

# Kaduna bandits kill seven family members, two others, troops neutralise gunmen

Godwin Isenyo, Kaduna

SOME bandits have invaded two local government areas of Igabi and Zaria in Kaduna State, killing nine people, including seven members of the same family.

Troops however succeeded in neutralising two of the bandits and recovered an AK47 rifle from them.

A source said the attacks, which occurred on Monday night, had forced the villagers to flee their homes.

The state Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, confirmed in statement on Tuesday that nine people were killed while five others were injured during the attacks.

Aruwan said, according to a security report made available to the state government, the bandits first attacked Kudu Da Gari settlement in Sabon Birnin where seven people were killed.

He gave the names of the seven members of the same family killed to include, Dahiru Bilya, Jibrin Bilya, Dayyabu Adamu, Bashir Habibu, Jabir Shuaibu, Buhari Habibu and Abubakar Habibu.

The commissioner also listed the four injured persons in that attack as Audi Mohammad, Mubarak Ilya, Balarabe Junaidu and Umar Bilya.

Similarly, Aruwan said bandits invaded another herders' settlement known as Ruggar Goshe, on the outskirts of Kangimin Sarki village, Rigachikun, Igabi Local Government Area where one person was killed.

"One Auwal Koshe was shot dead by the brigands, who then rustled about 250 goats and sheep from the settlement," he said.

Aruwan added that bandits attacked another herders' settlement in Zaria where one Abubakar Mohammad was killed and another resident, Abubakar Aliyu, sustained gunshot wounds.

The commissioner said, "Security forces have reported to the Kaduna State Government that nine citizens have been killed, with five injured and hundreds

of animals rustled by bandits during three attacks across Igabi and Zaria local government areas.

"According to the first report, bandits attacked Kudu da Gari

settlement in Sabon Birni, Igabi LGA and killed seven residents.

"Four others were left critically injured, and were rushed to a medical facility for treatment.

"In another incident, bandits invaded a herders' settlement called Ruggar Goshe, on the outskirts of Kangimin Sarki village, Rigachikun, Igabi LGA.

One Auwal Koshe was shot dead by the brigands, who then rustled about 250 goats and sheep from the settlement.

"Furthermore, bandits

attacked another herders' settlement at Filin Idin Barebare, Zaria Local Government Area, where they killed one Abubakar Mohammad. One Abubakar Aliyu sustained gunshot injuries to his ribs, and is receiving medical attention. The bandits then rustled an unspecified number of cattle from the settlement."

He said two of the bandits, while retreating the Malul Forest in the same Igabi local government, were gunned down by troops.

"On another note, troops have reported that two bandits were neutralised around the outskirts of Tumbau village, Kerawa, Igabi LGA.

"The bandits were retreating to the Malul Forest when they were intercepted by the troops, and two of them were neutralised in the ensuing firefight, with an AK-47 rifle recovered," he added.

The commissioner also quoted the state governor, Nasir El-Rufai, as expressing grief over the attacks while commending "the troops for their alertness and swift response during the engagement which saw two bandits neutralised."



• L-R: Son of the deceased, Mr Chukwuma Maduka; Mrs Temitope Maduka; Mr Comas Maduka; Sister to the deceased, Dr Ngozi Ozobialu; Widower, Dr Cosmos Maduka; and son of the deceased, Mr Johathan Maduka, during the night of tribute for late Mrs Charity Maduka in Lagos... on Monday. Photo: Olukayode Jaiyeola

## Gazette declaring bandits terrorists ready soon, says Malami

Deborah Tolu-Kolawole, Abuja

THE Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN, says the Federal Government is yet to officially designate bandits as terrorists because the government is following international best practices.

He said his office was in the process of gazetting a court judgment that ordered the government to declare bandits as terrorists, adding that the process would be concluded in a matter of days.

Malami spoke on Tuesday as a guest on the Nigerian Television Authority's 'Good Morning Nigeria' programme monitored by The PUNCH.

Justice Taiwo Taiwo of the Federal High Court in Abuja had on November 26, 2021, granted an ex parte application

by the Federal Government for Yan Bindiga (Hausa word for gunmen) and Yan Ta'adda (Hausa word for terrorists) to be declared as terrorists but the regime of the President, Major General Muhammadu Buhari (retd.), has yet to make the declaration.

Speaking on Tuesday, Malami said the government acted swiftly in declaring the Indigenous People of Biafra and the Boko Haram sect as terror groups because of the "threats to lives and properties they have caused in the nation."

He said, "Government has a responsibility to act but within the context of acting, you are equally expected to operate within the confines of international best practices associated with engagement."

"One of such best practices is that you can only use maximum force on groups and individuals that are declared terrorists and that is where the application of

the Terrorism Act comes in place.

"With that in mind, Nigeria acted, first by proscribing IPOB, taking into consideration the threats to lives and properties they have caused in the nation. Boko Haram was proscribed."

The AGF noted that the "good results" arising from outlawing IPOB and Boko Haram buoyed the government to consider the proscription of bandits, and the use of military hardware against the marauders.

He said, "Now, we are confronted with another threat in the North-West associated with banditry, kidnapping, cattle rustling and in all these, these people are using weapons to attack Nigerians, kidnap them and create a situation of serious security challenge and fear in the system."

"Whatever military hardware you acquire, there are limits within the context of the international convention as to how it can be used, when it can be used and against who it can be used. And that is how the idea of looking at the activities

Federal Government can best be used against them within the context of the international convention and within the context of the law."

On why his office has not gazetted the court order designating bandits as terrorists, Malami said, "The gazetting of a court order or judgment is a process but what matters fundamentally within the context

## Varsity offers free training to 5,000 repentant sex workers, others

Deborah Tolu-Kolawole, Abuja

TANSIAN University, Umunya in Anambra State, in partnership with the Chartered Institute of Educational Practitioners, United Kingdom, has concluded plans to offer free training to 5,000 repentant commercial sex workers and vulnerable persons in Nigeria.

The National President, CIEPUK, Marcel Ezenwoye,

of international convention is the judicial declaration and that has been obtained; the court has declared bandits, kidnappers and cattle rustlers as terrorists.

"So, with or without the gazette, what gives effect to such declaration is a judicial pronouncement but the gazette is a mere formality and it has been on and I believe within a matter of days, it will be concluded."

of the nation in batches from February 26.

"The three-month entrepreneurship and skill programme involves vocational training in shoe making, soap making, cream making, script writing, video editing, agric business and farm managements."

"Others are: acting, online and social media studies, cinematography, furniture making, electrical works, cottage