last Wednesday but were repelled by members of a vigilance group, who reportedly engaged them in a shootout.

Some of the attackers were reportedly injured.

The gunmen may have come back on a revenge mission, it was learnt.

The source added: "They (attackers) were in the village on Wednesday but our vigilance group engaged them in a shootout. So, they left with some of their injured members. That is why they came back on Saturday for a revenge on the villagers."

The chairman of the local government, Alhaji Idris Musa Alhassan, confirmed the incident.

He said four people were killed by the bandits and two others injured.

Police Commissioner Adenaike Olufemi said he has not been briefed on the incident. He promised to address reporters today.