



11 killed as bandits invade farms in Zamfara community

GUSAU—NO fewer than 11 locals have been killed as bandits attacked Dangulbi community in Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

It was learned that the incident happened on Sunday afternoon as terrorists loyal to a notorious kingpin, Damina, attacked farmers on their farmland—an incident that left several others unaccounted for.

Dangulbi is about 100km from Gusau, the Zamfara state capital.

Spokesperson for the Zamfara State Police Command, Mohammed Shehu, confirmed the casualty figure, yesterday.

He stated the police authorities had since deployed a reinforcement team to the area to restore calm and normalcy in the community.

According to Shehu, police tactical operatives have begun a confidence-building patrol in the affected community.

He said: "The ones at our disposal are 11 people (killed) and the command has already sent a reinforcement team to the affected community and the reinforcing team has been able to return normalcy in the area."

"They are currently on confidence-building patrol and there is relative normalcy in that axis."

Residents of the area lamented that Dangulbi and surrounding communities had been experiencing series of attacks by bandits in the last few days.

Saifullahi Ibrahim, a resident of Maru LGA, said the notorious bandit demanded a sum of N2 million levy from the community in order to allow them cultivate their farmland in the rainy season, adding that the people did as requested.

"The wave of attacks on our communities started about three days ago when a bandit kingpin, called Damina asked our people to pay N2 million to him to allow them to cultivate their lands," he narrated.

According to Ibrahim, Kango, which is another village just about 2km away from Dangulbi was attacked last Friday and seven persons were reportedly killed.

"He (Damina) attacked Kango village, a 2km settlement away from Dangulbi, and killed seven people."

"Then yesterday (Sunday), in the afternoon, he proceeded to Dangulbi environs when people were on their farms working."

"They (terrorists) rounded them up and 11 people were confirmed killed on their various farms and some (persons) are missing."

The resident identified some of the victims as Lawali Yusuf, Basiru Bakwai, Murtala, Ashiru Suleman, Dayyabu Adamu, Sufiyanu Sani, and Kamalu Sani, among others.