

Bandits kill 7 in Katsina, abduct residents

From **Agaju Madugba**, Katsina

GUNMEN, on Tuesday night, allegedly killed seven residents in a renewed onslaught on some communities in Katsina State.

Reports said the attackers launched attacks on Unguwar Ibrahim Maiwada village of Faskari Local Government Area of the state and later proceeded to Kanon Haki community, where they unleashed mayhem on residents leading to the deaths, while several others were injured.

A resident in one of the villages, who pleaded anonymity, told journalists, yesterday, that, "the gunmen operated from around 9pm to the early hours of yesterday, in the Unguwar Ibrahim Maiwada before they went to Kanon Haki, along the Zaria - Sokoto Highway.

"They killed five people in Kanon Haki, while several others were injured. At Unguwar Ibrahim Maiwada, they killed two persons and abducted five women and disappeared into the forest."

A statement was still being expected from the police as at the time of this report, yesterday.

Faskari is among the 17 out of the 34 Local Government Areas of Katsina State official-

ly tagged frontline locations, where bandits and kidnappers terrorise residents, killing and abducting a number of them, while rustling their cattle and vandalising property.

The government had taken a number of measures in a prevailing Containment Order to check the attacks, including blockade of GSM network services in some of the local government areas.

Lagos: Tension in Magodo over execution of court judgment

By **Emma Njoku** and **Lukman Olabiya**

THERE was palpable tension at the Shangisha area of Magodo Estate in Lagos, yesterday, following an attempt to execute a Supreme Court judgment on the landed property.

The apex court's verdict delivered on February 10, 2012, mandated Lagos State government to give back 549 plots to the original landowners of the area before it was acquired over 38 years ago.

Worried by the unusual presence of a bulldozer and mobile policemen, residents of the estate, yesterday morn-

ing, barricaded all entrances to the estate to resist the planned demolition of houses in the area by members of a family who claimed to be the original owner of the land.

Some of the residents who spoke to Daily Sun said some policemen had earlier, on Tuesday, visited the estate with some hoodlums and they allegedly marked virtually all the houses in the estate for demolition with the inscription: "ID/795/88 possession taken today, 21/12/2021, by court order".

Daily Sun further gathered that some policemen stormed the estate on Tuesday night to forestall any resistance from

house owners during the demolition exercise even as a bulldozer had already been stationed by the estate gate.

However, yesterday morning, residents of the estate trooped out in their numbers and formed a human barricade at the entrance of the estate to stop the bulldozer from gaining entry into the estate, thereby, obstructing other human and vehicular movements in and out of the estate.

When Daily Sun visited the scene later yesterday, normalcy had returned as the estate gates had been reopened while free movement in and out of the estate had resumed.

Legal Adviser of Magodo Residents Association, Tunji Abdulhameed, told journalists that residents of the estate were not aware of any court verdict issued in favour of the Shangisha Landlords Association to demolish houses in the community.

"We are not aware of any court order which allows for any demolition of properties in this estate. We asked them to show us papers and they refused. "We are aware that they obtained an order against the Lagos state government, the judgement which people believe is fake as no specific definition of properties were mentioned.

"What the judgement said