By 'Yomi Ayeleso - Ado-E... On Nov 4, 2021



FILE PHOTO

A combined team of security forces in Ekiti State, on Thursday morning, killed a suspected kidnapper at the point of collecting ransom during a midnight shootout in a sprawling forest between Ekiti and Kwara border.

Tribune Online gathered that the suspected abductor, was killed by combined forces of soldiers, police and local security task force belonging to Fulani extraction called Yan Banga set up by a Sarkin Fulani in Ekiti, Alhaji Adamu Abashe, inside a forest at Eruku, in Kwara State.

The security forces were said to have laid ambush for a kidnapping gang at the point of payment of a sum of N2.1 million ransom for an abducted Fulani man and chased them after collecting the money until they shot the suspect dead.

The suspect, who was shot dead after being chased inside the forest covering several kilometres, was one of the gangs of abductors terrorising Ikole, Ekiti East and Oye Local Government Areas of Ekiti State in recent time.

A source at Itapaji, in Ikole Local Government Area of the state, where series of kidnappings had taken place recently, said the suspect's corpse have been handed over to the police.

"The joint security forces chased the bandits inside the forest from 10 pm on Wednesday till around 2 am on Thursday. There were exchanges of gunshots.

"At a point, the police and soldiers had retreated, but the Ban Yanga task force didn't relent until they shot the one carrying an AK 47 rifle. A sum of N210,000 was found inside the pocket of the dead suspect," he said.

Confirming the incident, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Sunday Abutu, said it was made possible due to the recent engagement by the command with stakeholders in the affected communities.

Abutu said: "The Security meeting has paid off as the local Hunters, Vigilantes, the Amotekun Corp and the Army teamed up with the police, on Wednesday, and went after the kidnappers of the two victims who have been demanding for ransom.

"It was in the process of picking up the ransom of about two million naira that the security operatives which comprised the local hunters, the vigilantes, the army and the police gave them a hot chase up to Eruku in Kwara State where one of the kidnappers was gunned down during a gun. Items such as one AK 47 riffle with 25 live rounds ammunition, one cutlass, two small itel phones belonging to the victims and a cash sum of N210,000 were recovered from the kidnappers."

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