

Bandits abduct, kill Masari's chief cook

Kidnap village head, six others in Zamfara

no deaths
only kidnaps

From Mohammed Abba
and Attahiru Ahmed

A LHAJI Lawal Kambarawa, the chief cook of the Katsina State governor Aminu Bello Masari, was few days ago kidnapped in his farm while inspecting the har- vesting of farm produce, be- fore he was later killed after family members had paid a N5 million ransom.

The eldest son of the de-

ceased, Ahmed Lawal, who spoke with newsmen on Monday in Katsina, said his father was kidnapped and later killed by bandits.

Ahmed said: "Our father was kidnapped in his farm along Katsina-Jibia International Road, which leads to the Niger Republic."

"Baba was lured to the farm by the caretaker of the farm when suddenly the bandits appeared and whisked him away alongside our brother who drove

him to the farm.

"The bandits later requested us to pay N5 million naira ransom, which the family paid.

"However, the bandits killed our father and released our brother, who informed the family that Baba had been killed."

Speaking on the development, the deceased's former boss, Alhaji Ishaq Karofi, lamented the killing, just as he described the deceased as a nice and

humble man.

Karofi said the deceased worked under him for 20 years when he was the secretary of the Katsina State Tenders Board and also at the state executive council.

Staff members at the Katsina State Government House also described the death as shocking, and prayed Allah to grant the deceased eternal rest.

In another development, residents of Kwangwami village in Moriki emirate in

Zurmi Local Government Area of Zamfara State are living in fear following the abduction of the village head, Muhammad Dangaladima, and six others.

About 10 people were recently kidnapped in the same Kwangwami community while working in their farm, which is few kilometres away from the headquarters of the council area.

A source in the area who craved anonymity said heavily-armed men invaded the

village in the early hours of Monday and abducted the village head and six others.

The source said: "It is unfortunate; we are now living in fear as bandits are now threatening us. Recently, they abducted 10 people on their farm, and they are still with them [bandits]."

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mohammed Shehu, could not be reached on his mobile phone when contacted to confirm the development.