

Gunmen attack Katsina villages, kill 7, kidnap others

A resident of Unguwar Ibrahim Maiwada said two persons were killed during the attack while five women were kidnapped.

Lawal Mamman, a native of the area, who lives in Katsina town said the attacks commenced at about 9 p.m at Unguwar Ibrahim Maiwada and Kanon Haki villages.

"They operated from around 9 p.m. to the early morning in the Unguwar Ibrahim Maiwada before they went to Kanon Haki on the Zaria-Sokoto highway. My brother told me that he has seen the corpses of the five people killed in Kanon Haki while several others were injured," Mr Mamman said in a phone interview.

He said the whereabouts of six vigilante members who tried to confront the bandits could not be ascertained at press time, but residents fear they may have been killed by the bandits.

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"What we learnt from the vigilante members that followed them was that they (bandits) divided themselves into two groups. While some returned to Kanon Haki to launch an attack, others went into the bush with the five women abducted," he said.

Efforts to reach the Katsina police spokesperson, Gambo Isa, were unsuccessful as he did not return calls nor reply to messages sent to him.