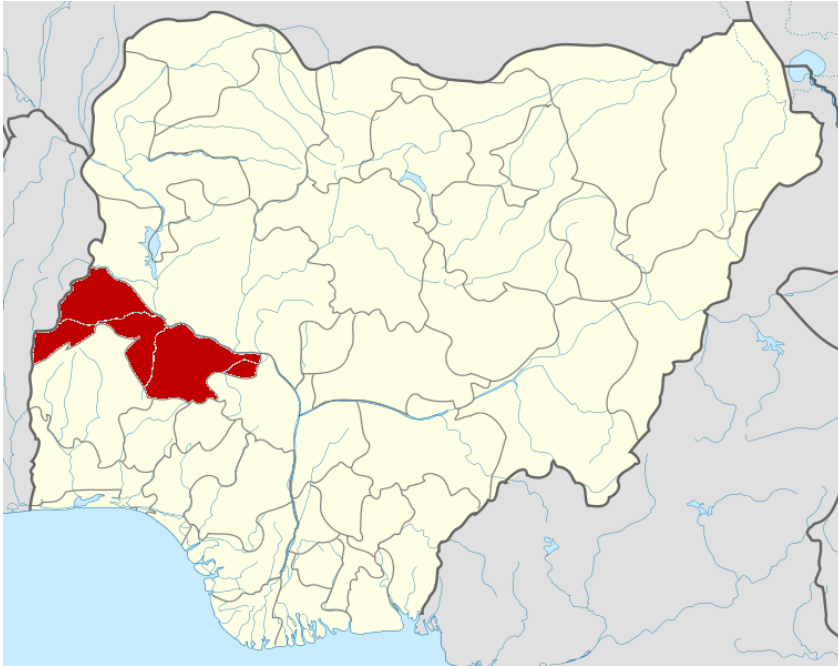


## METRO AND CRIME

# 10 murders, 15 robberies in 30 days worry Kwara CP



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By **Biodun Oyeleye**

With 10 murders and 15 armed robberies in four weeks, Kwara State Commissioner of Police, Aminu Saleh, yesterday bemoaned the surge in crime in the state. He blamed community leaders for the increase because, according to him, they are no longer doing enough to curb crime in their domains.

The police boss, who made the observation at a briefing after decorating 134 officers and men who were promoted in the command, said the demographics of crime indicated that murder cases were rampant in the north, especially among Fulani youths, drug abuse, cultism and unprovoked attacks in the central and herdsmen-farmers' clashes in the southern part of the state. Saleh, however, only gave details about two murder cases.

One of them involved Yale Mohammed who allegedly killed Umoru Kinah of Bwen Camp in Gwanara area over a simple misunderstanding. The other case involved Aliyu Mohammed who reportedly killed Alimi Yakubu and took away the latter's motorcycle.

Also among suspects paraded by the police commissioner were four teenagers found with a locally-made single-barrelled gun said to belong to a notorious cult member who was killed in the state capital a few years ago. Saleh expressed concern that such a weapon was still in existence after the police gave a directive on submission of unauthorised arms. One of the teenagers told journalists that he came across the gun at the back of his family compound, went and hid it and brought it out to 'scare' some youngsters with whom his group was engaged in a fight last Saturday.

The suspects are Abubakar Suleiman (18), Yusuf Azeeez (15), Abubakar Basit (19) and Ibrahim Kayode (18).

“In the period under review, 10 cases of gruesome murder were recorded across the length and breadth of the state,” the commissioner said. Saleh added that while several suspects had been arrested, the pattern of occurrence indicated that the cases were mostly recorded in the northern axis of the state.

He said: “Murder cases in Kwara State are becoming too many and that is why we are now calling on traditional rulers to prevail on their subjects; the idea of settling every minor dispute with machete is not good. Community leaders are not doing too well; there is hardly a day when you won’t have a case of ‘macheting’ in the north.” The shrine...yesterday