News 21 November 2026 | English article

Latest: 5 Killed and 12 Children Abducted in Borno as 90 Christian Children Remain in Captivity

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"All about 2027 general elections"

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

Five Christians were killed and 12 children were abducted when attackers stormed Rumirgo, a Christian community in Borno State, Nigeria, on Tuesday evening, 17 November 2026. The gunmen struck between about 5:05 p.M. And 8 p.M., Burned at least 27 homes, and then came back after midnight to demand a ransom of three million naira.

The 12 children are still missing, and their names are being kept secret to protect them.

The dead have been named by EYN News, the news service of the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria: Density Micah, Ijasini Bitrus, Bitrus Tsodi, Nini Yohanna and Yusuf Ahmadu. Two other residents, Geoffrey Ishaya and Mazhinyi Wassa, were injured in the attack and survived.

Rumirgo sits in Askira-Uba Local Government Area, in southern Borno State, where Christian farming communities have lived under threat for more than a decade. The attackers came in the early evening, when families were home and the light was fading. By the time they left, at least 27 houses were burned or destroyed, and the full count of damaged homes had still not been established days later.

The most disturbing part of the report is the children. Twelve of them were taken during the attack, and EYN News said their identities were being withheld to protect their privacy and safety while they remain in captivity. Their whereabouts are unknown, and no group has publicly claimed the abduction.

Then the attackers returned. At about 1 a.M., Hours after the first assault, they came back to Rumirgo, threatened a woman, and demanded a ransom of three million naira. It has not been established whether that demand is directly connected to the 12 abducted children - but for the families waiting in the dark, the threat alone was enough.

The attack did not happen in isolation. Rumirgo is the latest wound in a county where children have been disappearing for months.

On 15 May 2026, armed insurgents stormed Mussa Primary and Junior Secondary School and abducted 42 pupils, some reportedly as young as two years old. Six weeks later, on 29 June, gunmen attacked Government Day Secondary School in Lassa while students were sitting their national examinations, taking 36 students and killing two teachers.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

READ THE FULL STORY

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