

Again, gunmen kill 20 in Sokoto market

ADENIYI OLUGBEMI

TWENTY four hours after 11 people were killed by members of a proscribed vigilance group popularly called Yan Sakai at Mammande weekly market in the Gwadabawa Local Government Area of Sokoto State, another 20 persons have been killed by suspected bandits in another attack on market at Ungwan Lalle in the Sabon Birni Local Government Area of the state.

A former council Chairman of Sabon Birni Local Government, Abdullahi Tsamaye, said the incident occurred around 5pm on Friday where some people were injured and some of them currently receiving treatment at the General Hospital, Sabon Birni. It was gathered that those with life-threatening injuries were taken to the state capital for proper treatment.

He said the assailant came in a large number into the market and started shooting indiscriminately at anybody in sight and in the process killed over 20 persons, burnt vehicles and destroyed property.

The Special Assistant to the Minister for Police Affairs, Idris Gobir, who also confirmed the incident, said about 22 people died in the attack including traders from Sokoto town who were in the village for business transactions.

Gobir added that about 35 people were currently in various hospitals receiving treatment from the injuries sustained during the attack.

Meanwhile, efforts to get the reaction of the state command were futile, as the spokesman, Abubakar Sanusi, could not be reached at the time of this report.