

# Gunmen kill 17, abduct 57 in Niger, Kaduna attacks

**B**ANDITS attacked three local government areas in Niger and Kaduna

over the weekend, killing 17 persons.

In the Kaduna attack, which took place in Birnin-Gwari council, seven persons were killed and 57 taken away on Saturday, The Nation learnt.

In Mashegu and Lavun councils of Niger State, 10 persons were killed and an uncertain number of people abducted between Saturday and yesterday.

The communities raided by the terrorists included Sahon-

From Justina Asishana,  
Minna

Rami, Igbede, Chekaku, Ube-gi, Maishankafi and Poshi, while as many as 10 communities were attacked in Lavun council, it was said.

Some vigilantes confronted the bandits but were no match for the hoodlums, who went from one community to another, a community resident, Mustapha Umar, said.

"They started the operation around noon, moving from one village to another unchallenged. For now, we have only

discovered the dead bodies of three persons", he said.

Ahmed Musa, a resident of Kupa, one community raided, said, "I can confirm that terrorists invaded my village and also attacked other villages in Lavun local government. For now, we do not know how many people they killed or kidnapped. We are yet to take stock."

Lavun council chairman, Ibrahim Limanko Pata, confirmed the attack.

Ibrahim Nagwari, chairman of the Birnin-Gwari Vanguard for Security and Good

Governance, in a statement on Saturday, said the bandits also attacked locals at Unguwar Bula, Unguwar Daffilo and Ijingga in Randagi areas of the LGA.

"Today, around 10am, a final-year student of Science Secondary School Birnin-Gwari escaped with bullet wounds on his shoulder on his way to register for JAMB/UMTE in Kaduna," the statement said.

"The student is awaiting surgery for the removal of the bullet on his shoulder at Jibrin Maigwari General Hospital in Birnin-Gwari," he said.