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Nigeria: 19 Killed in Trans-Border Robbery**This Day (Lagos)**
22 September 2008

Posted to the web 22 September 2008

THIS DAY[Email](#) This Page[Print](#) This Page[Comment](#) on this article[View](#) commentsMathew Onah
Yola

19 persons including a policeman were shot dead and over 40 others wounded at the weekend in Ganye town in Adamawa state, when trans-border armed robbers attacked the Ganye cattle market situated near the border with the Republic of Cameroun, carting away millions of naira from the traders.

The robbery took place barely a week after three persons including a police sergeant were shot dead in a robbery operation along the Yola-Mubi highway, another notorious black-spot for highway robbery in Adamawa state.

The acting chairman of Ganye local government council, Mr Benedict Kilka, who confirmed the incident stated that the armed robbers, numbering over 20 and heavily armed with machine guns, stormed the cattle market in two Mercedes Benz cars, and a bus.

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He said that they started shooting sporadically into the crowd at the market, causing stampede and in the process, killing 12 persons while seven victims died on their way to the hospital, and over 40 others sustained injuries in varying degrees.

He said one of the victims was a police officer, while the 11 others were mostly traders and seven, are members of a vigilante group at the market. He added that while the remains of the dead persons had been deposited at the Ganye General Hospital, about 20 persons with serious injuries had been taken to the Federal Medical Centre in Yola for proper medical attention.

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The trans-border bandits, were said to have escaped through the old Mbuilo road after the operation, where they abandoned their get-away vehicles and setting them ablaze across the road, thus blocking any attempt to chase them.

Kilka, who described the incident as unfortunate, however, blamed the high death toll to the poor response of the police in the area to the robbery incident, adding that for over two hours that the robbery lasted, there was no police response in spite of the fact that there was a major divisional police station in Ganye town.

Spokesperson for the state police command, Miss Altine Daniel, who confirmed the incident, said however that only 11 persons were killed in the incident, and that the command was intensifying efforts to check the

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incidences of armed robbery which was on the rise in the last two months.

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