

# Gunmen abduct woman, girl in fresh Kwara community attack

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| Dare Akogun

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Suspected terrorists have launched another deadly attack in Kwara State, abducting a woman and a teenage girl during a midnight raid on Maganiko Ndanangi, a community under the Lafiagi Emirate in Edu Local Government Area.

*PUNCH Metro* learnt that the heavily armed gunmen stormed the community around midnight on Sunday, shooting sporadically into the air to scare residents before whisking away their victims.

A resident, who spoke under anonymity, said the hoodlums operated freely without resistance.

“They came around 12 midnight, shooting everywhere. People ran into the bush. The two kidnapped people were a married woman called Aisha, popularly known as Gogo, and a 16-year-old girl named Amina. They took them away to an unknown location,” the resident narrated.

The latest incident comes barely days after suspected bandits killed a local vigilante commander, simply identified as Tetengi, during an attack on Kakafu village in the Lade district of Patigi Local Government Area.

The gunmen, reportedly numbering over a dozen, stormed the agrarian community around 10 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, riding motorcycles and armed with sophisticated weapons.

They engaged local security operatives in a fierce gun duel, during which Tetengi was gunned down.

“We lost one of our brave commanders who confronted the bandits. We tried calling for security backup, but there was no response while the attack lasted,” a resident lamented.

Also, on Sunday night, September 7, gunmen abducted the wife and daughter of the All Progressives Congress chairman in Patigi LGA, Alhaji Muhammad Swasun.

The assailants, who struck Sakpefu community around 11 p.m., invaded the politician’s residence and whisked away his wife, Hajia Fatima, and daughter, Amina.

The Patigi area has witnessed multiple attacks in recent weeks. Bandits earlier invaded Esanti and Lalagi villages, killing a driver and kidnapping another resident.

The fresh attack, the third within the month, has heightened tension across Edu and Patigi LGAs, with frightened villagers abandoning their homes for safer locations.

“The incessant kidnappings and killings are getting out of hand. Many families are already displaced. We are calling on the government to urgently take drastic action,” a community elder said.

When contacted, the spokesperson for the Kwara State Police Command, SP Adetoun Ejire-Adeyemi, said she had yet to receive a detailed briefing from the Divisional Police Officer in the area but promised to provide updates. She had yet to do that as of the time of filing this report.

Communities in Kwara North, especially in Edu and Patigi LGAs, have in recent times come under repeated bandit attacks, leading to killings, abductions, and mass displacement of residents.