

Traditional ruler, 20 others kidnapped in Taraba

Police confirm one killed, six abducted in Sokoto village ·Farmer, wife whisked away in Kaduna

Terna Chikpa | Jalingo with agency report

GUNMEN suspected to be kidnapers in the early hours of Tuesday, kidnapped 21 people, including a traditional ruler, at Pupule area of Yorro Local Government Area of Taraba State.

The gunmen, according to locals in the area, invaded the

community at about 2:00a.m. to perpetrate the act.

Locals from the area said the second-class chief of the area, Alhaji Umaru Abubakar Nyala; his son and pregnant daughter, as well as his orderly were whisked away.

A source said: "Twenty one members of our community here in Pupule, in Yorro Local Government Area were kidnapped this morning [Tuesday]. The gunmen invaded the

community at about 2:00a.m. to carry out the attack.

"They kidnapped a second-class chief of our area, Alhaji Umaru Abubakar Nyala; his son and pregnant daughter, as well as his orderly."

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Usman Abdullahi, also confirmed the attack.

In a related development, the Sokoto State police command has confirmed bandits'

attack on Tursa village in Rabah Local Government Area of the state, resulting in the death of one person and abduction of six others.

According to the *News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)*, the state PPRO, Ahmad Rufa'i, informed newsmen in Sokoto that the incident occurred in the early hours of Tuesday.

Rufa'i said: "Two motorcycles were also burnt during

the attack and six persons abducted, with an undisclosed number of cows rustled."

In another incident, gunmen on Monday night abducted Mr Sunday Bage, a prominent farmer in Pari village in Chawai chiefdom of Kuru council area of Kaduna State.

The farmer was abducted his wife, Listu.

A source from the village told the *NAN* that the gunmen stormed the victims' residence

at about 10.00p.m. and started shooting into the air.

"They, thereafter, broke into the victims' residence and dragged them outside.

"They were later taken to the bush through the Kuyambana- Kizachi-Chiwo-Kamaru route toward Kwall in Bassa council area of Plateau State," the source said.

A family source confirmed that the abductors had demanded N5 million ransom.