

Bandits kill DPO, Inspector, 5 others, abduct 2 women in Sokoto, Katsina

By Ibrahim Hassan & Shehu Danjuma

BANDITS, yesterday, went on the rampage in Sokoto and Katsina states, killing a Divisional Police Officer, DPO, an Inspector, and five others.

They also abducted two married women in Gidanmadi community.

The yet-to-be identified DPO and inspector were killed in Tangaza Local Government Area of Sokoto State in the wee hours of yesterday, while the two married women were abducted in Gidanmadi community, also in Sokoto.

According to the villagers, the

bandits first attacked the police station in the locality, killed the DPO and a Police Inspector before kidnapping their victims in the community.

One of the villagers told *BBC Hausa Service* that at about 1 am, they were woken up by gunshots in the community.

He said: "We knew it was the bandits because a day before, they attacked neighbouring Tangaza. They caused serious havoc. They shot sporadically and killed the DPO of Gidanmaji before they abducted the women.

According to him, police reinforcement later came to the

village from Sokoto with an ambulance and took away the corpses.

The Police Command Public Relations Officer, Mohammed Sadiq, confirmed the attack and said the Commissioner of Police had visited the village, while investigation had commenced.

5 farmers killed in Katsina community

In Katsina State, the bandits killed five farmers in Yanteba village of Malumfashi LGA.

The state Police Command Public Relations Officer, Gambo Isah, who

confirmed the killings, informed that the bandits stormed Yanteba village at about 3:00 am yesterday and shot indiscriminately which led to the death of the farmers.

According to him, the bandits came to the village for a reprisal attack, saying: "The youths of Yanteba village saw three herders passing through their village and attacked them leading to the death of one person, while the other two sustained injuries.

"Police Officer from Malumfashi Division rushed to the village and rescued those that did not die. Two days after the attack on the Fulani youths, the bandits came for a revenge mission where they killed five persons."