

# Gunmen kill 38 in fresh attack in Kaduna

**B**andits yesterday killed at least 38 people in an attack in Giwa Local Government Area of Kaduna State, the state government has said.

It was earlier reported that the attacks left at least 20 people dead.

The Kaduna State Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, released a second statement yesterday confirming the death toll increase.

He said: "Following the report of attacks by bandits across villages in Idasu, Giwa LGA, contained in an earlier update, security agencies have confirmed to the Kaduna State Government that 38 people were killed across the locations attacked."

Aruwan said in a statement that the bandits attacked Kauran Fawa, Marke and Riheya villages in the Idasu area of Giwa Local Government, leaving more than 38 persons dead.

"Twenty-nine of the victims have been identified, with nine remaining un-

identified as of the time of this update."

In his earlier statement, the commissioner said houses, trucks, and cars were also burnt by the attackers along with agricultural produce at various farms.

"Governor Nasir El-Rufai received the reports with sadness and sent condolences to the families of the victims of the brutal attacks while praying for the repose of their souls," Aruwan said.

He said the governor also commiserated with the affected communities and directed the Kaduna State Emergency Management Agency to conduct an urgent assessment of the area towards providing relief.

The latest incident occurred two days after a similar series of attacks on separate Kaduna communities.

The government had on December 17 confirmed that at least nine people were reported killed and two others injured in separate attacks in Chikun, Zaria, and Zangon Kataf local government areas of the state.