

# Five Killed, Eight Others Kidnapped By Bandits in Niger Communities

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## Laleye Dipo in Minna

At least five persons, including a graduate of the Federal College of Education, Kontagora, were killed by bandits that raided the Angwar Mahogi in the Kuserki district and Rafingora towns of Rafi Local Government Area of Niger state.

Eight others were said to have been kidnapped and taken into captivity by the bandits.

The name of the slain graduate at Angwar Mahogi was given as Dauda Daniel while one of those killed at Rafingora was named Mohammed Nura.

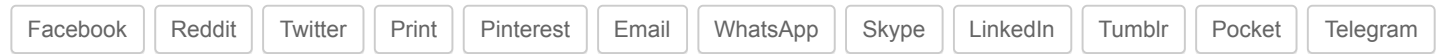
Daniel had already fixed his wedding for March, according to the source. Some of those kidnapped at wRafingora are Asmau Kafaya, Namaza Audu, Nahima Musa, Yahuza Magaji and Safiyanu Rafingora.

A report from the area said the bandits came into the Rafingora community at about 1.30pm riding on 30 motorcycles and shot sporadically to scare the villagers. It was in the stampede that followed that the deceased were hit by bullets.

The eyewitness also said that several cattle were rustled from the communities during the raids.

It was added that a helicopter was seen hovering in the sky apparently giving protection to the bandits during the operations.

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