

# 21 killed, nine missing in Kaduna attack

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## *From AbdulGafar Alabelewe, Kaduna*

No fewer than 21 persons are feared killed by bandits in Giwa-Bakali, a village in Fatika District of Giwa Local Government Area, Kaduna State.

Eleven of the victims, all members of a family, were said to have been locked up and burnt inside their house by the bandits. Nine residents are missing.

The killing on Tuesday in Giwa-Bakali happened less than 48 hours after 30 people, mostly travellers were burnt to death by Boko Haram insurgents in Auno near Maiduguri, Borno State.

Our correspondent learnt that the Bakali attack which began at 4pm on Tuesday and ended at 6pm left the community deserted.

Mallam Sani Bakali, who told reporters the 11 deceased, including children, were members of his family, added that the bandits were armed with AK47 riffles.

He said: “The bandits stormed our village on Tuesday around 4pm on many motorbikes brandishing AK47 riffles.

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“Immediately they came, they started moving round the village, shooting sporadically. In the process, they came to our house, set the house ablaze, with 11 people inside.

“All the 11 people are members of my family. They include three women and eight children. They were the wives and children of my three younger brothers.

“They also killed two of my uncles. While on the bush path, we discovered four other corpses burnt to death. They equally killed two Imams, one of my neighbors and a

close friend of mine.

“We just performed the funeral prayer for 21 of them this (Wednesday) afternoon. Initially, it was 20 corpses we buried first before we later discovered one more corpse inside the bush. We buried him too.

“Right now, people have fled the village. You are seeing me because I came to pick something. I just took my brother and his two wives to Zaria. I am about leaving myself.

“Apart from the people killed, there are nine people we are yet to see after the incident. As it is now, we don’t know whether they have been killed or not.”

When contacted, the state’s Police Command’s PPRO, Muhamnad Jalige, confirmed the attack but could not confirm the casualty figures.

“There was an attack in Giwa, Bakali village to be precise and we have sent a team of Police officers and men there to ascertain the situation of things,” he said.



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