## Police, hunters, Amotekun kill Ekiti suspected kidnapper, AK-47 rifle, cash recovered

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Ekiti State Commissioner of Police, Tunde Mobayo

Local hunters, vigilantes, Amotekun Corps operatives, policemen and soldiers on Wednesday killed one of the gunmen who allegedly kidnapped two persons at Itapaji, in the Ikole Local Government Area of Ekiti State.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Sunday Abutu, said the security operatives also rescued the victims, who were whisked away from their houses on Sunday.

Abutu said the joint security force trailed the kidnappers after their demand for ransom and caught up with them at Eruku in Kwara State, where one of the gunmen was shot dead.

The PPRO said, "It was in the process of picking up the ransom of about N2m that the security operatives, which comprised the local hunters, the vigilantes, the Army and the police gave them a hot chase up to Eruku in Kwara State, where one of the kidnappers was gunned down during a gun duel.

"One AK-47 rifle with 25 live rounds ammunition, one cutlass, two small phones belonging to the victims and a cash sum of N210,000 were recovered from the kidnapper.

"The corpse of the kidnapper, as well as all the exhibits recovered, was handed over to the nearby military checkpoint for onward transmission to the Ekiti State Police Command, while security operatives continued with their operation."

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A source told journalists in Ado Ekiti that officials of a Fulani security task force, Yan Banga, set up by the Sarkin Fulani in Ekiti, Alhaji Adamu Abashe, were part of the operation.

The source said, "The joint security force chased the bandits inside the forest from 10pm on Wednesday till around 2am on Thursday. There were exchanges of gunshots. The kidnapper killed was carrying an AK-47 rifle. A sum of N210,000 was found inside his pocket." ,,