

Seven killed, 32 houses burnt in Taraba community



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By **Correspondents**



...bandits, again, kill 18 in Sokoto

Suspected militia yesterday attacked Rafin Kada, a Jukun town, in Wukari Local Government Area of Taraba State and killed about seven people.

This came as bandits killed 18 people in Sokoto State.

Rafin Kada, which is located on Takum-Wukari Road, came under attacks early in the morning.

It was learnt that the militia, who crossed from neighbouring Benue State and believed to be Tiv, killed seven people and set 32 houses ablaze.

Jukun and Tiv have had a long history of clashes which came to a head from 1990 to 1992.

The militia also attacked the vehicle of the Wukari Local Government Chairman, Mr. Adi Daniel, and another vehicle conveying some soldiers going to Rafin Kada, following distress calls sent to them.

Some Jukun youths from Wukari going to confront the attackers were reportedly ambushed by the suspected militia at a forest shortly before Rafin Kada and two of them were killed.

Rafin Kada is the third Jukun town to be attacked by suspected militia in one week and several people killed.

The Wukari Local Government Area Chairman, Daniel, told our correspondent on the telephone that the militia launched an attack on Rafin Kada early morning yesterday.

He said over seven people were killed and about 32 houses were burnt by the attackers.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP David Misal, confirmed that some armed militia crossed from Benue State and attacked a Jukun community near Wukari and killed one person and also burnt some houses.

But in a reprisal, Jukun youths invaded Tor-Musa village on Rafin Kada-Donga Road. They burnt the village and other surrounding Tiv villages in the area.

Some persons were said to have been killed in the attack.

Meanwhile, gunmen yesterday killed at least 18 people during attacks on three villages in Goronyo Local Government Area of Sokoto State.

The three villages are Malafaru, Dan Tudu and Tudun Wada in Shinaka District of Goronyo Local Government Area.

The Sole Administrator of the local government, Alhaji Zakari Shinaka, who confirmed the incident, said the victims were to be buried later yesterday at Goronyo town, the headquarters of Goronyo Local Government Area.

Shinaka said he received the report of the incident from the district heads of the villages which the bandits attacked.

Bandits have continued to attack parts of Zamfara, Katsina, Kebbi and Katsina states among others especially around villages in Rabah, Isa, Sabon Birni and Goronyo local government areas of Sokoto State.

The attacks had resulted in the loss of several lives and property while hundreds of houses have been razed down.

Similarly, thousands of the residents of the affected areas are now seeking refuge in Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in various parts of the state.

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