

One killed, five abducted in Kaduna

•We're under siege, says community

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AbdulGafar Alabelewe, Kaduna

ARMED bandits suspected to be kidnappers have killed one person and abducted five others including a primary school head teacher in two attacks on some villages in Birnin Gwari Local Government Area of

Kaduna State.

The gunmen were reported to have attacked a petrol station in Doka village along Funtua road at about 1:00pm on Wednesday, shot and killed one of the attendants, injured two others and later took another two away.

Chairman of Birnin Gwari Vanguard, Ibrahim Nagwari, in a statement made available to newsmen in Kaduna on Thursday, identified the abducted teacher as AbdulHafiz Abdullahi of Dangamji Primary School.

He said the bandits also wounded three members of a local vigilance group.

Police could not confirm the incident at press time.

The Birnin Gwari Vanguard's statement said the Birnin-Gwari-Funtua Road has been deserted, while the entire eastern part of Birnin-Gwari on the border of Zamfara and Katsina States is now surrounded by armed bandits who attack travellers and villagers almost on a daily basis.

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They said, many travellers were abducted in another attack on Polwaya and Gayam village at about 5:00 pm on Wednesday.

A statement released by the community forum said, "Armed bandits have abducted the Head Teacher of Dangamji, Primary School, AbdulHafiz Abdullahi and two others at Doka Filing Station, while two others were shot and seriously wounded.

"Earlier on Wednesday morning around 8.30am, heavily armed bandits opened fire on vehicles around Polwaya and abducted a bread vendor, about 10km from Birnin-Gwari. Similarly, the armed bandits struck again on Wednesday near Gayam village, wounding three vigilantes and abducted people from vehicles.

"The notorious Unguwar Yako, Kwanan Mahaukaciya and indeed entire Birnin-Gwari-Kaduna highway have been overtaken by bandits terrorising and abducting innocent people especially women and children.

"In the last three weeks, armed bandits have launched a major onslaught against innocent civilians and motorists across the length and breadth of Birnin-Gwari Local Government Area of Kaduna State.