Persecution 14 November 2026 | English article

Akwando Kaduna Attack: Two Christians Killed, 20 Abducted in November 4 Raid

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

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"Gunmen struck Akwando village in southern Kaduna State around 12:30 a.M"

(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

Gunmen struck Akwando village in southern Kaduna State around 12:30 a.M. On Wednesday, 4 November 2026, killing two Christians and abducting 20 people from a single extended family - including babies as young as four months old. By the time the attackers left, mothers, children and grandparents were gone into the bush. It was the latest night attack on a Christian farming community that has already buried neighbours, lost schoolchildren to kidnappers, and watched its farmland empty.

The two men killed were named as Irimiya Galadima, 41, and Benjamin Danlami, 31, both married men from the village. One of the two was the village church's choirmaster, local reports said.

The hostages were mostly women and children. Reuben Buhari, co-founder of the Resilience Aid Dialogue Initiative (RADi), said most of those taken were from his own family - cousins, their children and grandchildren. RADi first reported 18 people seized, 15 females and three males, including infants aged between four months and one year. The Kuturmi Unity Development Association (KUDA) later released a list of 20 names, among them Usman Galadima, Amina Ahmadu, Happy Stephen and Musa Genesis, a little boy.

The gunmen did not take strangers. Most of the hostages came from one extended family, and the list of names reads like a family register. Mothers taken with their babies. Grandmothers taken with their grandchildren. A whole family, carried off in the dark of one night.

KUDA's president, Dr Joseph Ariko, and its publicity secretary, Manasseh Samuel Akwando, disclosed the attack the next day. They said repeated attacks had forced residents to abandon their homes and farmland, and that the village lives in fear untill the attackers are caught. Nigerian authorities and police provided no public response to the November 4 raid.

When a village loses its mothers and its babies in one night, prayer becomes the only thing left that no gunman can carry away. The families of Akwando are praying tonight for people whose names they know by heart, and for a morning when the bush gives them back. God hears the prayers prayed in the dark, and He keeps count of every name, even when the world has stopped counting.

Akwando Kaduna Attack: A Village Already Scarred By Kidnappings

Akwando had been hit before. On 26 April 2026, nine schoolchildren were kidnapped on their way to school in Kachia, and freed after 36 days. Buhari said the village has suffered other assaults that left several people dead, and the pattern in the surrounding area is worse still.

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?

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