

during the burial mass for Chief Joe Nwodo, held at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Ukehe, Igbo-Etiti Local Government Area of Enugu State, yesterday.

bandits and Mrs. Oluwatomi Omole, being between Mr Babatunde Asifatu and former Miss Oluwatomi Omole held at Four-square Gospel Church, Oregun, Lagos.

Bandits, herdsmen kill 95 In Kaduna, Kebbi, Benue, raze church

By Peter Duru (Makurdi)
Ibrahim Hassan Wuyo
(Kaduna) Haruna Aliyu
Usman (Birnin Kebbi)

95 persons were reported dead in Kaduna, Kebbi and Benue States yesterday in latest attacks by bandits and suspected herdsmen in the North-West and North-Central of the country.

The breakdown showed that 88 were killed in Kebbi, five in Kaduna and two in Benue.

In Kebbi, the state Police Command reported the killing of 88 local vigilante (yan sa kai) in Danko/Wasagu Local Government Area of the state.

The Command spokesman, DSP Nafiu Abubakar, said bandits struck attacking seven villages and killing 88 people.

He explained that Koro, Kimpi, Gaya and Iguenge villages were raided by the rampaging bandits.

Yan sa kai are local vigilante set up to assist the security agencies deployed to the

state to secure the volatile areas that for almost a year now have been under siege. This is one in a series of attacks by armed bandits.

In Kaduna, five locals were killed in the rural communities by bandits while the Assemblies of God hall was razed, according to Samuel Aruwan, Commissioner, Ministry of Internal Security and Home Affairs, who added that security agencies reported the killing of two men while two others sustained injuries at Kabai general area of Chikun LGA.

Aruwan added: "Spouses of some pastors sustained injuries and are presently receiving medical attention in a private facility. The injured are: Maryamu Daniel and Naomi Daniel."

"Similarly, the security agencies have reported to the government the killing of three citizens in transit and injuring of several around the Lambar Zango area of Kaduna-Zaria Road in Igabi LGA. The citizens lost their lives following an attack by armed bandits.

"Governor Nasir El-Rufai has condoled families of the five citizens and prayed God grants them

eternal rest. The Governor further prayed for the speedy recovery of those receiving medical attention."

In Benue, a nursing mother and another were reportedly gunned down by suspected armed herdsmen who stormed Anyiin in Logo Local Government Area of the state. The invaders also abducted a prominent business man in the area.

Sunday Vanguard gathered that the invaders stormed the market area of the town known as Tyogbenda Anyiin at about 8p.m when traders and

business people were rounding off the day's business, and started shooting sporadically.

"They came from the forest leading to river at about 8p.m, shooting sporadically and people started running. The woman who was carrying a child ran into one of the stalls but one of the bullets got her while she was peeping at the attackers.

"Luckily her baby is alive but the mother died; another young man was shot dead.

"After killing the two, they kidnapped one Emmanuel Chukwukwe, the

son of a prominent late business man in the community, who was one of the earliest settlers in the community. He established a liquor business there, married there and gave birth to his children in that community.

"As we speak the invaders have not established contact with the family of the victim though they took him with his handset but that area they took him to may not have cell-phone network coverage".

Efforts to reach Benue Police Public Relations Officer, Deputy Superintendent, DSP, Catherine Anene, were unsuccessful.

Wike rejects NGF's agreement with JUSUN

By Davies Iheamnachor

Governor Nyesom Wike of Rivers State has rejected the new agreement between the Nigeria Governors' Forum of Nigeria, NGF, and the Judiciary Staff Union of Nigeria, JUSUN, noting that he was not consulted before the decision.

Wike insisted that whatever

agreement reached between NGF and JUSUN on the lingering strike by the judiciary workers union was not binding on the government of Rivers.

Wike regretted that it was unfortunate that NGF signed an agreement with the striking members of JUSUN on behalf of state governments and no one consulted with

Rivers State Government on the issues in contention.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Senate Building of the Rivers State University and the foundation stone laying for the construction of the Faculty of College of Medical Sciences, yesterday, Wike stated that whatever NGF had signed was not binding on

state governors.

He said: "Rivers State Government has implemented financial autonomy for the legislature and Judiciary. The judiciary has collected first and second quarters of their capital fund. We still use our money to do infrastructure for them in spite of that we release and give to them their capital expen-

diture."

The governor, who disclosed that the state government had commenced implementation of "No work, no pay policy", reiterated that he would not sign any agreement with JUSUN.

HeS maintained that both judicial and legislative arms of government in the state were enjoying full au-

Economy, Wike looks NGF to Twitter, her

NDRC, 2015