

Bandits kill 82-year-old district head, four others, burn palace in Zamfara

Attahiru Ahmed | Gusau

BANDITS have killed the 82-year-old district head of Gada, in Bungudu Local Government Area of Zamfara State, Alhaji Umar Bawan Allah, and four others, including two of his sons. It was gathered that the

bandits also burnt the palace of the district head, alongside several houses and vehicles in the community. The bandits also abducted several people, including women and children. *Nigerian Tribune* gathered that the late district head was a father to over 30 children and many grandchildren.

An indigene of the town, Miakau Mohammed, said: "The bandits came to the town in large numbers and blocked all roads leading into the town. They then started shooting sporadically." Mohammed said some of the bandits entered the town, while the others stood by the entrances to ensure that nobody escaped.

"They spent several hours in the town, searching houses. They stole several items, including foodstuff, money and abducted several people.

"Our district head was killed by the bandits. He was shot dead because he resisted attempt to abduct him."

The source said the bandits

later set his palace on fire, where several properties, including his two vehicles were burnt.

Addressing newsmen on Wednesday at the state police command headquarters in Gusau, the Commissioner of Police in the state, Ayuba Elkana, said police tactical team operatives had been deployed in the affected

town, adding that they were already on the trail of the bandits.

Elkana said the police tactical team also rescued nine kidnap victims.

He said: "Nine kidnap victims were rescued by the tactical team, while effort is already ongoing to apprehend the assailants and rescue other victims."