



## Impact of Banditry on Rural Development in Kaduna State (2016-2021)

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**Abstract.** Banditry remains a severe challenge to the security and development of local communities in Kaduna State and Nigeria. Reports recorded show frequent attacks, kidnapping, carnage and destruction of lives and properties. Weekly markets and agricultural activities have been negatively impacted. This study seeks to assess the impact of banditry on rural development in Kaduna state. Specifically, the study examines the factors responsible for banditry in Kaduna state and determines the perceived effects on the rural economy. The study employed a mixed-method approach. Hence, primary data were sourced from questionnaires, while secondary data were from journal publications, periodic reports, and newspapers. Simple percentage tables and Linear regression was used in analysing responses generated from the primary source. Content analysis was used in analysing secondary sources. The study revealed that banditry significantly impacts rural development in Kaduna State. The study, therefore, recommends that there is a need to tackle the ongoing banditry and kidnapping activities in Kaduna State. Also, the rural economy has been significantly impacted due to the suspension of weekly markets and attacks on farmers. There is a need to provide better security for farmers and the local communities. Basic social amenities and unemployment should be tackled holistically. Banditry is becoming a severe problem in Nigeria due to massive unemployment, weak security, poverty, and the porousness of the country's borders.

**Keywords:** Banditry, Rural Economy, Rural Development.

### 1. Introduction

The scourge of banditry has posed a severe threat to the security and development of the Northwest Region. Reports indicate the flourishing of bandit

groups, whose members were seen displaying automatic weapons, terrorising herders in settlements, farms, villages, and the highways to kill people, kidnapping, and pillaging cows (Olaniyan, 2018).

Kaduna, Katsina and Zamfara have been the most critical hot spots in recent times. Gaye (2018), Olaniyan and Yahaya (2016), Suleiman (2017) and Mustapha (2019) have put forward several factors for the cause and prevalence of banditry in Nigeria. Some of the factors they argued include the fragility of the Nigerian state, weak state institutions, especially the security agencies, availability of grossly ungoverned spaces, the porosity of Nigeria's borders with its neighbouring countries and arms proliferation, weak leadership, corruption, unemployment, and mass poverty. The security architecture and federal system in practice have been contrived in such a manner that the control of every security outfit is placed in the hands of the President at the centre.

From July to December 2021, over 343 persons died due to banditry, communal clashes, violent attacks, and reprisals. Southern Kaduna senatorial district recorded the majority of these deaths. This has continued to hamper farming activities due to constant attacks and the kidnapping of farmers working in their fields. Reports show mass migration from affected communities in, birnin gwari, igabi, giwa, chikun, kauru, kajuru, kachia, kagarko, zangon kataf, jema'a and sanga local governments. (Ministry of Internal security and home affairs, Kaduna state, 2021). The rural economy of the frontline areas, which is sustained by crop and livestock farming, is near collapse due to banditry attacks. The weekly markets, a dynamic means of sustenance, have been suspended and residents dispossessed.

Rural development is an essential phenomenon in the realisation of sustainable national development due to the fact that it forms the foundation upon which growth and national development are built. The economy of the rural communities seeks to enhance development and improve livelihoods by implementing comprehensive development initiatives for rural areas where most people live in poverty (Abang, 2021).

Banditry has led to dire humanitarian consequences in Kaduna state and beyond. It has taken the form of shooting and killing, cattle rustling, kidnapping, rape, torching of entire villages, and looting of valuables, and the numbers of fatalities and displaced people have continued to rise. This has grossly affected the rural economy and socio-economic development of the affected areas and the state at large. There can be no doubt that banditry poses a serious threat to the security of Kaduna state, the Northwest states, and the country, given its growing impact and implications.

Considering the recent increase in banditry incidents, this paper seeks to examine the impact of banditry on rural development in Kaduna State. Specifically, the study examines the factors responsible for banditry in Kaduna state and determines the perceived effects on the rural economy. The hypothesis that guided the investigation is in the null and alternate form:  $H_0$ , there is no significant relationship between banditry and rural development in Kaduna state.  $H_1$ , there is a significant relationship between banditry and rural development in Kaduna State. Apart from the introduction, this paper is divided into six sections for analytical progression. The first section deals with conceptual reviews, empirical reviews, and theoretical frameworks, while the second section traces the evolution and historical development of banditry and rural development. The third section discusses the factors that promote banditry and the dimensions, and the fourth section examines the impact of banditry on rural development in Kaduna State. The fifth section is the research methodology, while the sixth section provides data analysis and discussion of findings. The last section is the conclusion and recommendations.

## **2. Conceptual Review, Empirical Review and Theoretical Framework**

### **2.1. Conceptual Review**

#### **2.1.1 Banditry**

Banditry is defined as using arms (or any instrument of coercion/violence) to deprive people of their

material possessions (Okoli & Ugwu, 2019). It is often associated with gangs, although some bandits have been known to operate as lone brigands unaffiliated. Armed banditry has been a persistent phenomenon comprehended and illustrated from a variety of perspectives.

Banditry, according to Shalangwa (2013), is the practice of raiding and attacking victims by members of an armed group, whether or not premeditatedly, using weapons of offence or defence, particularly in semi-organized groups, with the intent of overpowering the victim and obtaining loot or achieving political objectives. Such bandits are typically regarded as outlaws, desperate and lawless marauders with no fixed residence or destination avoid being identified, detected, and arrested by moving around the forest and mountains.

Banditry, in another sense, refers to armed robberies or related violent crimes such as kidnapping, cattle rustling, and village or market raids. It entails using force, or the threat of force, to intimidate a person or a group of people to rob, rape, or kill them (Okoli & Okpaleke, 2014). Banditry is motivated by economic or political interests. The former indicates that banditry is motivated by the imperative of material accumulation. The latter is motivated by a desire to rob, assault, or kill a person or group of people based on political or ideological preferences (Okoli & Ugwu, 2019).

Thus, banditry is defined in the context of this paper as the total of armed robbery or other violent crimes such as kidnapping, cattle rustling, village raids, highway raids that entail the use of force, or the threat of force, to intimidate a person or a group of people with the intention to rob, rape, kidnap, or kill the victims.

#### **2.1.2 Rural Development**

Rural development is a method of bringing about long-term changes in the structure of the rural sector so that productivity and output are increased, production technology and techniques are radically revolutionised, and living standards are raised. The primary goals of rural development revolve around increasing rural dwellers' productivity, welfare, and quality of life (Todaro and Smith, 2009).

According to Hunter (1964), rural development is the starting point for development. Rural development, according to Ogidefa (2010), is defined as creating and expanding opportunities for rural people to realise their full potential through education and participate in decisions and actions that affect their lives. He went on to say that rural development

entails efforts to increase rural output, create job opportunities, and eradicate fundamental causes of poverty, disease, and ignorance.

### 2.1.3 Rural Economy

Rural economies have significant potential for economic growth, job creation, and the promotion of decent work if the appropriate policies are implemented. The rural economy system in Nigeria is composed of five major components: human capital, agricultural activities, non-agricultural activities, primary production, and natural resources. Over 80% of rural labour is engaged in subsistence farming at the smallholder level (Edo and Ikelegbe 2014). As a significant sector of the rural economy, agriculture contributes approximately 50% of Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It provides a considerable portion of farmers' income compared to other sources of income in rural communities.

## 2.2 Empirical Review

Cattle rustling and banditry, according to Shehu, Victor, and Binta (2017), have posed a serious threat to public safety and security in North-West Nigeria. It has resulted in the deaths of people, injuries to people, population displacements, and a decrease in the number of cattle. It creates a sense of insecurity in herding communities. The situation can potentially stifle productivity in the herding industry, as cattle losses to rustlers result in depleted household income and pooled resources.

Rural banditry is often characterised by depredation, according to Mohammed and Alimba (2005). Cattle rustling, armed robbery, kidnapping for ransom, and illegal toll collection at village markets have become recurrent features of several communities in Northern Nigeria because bandits easily have their way in an unsecured environment (mostly rural communities). In fact, it is not an exaggeration to say that nearly all of Nigeria's northern states have experienced some form of banditry in the last ten years, and the situation appears to be deteriorating progressively, perhaps as a result of poor governance.

Cattle rustling and other forms of rural banditry, according to Momale (2015), endanger the existence of rural communities in Northern Nigeria. With the increase in human population and the growth of cattle herds, land resources, particularly fodder, water and necessary space for husbandry practice, are becoming increasingly scarce, leading to intense competition and conflict.

The two major factors that trigger cattle rustling in Nigeria, according to Olaniyan and Yahya (2016) and Markakis (1993), are:

- (i) The escalation of the threat was aided by a shrinking resource base, which triggered an intense war of survival, as well as the proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons.
- (ii) The presence of large swaths of forest reserves (ungoverned spaces) that are generally out of reach of Nigerian security operatives is another trigger for the rustling business. In Northern Nigeria, for example, rustling occurs in state-owned reserves such as Kamuku, Kuyanbana, and Falgore forests. The forest is frequently used by criminals as a haven from security forces.

According to Gadzama (2018), criminal gangs engage in rural banditry by stealing cattle and livestock, displacing rural dwellers in North-West Nigeria, particularly in Kaduna and especially in Birnin Gwari L.G.A. Animal theft forces rural residents to migrate south, resulting in environmental degradation, population growth, an increase in cattle prices, regional instability, and an escalation of farmer-herdsmen conflict. Rural banditry appears to be on the rise in the Northern region as a result of several interconnected issues involving tensions between farmers and pastoralists exploited by criminals posing as herdsmen. The phenomenon appears to be linked to government security shortcomings, identity and inter-group relations, and deterioration of people's socio-economic conditions.

## 2.3 Theoretical Framework

This paper uses the Human Needs Theory as its theoretical framework. Abraham Maslow (1954), John W. Burton (1990), Marshal Rosenberg (1984), and Manfred MA popularised the theory (1991). These theorists all agreed and posited that the underlying cause of most of the intractable conflict was people's need to meet their needs, which could be on an individual, group, or societal level. This theory centrally posits that human beings require specific necessities in order to live and achieve some level of well-being in any aspect of life. And such necessities are referred to as (basic) human needs. As a result, the human needs theory holds that the lack of alternative means to meet the needs of individuals or groups is usually what sparks violence or conflict. The theory argues that violence often occurs when humans require understanding, respect, and consideration for their needs. According to the theory, these needs include not only subsistence needs such as food, water, and shelter, but also biological needs such as participation, identity,

understanding, and recognition. Although there have been many human needs theorists, this work is anchored within the prism of Abraham Maslow's (1954) and John W. Burton's (1990) theory postulations. This theory contends that humans, by nature, require some necessities to survive. These necessities have been observed to include more than just food, water, and shelter.

Maslow and Burton go on to say that there are both physical and non-physical elements required for successful human growth and development and those things that humans are innately motivated to achieve. Maslow had previously identified and arranged the essentials of human needs in a hierarchical order in his postulations. Each need, according to him, has a specific ranking or order of attainment. Thus, his (Maslow's) pyramids of human needs begin with the basic items of food, water, and shelter. The need for safety and security follows these, followed by a sense of belonging or love, self-esteem, and a list of personal fulfilment. The following are considered essential elements for human survival, growth, and development: a. Safety/Security – The desire for structure, predictability, stability, and the absence of fear and anxiety. b. Belongingness/Love- The desire to be accepted by others and maintain strong personal ties with one's family, friends, and identity groups. c. Self-esteem – The desire to be seen as strong, competent, and capable by oneself and others. d. Personal Fulfilment-

The desire to achieve one's full potential in all aspects of life. e. Identity – goes beyond a psychological "sense of self," according to Burton and other human needs theorists, identity is a sense of self in relation to the outside world. Identity becomes a problem when it is not recognised as legitimate, when it is regarded as inferior, or when others threaten it with different identities. f. Cultural Security – Is associated with the need to recognise one's language, tradition, religion, cultural values, ideas, and concepts. g. Freedom – Is the state of not being constrained by physical, political, or civic constraints and having the ability to exercise choice in all aspects of one's life. h. Distributive Justice- Is the requirement for the equitable distribution of resources among all members of a community. i. Participation – Is the ability to actively participate in and influence civil society. However, the Human Needs Theory is relevant to this work because it adds a new dimension to conflict theory. This is because the approach provides a critical conceptual framework that connects and addresses human needs at all levels.

In essence, Human Needs Theory is thought to have emerged as a result of widespread frustration with basic human needs as a threat to peace and social order. Burton (1990), a well-known proponent of human needs theory in both social and political conflict, postulates that universal human needs are frequently ignored, leading to groups resorting to violence to assert their rights and satisfy their needs. Coate and Rosati (1988) add clarity to the preceding argument by claiming that human needs are potent sources of explanation for human behaviour and social interaction.

This theory is relevant to this paper in the sense that it was developed to address conflict-related issues, and in this context, it is an undeniable fact that Kaduna State is currently grappling with the menace of armed bandits, which has negatively impacted the State's socioeconomic and rural development. The state is now characterised by ongoing violent conflicts between farmers, herders, villagers, and armed bandits, which could be attributed to poor provision of basic needs and protection of interest. Significant from the arguments advanced by some segments of society in the State, as encapsulated by human needs theory, was the issue of safety and security. Similarly, the relevance of the human needs theory could be attributed to the government's inability to provide the basic essential elements for human survival. In fact, the state government's inability to provide adequate social amenities in most affected communities had largely been the bane of conflict in most of the state's societies. Most communities within the affected local governments in the state lack basic social amenities. Poor health care facilities, bad roads, unemployment, and poverty are predominant indices. These according to the theory, are some of the basic needs of individuals that can lead to violence when they are wrongfully denied. Furthermore, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP, 1994) identified seven threats to human security that can lead to conflict in any society. Economic threats, food threats, health threats, environmental threats, personal threats, community threats, and political threats are among the seven identified threat.

### **3. Evolution and Causes of Banditry in Kaduna State**

#### **3.1 Evolution of Banditry in Kaduna State**

Most countries in Africa have experienced these forms of conflicts during the slave trading, colonial, and post-colonial periods. Though there have been remarkable changes in the nature and pattern of

banditry and other forms of conflicts in West Africa, the socio-economic and political reasons remain significant in explaining the prevalence of the phenomenon in the sub-region (Abdullahi, 2019).

In 2011, Nigeria saw a spike in banditry attacks as a result of violent competition for scarce resources, primarily between farmers and herders in the northwest. Due to environmental and ecological changes in the area, including desertification, land and water became valuable commodities. Farmers/herder clashes and fighting between armed nomadic Fulani herders and armed sedentary Hausa/Non-Hausa farmers resulted from conflict over resources, including livestock in some cases. On both sides, the introduction of criminal enterprises quickly turned some of them into banditry groups. The crisis has been exacerbated by unresolved legal issues regarding land and grazing rights, a lack of security and administrative presence in the area, and the politicisation of the problem. Gang violence began in Zamfara state and has since spread to five other states in the region, including Kaduna, Katsina, Sokoto, Kebbi, and Niger, the latter of which is located in North Central Nigeria (Africa Report, 2020). This has led to the deaths of over 8,000 lives in the region.

A decades-long struggle in southern Kaduna state between the Hausa and Fulani on the one hand, and several smaller ethnic groups on the other, over political offices, economic resources, and the fruits of government spending has resulted in recurrent violence, often with significant casualties. The proliferation of deadly criminal gangs, which thrive in a region awash in arms and which state security forces struggle to control, has exacerbated the situation. The proliferation of guns and armed Hausa and Fulani who branch out into cattle raiding, kidnapping for ransom, pillage, and robbery of gold miners has seen an explosion in criminal activity in the Northwest over the last ten years. Criminal armed groups are more likely to get involved in feuds between farmers and herders (and their armed proxies) than in feuds between farmers and herders (and their armed proxies).

Since 2013, cattle rustling has become more organised and intensive in the Northwest, where it had previously occurred on a small scale in many parts of northern Nigeria. Large and well-armed criminal groups are based in Kaduna's Kamuku forest, Kano's Falgore forest, Zamfara's Dansadau forest, and Kaduna's Davin Rugu Forest stretching stretch across Kaduna, Katsina, and Zamfara states, are responsible for much of the rustling. The rustlers, who frequently use automatic rifles, have stolen many herds and killed many herders in the process.

Many herders have acquired additional weapons to defend themselves, which they also use in their fight against farmers. Besides kidnapping people in rural areas, these groups regularly ambush motorists on highways, killing those who resist or whose families refuse to comply with their demands. They also raid and pillage villages, destroying homes, and barns, and abducting and rapping women. They write letters to village heads in some cases, requesting that residents pool money and pay them to avoid deadly attacks, or that farmers pay tolls in exchange for access to their fields. (The Nation, May 2019).

After seven years of inactivity, the militant Islamist group Ansaru staged a complex ambush in January 2020, killing dozens of Nigerian soldiers. Ansaru has since claimed responsibility for several attacks, primarily in northern Kaduna. However, differentiating these attacks from those carried out by other criminal organizations has proven difficult. Ansaru's renaissance appears to be connected to the group's ability to exploit grievances arising from Kaduna's deteriorating insecurity and socioeconomic conditions. Ansaru's ideological campaign portrays democracy as corrupt and incompatible with Islam while recruiting members with weapons and economic opportunities. The extremist group appears to have recruited particularly well among Fulani. The group's efforts to expand beyond Kaduna and its capability to target Nigerian soldiers highlight the broader security threat Ansaru poses to the region (Ayandele, 2021). These have steadily contributed to the daring displays of the bandits and numerous security breaches, as well as deadly attacks in the state.

### 3.2 Causes of Banditry in Kaduna State

Several elements have been suggested as driving forces of banditry in Nigeria, particularly in the country's northwest region. Some socio-existential variables that characterize the region's interior, as well as its borders, are the drivers of banditry in northern Nigeria.

The regions rarely controlled places, such as the hinterlands, forestlands, and borderlines, are prominent in these situations. The North-western hinterlands are characterized by extremely dispersed rural settlements, which are separated by volatile rangelands and farmlands (Gaye, 2018). They're also riddled with ponds, cliffs, and caverns, as well as a variety of forested environments. They are not only distant from one another, but also from the centres of authority at the local and state levels. The region's forestlands are vast, rugged, and dangerous. Most

importantly, they are severely under-policed, which makes them ideal for all types of jungle criminals. As a result, violent crimes like banditry have thrived in such densely forested locations. Often time, most attacks take place in rural settlements in forested areas in the northwest, where protection is limited.

Banditry is also common in wide swaths of forest reserves that are largely outside the reach of Nigerian security forces. Most bandit activities take place in state-owned reserves in Northern Nigeria, such as the Kamuku, Kiyabana, and Fagore forests. The forests are ideal hideouts for criminals who want to avoid being apprehended by security forces. The Nigerian security forces' reluctance to penetrate these forest areas appears to be partly owing to inefficiency, local people's complicity, a lack of advanced equipment, and a lack of enthusiasm on their part (Olaniyan & Yahaya, 2016).

The high unemployment rate in Nigeria is another element that encourages banditry. Nigeria's unemployment rate is 23.1 per cent in 2019, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), with youth unemployment reaching 55.4 per cent. Similarly, the poverty index is 43.5% in the state (KBS, 2020). These rates have continued to rise year after year as Nigerian universities continue to graduate batches of young people with the expectation of improved jobs and prospects following graduation (Adegoke, 2019). The creation of most of these bandit attacks and security threats in Nigeria has been fuelled by the fear of Nigerian graduates, which eventually turns to frustration, and finally to violence against the government (Suleiman, 2017; Mustapha, 2019). The rising tide of crime in Nigeria has been blamed on rising unemployment. As a result, idle youngsters are more likely to engage in criminal activities to keep up with current trends. They will go to any length to become wealthy quickly, hence, violent crimes such as banditry become juicy get quick opportunities.

There is no denying that Nigeria's inadequate security system contributes to the frightening prevalence of banditry in the northwest. This could be attributed to the overstretched security architecture of the country. In some circumstances, security officers assigned to certain security situations lack the skills and equipment necessary to handle the events in such a way that they do not arise. There have also been reports of security officers instead of serving as national watchdogs, quickly becoming government saboteurs, and fuelling insecurity by leaking vital security information.

Furthermore, poverty and weak governance had a big role in the rise of banditry in Nigeria. Unemployment and poverty remain significantly high with a rapidly growing population. Nigeria has surpassed India as the country with the most people living in extreme poverty, with an estimated 87 million Nigerians, or over half of the country's population, living on less than \$1.90 per day. Currently, Nigeria has an estimated population of 88.4 million people living in extreme poverty. The number of men in the country living on less than \$1.90 per day is roughly 44.7 million, while the number of women is around 43.7 million. As it stands, Nigeria accounts for 12.9 per cent of the world's population living in extreme poverty in the year 2022. Banditry, terrorism, and other criminal acts are significantly connected to poverty and unemployment. Another important aspect promoting banditry in northwestern Nigeria is the issue of arms proliferation. Since the fall of Ghadaffi's rule in Libya, there has been a steady influx of small arms and light weapons (SALWs) into Nigeria (Gaye, 2018). Non-state actors like terrorists, militants, and bandits obtain these arms and weapons and use them to terrorize individuals and communities. On their route to deliver guns to armed bandits, military troops, and Department of State Service (DSS) personnel apprehended two suspected illicit arms traffickers with 1,479 rounds of 7.62mm (special) ammunition along the Funtua-Gusau road in September 2018. (Adeniyi 2018).

#### **4. Impact of Banditry on Rural Development in Kaduna state**

With the persistent actions of armed bandits now proscribed as terrorists in Kaduna State, a new wave of crises has rocked rural development. Attacks have included kidnapping, murdering, cattle rustling, rape, torching entire villages, and looting of valuables, with the number of persons killed and displaced rising by the day. While over 1,100 persons were slain in the six states in 2018, over 2,200 were killed in 2019, and over 1,600 were killed between January and June 2020. (Council on Foreign Relations, 2020). By September 2019, similar attacks had displaced over 160,000 individuals and resulted in over 41,000 refugees (World Food Programme, 2019).

The main economic activities in the northwest particularly Kaduna State, have been identified as large-scale agricultural and animal husbandry with trading as a secondary source of revenue. Throughout the year, targeted attacks on farmers have rendered cultivation and harvest impossible. Animal husbandry in these areas has also been affected by cattle rustling. As a result of the violence and forced

relocation, affected communities were unable to rely on self-produced cereals for subsistence and commercial farming, increasing the risk of food insecurity for both displaced and non-displaced people. The possibility of being abducted for ransom exists. As the banditry attacks have continued, the afflicted populace has expressed scepticism about the army and police's ability to avoid a repeat of this heinous trend. Residents and survivors in the afflicted states have stated that when they are attacked, the police and soldiers respond slowly, if at all. The attack on the Abuja Kaduna train on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 by these bandits and the kidnapping of passengers give credence to this assertion. Victims are still in captivity over 30 days after the incident.

Banditry is thereby hurting rural development, security, peace, and prosperity in Kaduna State and the northwest region, according to all accounts. While several variables may be at play, the threat to security in the region, which is already reeling from the impact of a decade-long Boko Haram insurgency in the northeast, cannot be overstated. As a result, afflicted communities either flee to the urban centres or rely on local vigilantes for safety. People are gradually arming themselves to defend themselves in certain circumstances.

**5. Research Methodology**

The study adopted both qualitative and quantitative research methods; hence it is mixed-method research. Primary data was sourced using questionnaires while secondary sources were sourced using documented

research, journal publications, academic papers, newspapers, and internet sources.

**5.1 Study Area**

Kaduna state covers a land area of 46,053 square kilometres with an average density of about 75 persons per square kilometre. The state shares boundaries with Niger state to the west, Zamfara, Katsina, and Kano to the north, Bauchi, and Plateau States to the east and FCT Abuja and Nassarawa states to the south. Kaduna state provides the meeting point of the earliest histories of Nigeria. According to the 2021 population projection, Kaduna state has a total population of 9.4 million, accounting for 4.3% of Nigeria's total population. Females constitute 4,401,430 of the population while males are 4,499,521. The state is divided politically into three senatorial districts, Kaduna North, Kaduna Central and Kaduna South. The state has 23 local government areas. Inhabitants are mostly Christians and Muslims belonging to different ethnicities. Agriculture and other associated activities constitute the mainstay of the economy of the state

**5.2 Population and Sample size**

The total population of the study is 480 and it is composed of Kaduna South Local government, Igabi and Chikun local government and the ministry of internal security and home affairs. Krejcie and Morgan's formula was used to arrive at the sample size of 214. A purposive sampling technique was used to administer the questionnaires.

The table below shows the population and sample size.

**Table 1:** Population and Sample Size

Name of Organization	Population of the organization	Sample size	Percentage of representation
Ministry of internal security and home affairs	20	13	6%
Igabi LG	97	40	19%
Kaduna South LG	193	86	40%
Chikun	170	75	35%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2022.

A total of 214 questionnaires were distributed and 200 representing 93% of the entire questionnaires were returned dully filled. A purposive sampling technique was adopted in distributing the questionnaires across the organization. The table below shows the rate of distribution.

**Table 2:** Distribution and Return of Questionnaire

Name of Organization	Number of Questionnaires Distributed	Number of Questionnaires Returned	Rate of Return (%)
Ministry of internal security and home affairs	13	10	77%
Igabi LG	40	36	90%
Kaduna South LG	86	83	96%
Chikun LG	75	71	94%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>93%</b>

Source: Field Survey 2022.

Out of the 214 copies of the questionnaire administered 200 were retrieved and valid. Thus, 200 (93%) copies of questionnaires were duly completed and retrieved for data analysis. The questions on the questionnaire are expected to elicit responses from the respondents on the Banditry and rural development in Kaduna State. The responses of the respondents will be measured based on a five-point Likert scale of strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree and undecided.

**6. Data Analysis and Discussion of findings**

Data obtained from the questionnaire were analysed in line with the research objectives and research hypothesis formulated for this study. Statistical Packages for Social Science (SPSS) was used to analyse and interpret the responses. Test of hypothesis test was conducted using the responses provided in simple percentages as contained in the questionnaire item.

The decision rule for the hypothesis test: Accept the null hypothesis when the probability value is greater than the alpha value. If otherwise, we reject it.

H0: There is no significant relationship between Banditry and rural development in Kaduna State.

H1: There is a significant relationship between Banditry and rural development in Kaduna State.

**7. Discussion of Findings**

**Table 3**

S/N	Banditry and Rural Development in Kaduna State.	SD	D	U	A	SA	Total
1.	The activities of banditry have affected farming and trade in the local communities?	3 (1.5%)	2 (1%)	0 (0%)	107 (53.5%)	88 (44%)	200 (100%)
2.	There has being records of mass migration from affected local communities to the city center.	3 (1.5%)	4 (2%)	2 (1%)	86 (43%)	105 (52.5%)	200 (100%)
3.	The provision of basic social amenities has being affected due to violent attacks by the bandits	3 (1.5%)	5 (2.5%)	3 (1.5%)	109 (54.5%)	80 (40%)	200 (100%)
4.	Weekly markets significantly influence rural economic development	2 (1%)	4 (2%)	4 (2%)	86 (43%)	104 (52%)	200 (100%)
5.	The suspension of weekly markets has negatively affected rural development in the affected localities.	4 (2%)	6 (3%)	5 (2.5%)	58 (29%)	127 (63.5%)	200 (100%)
6.	The rate of unemployment has contributed to the incessant banditry attacks	5 (2.5%)	3 (1.5%)	3 (1.5%)	92 (46%)	97 (48.5%)	200 (100%)

Source: Researcher’s computation using SPSS Version 21

Table 3 shows the descriptive analysis of the respondents in the research carried out on Banditry as it affects rural development in Kaduna State. Majority of the respondents agree that banditry has affected farming and trade in the local communities of chikun and Igabi local government areas of Kaduna State. Also, the majority of the respondents are of the opinion that banditry has led to mass migration to the city canter for fear of kidnapping. The provision of basic social amenities has been significantly impaired due to incessant attacks. The suspension of weekly markets has further worsened the rural economy of the affected communities. Similarly, the majority agree that the high rate of unemployment has contributed immensely to the banditry attacks in the state.

**Test of Hypothesis**

**H0 There is no significant relationship between Banditry and Rural Development in Kaduna State.**

**Table 4: Linear Regression Result (Model Summary) between Banditry on rural development in Kaduna State.**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	F	Sig.	Durbin-Watson
1	.797 <sup>a</sup>	.635	.634	.77286	664.146	.000 <sup>b</sup>	.185

Source: SPSS Version 20.0 output.

The result in table 4 above showed that banditry can account for or explain about 63.4% (adj. r = 0.634) of Rural Development in Kaduna State. The implication is that the remaining 36.6% of Rural Development in Kaduna State can be explained by other factors outside the model.

**Table 4.4:** Linear Regression Result (Coefficients<sup>a</sup>) between Banditry and Rural Development in Kaduna State.

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	95.0% Confidence Interval for B	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Lower Bound	Upper Bound
(Constant)	.093	.131		.707	.000	1.672	2.111
1 RURAL DEVELOPMENT (Independent Variable)	.827	.032	.797	25.771	.000	.649	.758

a. Dependent Variable: Banditry (Dependent Variable)

Source: SPSS Version 20.0 output

The table above shows the overall result of the tested hypothesis. The model contributes about 63.4% of Banditry on Rural Development in Kaduna State. The hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between Banditry and Rural Development in Kaduna State is significant at a 1% level (P = 0.000) with a positive relationship (Beta = 0.797) which shows that the P-value is less than the level of significant. The study, therefore, rejected the null hypotheses and concluded that there is a significant relationship between Banditry and Rural Development in Kaduna State.

**8 Conclusion and recommendation**

The paper focused on the impact of banditry on rural development in Kaduna State. The paper provided a brief on banditry and rural development in the state. Banditry is becoming a serious problem in Nigeria due to massive unemployment, weak security, poverty, and the porousness of the country's borders. This has resulted in kidnappings, near collapse of the rural economy, and food shortages due to incessant attacks on farmers and agricultural activities in the rural communities. Kaduna State and the northwest of Nigeria have been quite tense and volatile due to rampant banditry, kidnappings, immense plundering and carnage, and general instability in all aspects of life.

**9. Recommendations**

- There is a need to tackle the incessant banditry and kidnapping activities in Kaduna State
- The rural economy has been significantly impacted due to the suspension of weekly markets and attacks on farmers. There is a

need to provide better security for farmers and the local communities.

- Basic social amenities and unemployment should be tackled holistically.

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