

Gunmen murder 40 in fresh Plateau attacks, kidnap 15 in Abuja

Caleb Onwe and Musa Pam

At least 40 people, mostly women and children, were reportedly murdered by gunmen suspected to be herdsman in Kubwat and Fungzai villages in the Mangu Local Government Area of Plateau State.

Also in Abuja, gunmen

reportedly attacked an estate in the Pegi community in the Kuje Area Council and abducted an employee of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) and 14 others on Sunday night.

The Plateau attacks said to have taken place between 12 midnight on Monday and 2 am on Tuesday left many residents injured and homes

razed.

Sources told *New Telegraph* that he counted 30 corpses in Fungzai and 10 in Kubat.

He said: "The attack started about 12 midnight when we were sleeping after returning from the farm.

"I counted 30 corpses in Fungzai my village while in the neighbouring village Kubat I also counted 10 corpses while several others were injured and many houses burnt."

Meanwhile, Governor Simon Lalong condemned the attacks, directing security forces to go after the hoodlums.

He said: "I woke up on Tuesday to distressing news of an overnight attack on Kubat village in Mangu Local Government Area where some persons, including women and children, were reportedly killed."

Governor-elect, Caleb Mutfwang, who confirmed the attacks, said many, including women and children, were killed.

The gunmen, who struck in Abuja, were said to have attacked a housing estate located in the community

after shooting repeatedly into the air.

The FCT Department of Development Control Director, Mukhtar Galadima, who confirmed the incident, said: "One of our drivers, Shuaibu Misa was kidnapped and he has not been released."

The Pegi Residents Association Chairman, Taiwo Aderibigbe said: "Gunmen abducted 15 persons along the abandoned 14km Pegi road. One of those kidnapped was Shuaibu Misa, an employee of the FCTA.

"We also observed that the husband of the woman who sells second-hand clothes at the main entrance to the estate was among the people kidnapped while they were returning from work.

"The kidnappers have not contacted the families of those abducted at the moment, but we are still trying to identify other residents abducted."

The FCT Police Public Relations Officer, SP Josephine Adeh did not respond to inquiries about the incident as of press time, despite telephone calls, SMS, and WhatsApp messages sent by our correspondent.

