

# Gunmen kill 10 in Kaduna, Edo, Kwara

From Muhammad Sabiu, Idahosa Moses and Biola Azeez

**G**UNMEN have reportedly killed 10 people in Kaduna, Edo and Kwara states.

It was gathered that those injured had been bandits on Tuesday night stormed Takkanai village of Zango Kataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State, where six persons were ~~reported killed, while four others sustained injuries.~~

A resident of the area, Simon Peters, said the hoodlums arrived at the village some minutes past seven in the evening and started attacking residents.

Peters said: "The attackers came and carried out their barbaric act by descending on innocent persons, killed six in the process, while four others sustained injuries."

As of the time of filing in this report, people have fled the village for safety, although normalcy has returned to the community.

The source said: "As I am talking with you, we are having a meeting with the sector commander of Operation Safe Haven on the recent onslaught. He assured us that they are on top of the situation."

It was also gathered that those injured had been taken to the hospital for treatment.

The acting secretary of the district head in the community, Samson Markus, who confirmed the incident, disclosed that the arrival of the military was what made the bandits to flee.

At the time of filing in this report, there was no official reaction from the state government or the police over the attack.

**2** In Edo, gunmen killed two more persons, bringing to eight the number of casualties recorded within 34 hours of killings in the affected suburbs.

**3** The latest incident occurred two days after gunmen reportedly invaded and shot dead six persons, including three members of

the Edo State Security Network (ESSN) at Okhunmwun community in Ovia North-East Local Government Area of the State last Thursday.

The police identified the recent two victims as Valentine Eghaide (32), killed at Egbedion Street, off Second Powerline, Okhunmwun community and an unknown man who was shot in the head at Peanut junction, Sapele Road, Benin City.

**Nigerian Tribune** gathered that Eghaide was shot dead in broad daylight on Sunday, forcing passers-by to run for safety.

The body of the second victim was picked up same Sunday morning by operatives of LoveWorld police station, Sapele Road, in the state capital.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Chidi Nwabuzor, said the two corpses had been evacuated to the mortuary.

Nwabuzor said in the course of investigations, the police made some arrests in connection with the killing of six persons at Okhunmwun community.

He identified one Johnson (surname withheld), the head of tactical teams of the Edo State Security Network (ESSN) as being among those in police custody.

The police spokesperson said Johnson is being held for leading other members of his team killed in an ambush at Okhunmwun community, which is not his area of responsibility without due authority.

Nwabuzor also stated that a manhunt had been launched for the other suspects fingered in the killings.

**Nigerian Tribune** learnt that the attack on Okhunmwun community has forced many residents to relocate as many buildings are now under lock and key.

Earlier, the police had given the identities of the victims of Okhunmwun community attack on September 21 as Endurance Ehioretin, Victor Uwaifo, Osas Orobor, Sada Haruna and Wada Hilia.

It was further scooped that the killings may not be unconnected to efforts to

change the youth leadership in the community.

**4** Also in Kwara State, two persons were reportedly killed while three others sustained varying degrees of gunshot injury on Tuesday night when gunmen stormed Alalubosa community, Oko Olowo in Asa Local Government Area of Kwara State.

**Nigerian Tribune** gathered that the hoodlums stormed the community, shooting sporadically as residents ran helter skelter.

According to sources in the area, the gunmen arrived at the community at about 10:00pm when residents were enjoying the cool weather outside their houses.

A source told the **Nigerian Tribune** that, "one girl, Semiat Mukaila, was shot in the arm, while another resident, Abdullahi Awe, had his leg broken with gun butt. They are both receiving treatment in the hospital now. The hoodlums also shot one Isiaq Abdullahi in the arm.

"After they [hoodlums] shot another resident, AbdulRasheed Alafara, in the leg and he tried to escape from the scene, the attackers pursued him and gave him machete cuts until he died.

"Members of the vigilante team also succeeded in killing one of the hoodlums."

Reports also have it that the gunmen, numbering six, shot sporadically for more than 30 minutes when they entered the community.

It was gathered that operatives of the vigilante in the community shot one of the hoodlums dead, while the others escaped from the community.

The source commended the bravery of the vigilantes, just as he appealed to concerned authorities to provide them with adequate weapons to tackle criminals.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Okasanmi Ajayi, who confirmed the report, said the command immediately drafted operatives to the area about 1:00a.m. when it got the re-