# Mahmuda terrorist group kills one person, burns houses in Kwara community

Stephen **Olufemi Oni,**
ILORIN

**G**unmen, suspected to be members of the new terrorist group, called 'Mahmuda', have attacked Karongi Community in Baruten Local Government Area of Kwara State, killing one person and torching several houses.

The bandits, who were said to have invaded the town on Sunday morning, killed a resident before setting some houses ablaze.

It was learnt that the bandits took advantage of the absence of the local vigilantes who had travelled to attend a training workshop, while others had also travelled out to celebrate Eid-el-Kabir outside the community.

It was further learnt that the gunmen, who had a field day in the community between 6am and 11am, were later dislodged by the combined team of soldiers and vigilantes mobilised from the adjoining settlements in the area.

Though the police feigned ignorance of the Sunday attack in Karongi, the Nigerian Army, however, confirmed the incident.

The Emir of Yashikira Emirate in Baruten Local Government, Alhaji Umoru Sariki, also confirmed the incident.

The Emir, who spoke in a telephone conversation on Sunday night, said one person was killed during the attack, while many houses were burnt by the bandits.

Umoru said, "Yes, the bandits from Mahmuda group struck at about 6am on Sunday morning. They attacked Karongi town in my Emirate. They killed one person and burnt many houses in the community.

"They took advantage of the absence of vigilante men who had travelled for Sallah, while some had also gone for training. They invaded the town for hours, from 6am to 11am. We had to go to the surrounding communities in the Emirate to mobilise local vigilantes who succeeded in chasing them away at about 11o'clock.

"I have been busy since morning and I'm not happy about the development."