

# Kidnappers kill three, abduct women, children, senator's relative

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9th August 2022



Inspector-General of Police, Usman Baba

No fewer than three people have been killed and many others, including women and children, abducted, in a series of attacks by suspected kidnappers in Taraba, Katsina and Niger states.

*PUNCH Metro* learnt that bandits on Sunday abducted many women in Bali town, headquarters of the Bali Local Government Area of Taraba State.

One of our correspondents gathered that the attackers, who rode on motorcycles, first killed an official of the Taraba Marshall at a checkpoint.

The Tiv Central leader and Chief of Tiv in Bali, Zaki David Gbaa (Ter Tiv Bali II) told one of our correspondents that two of his subjects were also killed and many women were abducted.

He said, “The attackers invaded the town around 11pm. Two of my subjects were killed during the attack, while two others, who were badly injured, are receiving treatment in a hospital.

“Many people, mostly women, were abducted. It’s a terrible situation. For over four hours, the bandits held the town hostage, shooting sporadically and there was no response from security agencies.”

Also on Sunday, suspected terrorists abducted the wife of Mani Kaita, the younger brother of the Senator representing Daura Senatorial District of Katsina State, Ahmed Kaita.

The gunmen also abducted two children in Mani’s neighbourhood at Unguwar Bakin Kasuwa, in the Kankia LGA of the state.

Residents disclosed that the gunmen arrived at Mani’s residence late at night and abducted his wife before storming a nearby house where the two children were kidnapped.


The residents identified their father as Sabe Halilu.

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The gunmen were also said to have beaten and manhandled the mother of the children before disappearing with the kids.

Residents further claimed that the gunmen operated in the community for over two hours.

In a related development, hoodlums abducted three women and set two fuel tankers on fire in Saminaka, in the Lapai LGA of Niger State.

The incident occurred on Sunday when the terrorists came into the community and shot sporadically.

A resident, Musa Rabiou, said the terrorists, while shooting, headed for one of the popular restaurants in the community and abducted the three women.

Rabiou said while the terrorists shot into the air, some of their bullets hit two diesel tankers conveying fuel, leading to explosions.

“Saminaka is not a big village; the entire community has been thrown into panic with this recent kidnapping,” he said.

The Niger State Police Public Relations Officer, Abiodun Wasiu, confirmed the attack and abduction of the women.

Wasiu said police tactical teams and vigilantes had been drafted to the area.