

Gunmen open fire on mosque, kill 17, abduct 18

GUNMEN yesterday invaded a mosque in Niger State, killing 17 worshippers and injuring three others.

Eighteen persons were abducted in the attack which took place in Maza Kuka community in Mashegu council.

The gunmen came on mo-

From Justina Asishana,
Minna

torcycles, shooting rapidly and taking the early morning worshippers unawares.

Some of the residents who spoke on the phone said they were still in shock.

Maza Kuka is close to Kainji Lake forest where most of the bandits in the state are

said to be camped.

Secretary to the State Government Ahmed Ibrahim Matane confirmed the attack, saying 16 persons were killed in the mosque attack while one was killed at Kaboji village.

Matane said the State government has sent a team of military personnel to the for-

est to fish out the gunmen.

Chairman of Mashegu local government council, Alhaji Alhassan Isa Maza-Kuka also confirmed the incident, describing it as devastating.

He said one of the injured persons was in critical condition and has been referred to the Minna General Hospital.