

Suspected kidnapper lynched, 8 others arrested

From **Murphy**
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It was an ill-fated operation yesterday for a gang of kidnappers, as kinsmen of their targets sprang a surprise counter-attack and foiled the attempt to abduct some women at Kwaduru village in Kaduna State.

The dusk raid, which occurred specifically, at about 7.30pm, was reportedly met with stiff resistance by the villagers, a situation that forced the suspected kidnappers to flee, abandoning one of their colleagues in the process.

Witnesses said the villagers pounced on the suspect, identified as Muhammed Sani and lynched him, before setting his body ablaze.

In a related development, eight suspected kidnappers reportedly strayed into a police ambush yesterday, in Bauchi State, while attempting to collect ransom from the family of their victim.

Acting on intelligence, the suspects, led by one Abubakar Mohammed, were said to have been picked up by men of the Bauchi State police command, who also

rescued the victim at about 12.30pm yesterday.

Police sources said two guns, two AK47 rifles, two Magazines containing 11 rounds of 7.62mm live ammunition, a knife and cash sum of N96, 500, were recovered from them.

Spokesman for the State Police Command, DSP Zubairu Abubakar, said the police were treating the incident as a case of armed robbery.

"The incident actually happened at Gwagwada, near Chikun village in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State. What actually happened

was there was a distress call that some hoodlums had blocked the road and with the efforts of a police patrol team and the local vigilance group, they were able to dislodge them. We have identified the dead suspect as Muhammed Sani, who was fatally injured in a cross-fire, and he died. One AK47 rifle and three Magazines each loaded with 30 rounds of live ammunition were recovered from him".

The Police Public Relations Officer for Bauchi State command could, however, not be reached for comments.