

transmit to the Attorney General and Minister

this country anywhere.

The Zamfara Killing Field

There seems to be no end to the killings in Zamfara State. The bandits again on Wednesday stormed several villages in Birnin Magaji, killing scores of people. Few days back, they attacked 10 communities in Mada town, Gusau Local Government Area of the state. A yet to be ascertained number of people were killed during the raids. Fleeing villagers estimated that about 200 bandits descended on the communities, stealing cows and other animals. As at press time, the likes of Fura Girke, Majira, Kanawa, Yargeba, Takoka, Bargaja, Bundungel, Bantsa, Unguwar Matanda and Makera, had become

ghost villages. Most of the inhabitants are too scared to return.

The state's Deputy Governor, Malam Ibrahim Wakkala, who visited some of the affected communities could not offer succor. He only appealed to the federal government to come to the rescue of the hapless people. Wakkala also expressed his dismay about the way the bandits rendered residents of the communities, particularly women and children homeless.

He followed up with the usual tame government rhetoric: "A committee has been set up by the State Government, to ascertain the level of damage caused by the bandits. We

are appealing to security agencies in the state to intensify efforts in tackling the activities of the bandits." Wakkala departs after the painful razzmatazz. So, what happens next in terms of security for the people? Nothing! The federal government and the Zamfara State Government persistently fail the people. The rampaging bandits have been moving from one local government to another, killing hundreds of people. The ruin of Anka is still fresh. For how long shall the people of Zamfara State continue to bury their loved ones? The situation here, just like in other parts of the country, looks hopeless.