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Bandits kidnap nurses, patients, others in hospital

• Kill 7, abduct many in Kaduna communities

By Ibrahim Hassan-Wuyo

BANDITS have reportedly killed six and abducted several others in Kallah Afogo Community, Kajuru Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

Locals reported that the bandits attacked the village about 11:15p.m., on Sunday. They broke into houses and went away with the locals.

It was gathered that those killed in Kallah were Garkuwa Alfarma, Buhari Maidiga, Uba Auta, Yakubu Gaku, and Atabata Naallah. One of the locals, who pursued the bandits

into the bush, was killed and his body mutilated.

The bandits launched another attack on Bakin Pah in Maro Ward of the same council, where one person was killed and six others abducted.

A local, Maigari Ben, called on security agencies to enhance security in the communities and ensure the safe return of the abducted people.

The state Police Command was yet to react to the incident.

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Meanwhile, two nurses and a number of patients at a Primary Health Care Centre in Kuyello, Birnin-Gwari Local Government Area of the state, were also abducted.

A local vigilante, Musa Alhassan, said the bandits initially targeted the nearby Government Day Secondary School, arriving about 9a.m., yesterday.

"When the bandits found the school empty, they turned their attention to the healthcare centre, located in close proximity. The bandits came to the school about 9a.m., asking about the students, but when they found out the school was empty, they

went to the healthcare centre and started kidnapping people.

"The bandits, who were seeking to abduct students, instead took two female nurses and several patients hostage, leaving the community in a state of panic. The exact number of patients kidnapped is still unknown.

"The bandits came to the healthcare centre wielding guns and machetes. They started dragging people out of the hospital, and we couldn't do anything to stop them," Alhassan added.

The Kaduna State Police Command's spokesman, was yet to react to inquiries on the incident at press time.