

Katsina bandits' attack: Death toll rises above 100

THE death toll from the clash between terrorists and the Yansakai group in Bakori Local Government Area of Katsina State has risen above 100, residents say.

According to **Channels TV**, this figure was revealed shortly after Governor Aminu Masari sent a delegation under the leadership of the Secretary to the State Government, Alhaji Muntari Lawal, to condole with families of the victims.

Residents of the affected communities put the number of those killed at over 100, stating that more corpses are being recovered from the area, while some people in the communities are still missing.

One of the residents who hails from Guga village, Abubakar Hashimu, told **Channels TV** that even on Friday, 63 people were buried, and on Saturday, a Canter vehicle was also brought loaded with over 30 corpses.

"We are still anticipating more bodies," Hashimu said, adding that more than 100 people have died so far.

According to sources, the incident occurred on Thursday after several cows were rustled on Wednesday by the terrorists.

Many people have deserted their communities following the incident, as there are fears of further violence.

The state's delegation, led by Alhaji Lawal, visited Guga, Yargoje and Gidan Gamji communities on Sunday to condole with the people.

The SSG described the situation as tragic, not only for the victims and their families, but also for the government.

Lawal called on residents to learn how to defend themselves as such situation cannot be singlehandedly treated by the government or security agencies alone.

"The actual number of those killed cannot be ascertained because they are still counting the bodies. Nobody can tell you the accurate figure because some of the bodies are scattered in the bush and they have to go and retrieve them.

"As we are counting the number, so also the bandits, so people should learn to be courageous enough to confront the devil before they finish them."