Gunmen kill 11, rustle over 1,000 cows in Zamfara

March 14, 2020

Ibrahim Sidi Muh'd



Gunmen suspected to be bandits in their hundreds have attacked and killed 11 people in Wanke village under Gusau Local Government Area of Zamfara State and succeeded in rustling over 10 herds of cows. According to a survivor who preferred anonymous, the 11 people killed were members of 'Yansakai, including their popular commander, Bala Maigora, who went in pursuit of the bandits in a bid to recover the rustled cows.

"The armed bandits have invaded number of villages all under Wanke district and rustled cows, and while on their way to escape, a phone call was made to the deceased vigilante commander, Bala Maigora from one of the victims from one of the affected villages.

"They called him (Bala Maigora) to assist in either by blocking the expected route followed by the bandits or pursue them as usually did when incidences of this nature occurred for the recovery of rustled cows or kidnapped persons.

"This time around, the bandits, been that they suspected such a voluntarily sacrificed service from the deceased vigilante group commander, they ambushed and killed him alongside ten others in his company," the survivor revealed. He further narrated that he watched the bandits from his hiding place when they rode over the vigilante commander severally on their motorbikes before they killed him after which they left with the rustled cows.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the command, SP Shehu Muhammad, confirmed the attack on Katsira Village in Gusau LGA by suspected armed bandits. "On March 12 at about 2230 hours, information was received by the command that at about 1930 hours of the same date, a large number of armed men on motorcycles stormed Katsira village and rustled cows belonging to the villagers.

"A group of local militia known as (YANSAKAI), who pursued the rustlers were ambushed, as a result, four members of the Yansakai, including their commander, (aka BALA MAIGORA), were killed. Other sustained gun wound injuries. The bandits fled before the arrival of combined team of policemen and men from "Operation Hadarin Daji" now combing the surrounding axis with a view to arresting the perpetrators of the crime.

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