

## ① Gunmen kill worshipers inside mosque, abduct seven others in Niger

**T**HE police command in Niger State has confirmed that gunmen, on Monday morning, killed unspecified number of people who were observing their early morning prayers inside a mosque at Mazakuka village in Mashegu Local Government Area of the state. The Commissioner of Police in the state, Monday Kuryas, who disclosed this to the **News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)** in Minna on Monday, said the hoodlums also abducted seven other worshipers at the mosque.

Kuryas said the incident occurred at about 530 a.m. when the gunmen attacked the village.

He said the gunmen later destroyed property worth millions of naira belonging to one Alhaji Abubakar Maigandus.

He said security person-

nel, however, shot dead one of the attackers.

The police boss said the incident was understood to be a reprisal resulting from a long-standing communal feud.

He said already, additional security personnel had been deployed in the area to en-

sure the arrest of the gunmen and all other miscreants undermining peaceful coexistence among residents.

Kuryas urged residents of the state, especially those in the rural areas, to come forward with reliable information that could aid the personnel deployed across the

state to ensure the arrest and prosecution of all those involved in criminal acts.

He said: "We are battle-ready to confront criminal elements as long as good residents will volunteer credible information on movements of dubious characters in their midst."

③ One killed, seven shot,