

Bandits kill 16 in Zamfara, one dies in Bauchi

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Bandits have shot dead 16 people in Kanoma village in Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

Also, one person was killed, with others sustaining varying degrees of injury following a clash involving two rival groups during the annual Durbar popularly called Hawan Daushe in Bauchi to celebrate Sallah.

The Press Secretary to the Zamfara State Governor, Alhaji Yusuf Idris, said the bandits arrived in the village at about 2am on Wednesday shooting indiscriminately.

According to him, some people were injured during the raid.

Idris said Governor Bello Mutawalle was saddened by the incident and had assured the people of the state that adequate security measures would be taken to bring an end to banditry and other criminal activities in Zamfara.

The governor said he would collaborate with all citizens to end the security challenges facing the state.

He called on the residents of the state to give information that would help the security agencies to apprehend the criminals.

Matawalle also called on the bandits to surrender their arms and embrace peace.

He directed the transfer of all the victims of the attack admitted to Kanoma Hospital to the Federal Medical Centre Gusau for a better medical attention, saying the government would settle their medical bills.

The District Head of Kansas, Alhaji Yahaya Mohammed, said the hoodlums, who came in large numbers, shot dead 16 people, injuring 14 others.

Spokesman for the police in Bauchi State, Jamal Abubakar, confirmed the killing one person in the clash, saying they had arrested 55 suspects in connection with the incident.

One of our correspondents learnt that the clash took place less than 100 metres to the deputy governor's office along Yakubun Bauchi Road when the procession of the Emir of Bauchi was heading for the Durbar at Government House.

A source said the clash was a retaliation of an earlier attack around Wuntin Street when the procession was heading to Government House for the Durbar.

According to reports, among those injured in the clash are traditional title holders from Duguri, Governor Bala Mohammed's village, and Darazo where the Speaker of the state House of Assembly comes from.

“Groups of hunters following the District Heads of Darazo and that of Duguri (the home town of the Bauchi Governor) had a clash.

Abubakar said the exhibits recovered from the suspects included 46 cutlasses, 13 knives, 15 daggers and one gun.

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