

Generation of Architectural and Other Safety Measures Against Kidnappings at Residential Environments in Kogi State of Nigeria

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Abstract: *Kidnapping in Nigeria is a serious national security challenge; Kogi State of Nigeria is not exempted from this challenge. Therefore, it became very important to conduct a research work with regards to kidnappings in Kogi State because of their frequent issues in the state. The aim of this research was to overview the cases of kidnapping at residential environments in Kogi State, in order to generate architectural and other safety measures to curtail their future occurrences in Nigeria. The research focused on desktop study as the instrument for data collection; it reviewed five different newspapers in Nigeria with the availability of kidnapping cases in Kogi State to get information relating to them. Thus, table was used for the presentation and analysis of the research data and the results were checked via contents analysis technique, so as to validate them. Among the findings are: armed kidnappers stormed the compound and forcefully entered the house; a professor was kidnapped at the gate of his private residence immediately he alighted from his car, and some police officers are part of the kidnapping cartel. Among the recommended safety measures are: all external doors must be well reinforced steel type to international standard, in order to reduce the rate at which kidnappers enter the house forcefully; residential buildings must have a design of very strong automatic sliding gate and having protective devices above it as exactly in the case of fence, in order to reduce delay arising from the manual gate opening that may lead to kidnapping at the gate entrance, and any police officer that is caught being part of the kidnapping cartel should be dismissed from his/her official job immediately and must be jailed for minimum of 10 years or as may be better determined by the court of law.*

Keywords: kidnapping, Nigeria, residential environments, safety measures, security challenge.

INTRODUCTION

In criminal law, kidnappings are the unlawful abduction and confinement of people against their will (Encyclopedia, 2024; Stimmel, Stimmel and Roeser, 2024). They are typically accomplished by use of force or fear; that is, they also usually involve menace, assault or battery but they are still kidnappings, if people are enticed to enter the vehicle or dwelling willingly for abduction. According to Marco, Claudio and Bryan (2015), kidnappings may be done to demand for ransom in exchange for releasing the victim or for other illegal purposes. They can be accompanied by bodily injury which elevates the crime to aggravated kidnappings.

Generally, kidnappings are often for ransom or to force someone to withdraw money from Automated Teller Machine (ATM) but they may also be for sexual assault (Encyclopedia, 2024; Musa, Cyprian and Casper, 2023). They have been identified as a source by which terrorist organisations have been known to obtain funding. According to Nicholas and Mojeed (2021), a study of reported cases of kidnap-for-ransom in the media shows that kidnappings have become the biggest security threat in Nigeria. Kidnappings can take place on the roads and in schools, markets, churches, mosques, residential places or environments and other places in Nigeria. In this research, emphasis was shifted to kidnappings in residential environments because of high rate of the crime at places of residence (Daily Trust, 2019; TheCable, 2022).

Residential environments in this case are places where people live. According to Smith (2001), residential environments refer to spatial structure of housing and land influenced by social structures, property values and governmental interventions which determine access to housing and neighborhood based on factors like cost, social characteristics and discrimination. The importance of residential environments cannot be over emphasised. They are crucial for individual well-being and play a vital role in shaping human behaviour and satisfaction. They provide a space for fulfilling physical, social and emotional needs, influencing life satisfaction and quality of life. They offer a place for physical needs like shelter, rest and leisure, while also providing spaces for social interaction and connection. The quality of residential environments can affect physical and mental health; factors such as safety, access to green spaces and noise levels can influence the well-being of residents. Safety from kidnapping is very important to maintain the quality of residential environments.

Kidnapping in Nigeria is a serious national security challenge (Ordu, 2025). Similarly, Ezemenaka (2018) stated that there are frequent incidences of particular crimes in Nigeria and among them is ransom kidnapping. Kogi State of Nigeria is not exempted from this security challenge. This is in line with the information revealed by the Kogi State Command of Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in 2019 stating that it has paraded men alleged to be mastermind of series of kidnappings and terrorising residents of Ajaokuta and its environs in Kogi State. To reduce this problem of kidnapping in Nigeria, this paper is therefore aimed at overviewing the cases of kidnapping at residential environments in Kogi State, in order to generate architectural and other safety measures to curtail their future occurrences.

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Kogi State is located in the North Central region of Nigeria, bordered to the west by the states of Ekiti and Kwara, to the north by the Federal Capital Territory, to the northeast by Nasarawa State, to the northwest by Niger State, to the southwest by the states of Edo and Ondo, to the southeast by the states of Anambra and Enugu, and to the west by Benue State (Wikipedia, 2025). Wikipedia (2025) further stated that in all the 36 states of Nigeria, Kogi State is the thirteenth largest in area and twentieth most populous with an estimated population of about 4.5 million as of 2016. Geographically, the state is within the tropical Guinean forest–savanna mosaic ecoregion. Important geographic features include the key rivers with the Niger flowing from the northwest and the Benue coming from the northeast before the two rivers meet in the centre of Kogi and bisect the state southward. Figure 1 shows Nigeria revealing Kogi State and its other 35 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

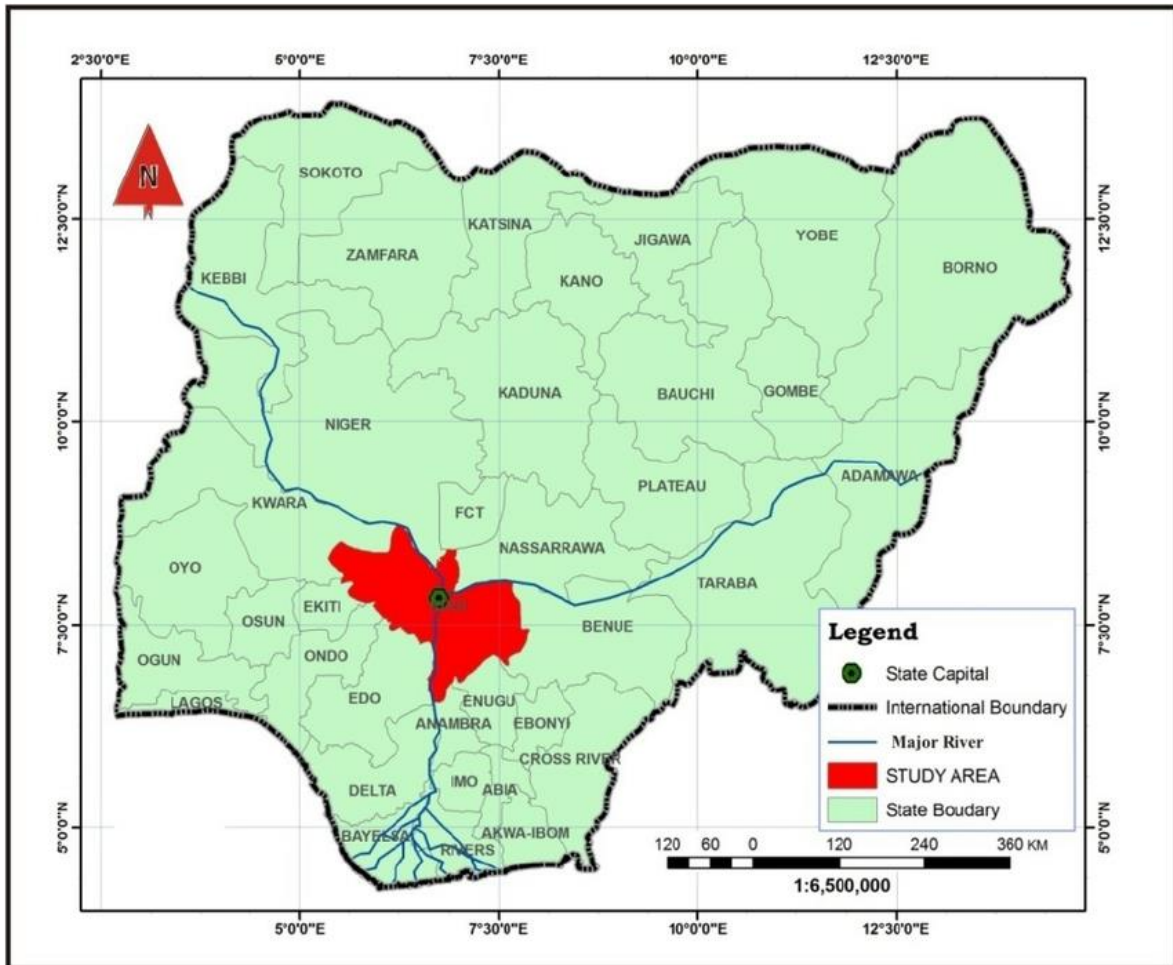


Figure 1: Nigeria Showing Kogi State as Highlighted and its other 35 States and the Federal Capital Territory [Source: ResearchGate, 2014

(https://www.researchgate.net/publication/271264422_Ecosystem_Regulatory_Services_and_Human_Comfort_in_an_Outdoor_Environment_of_Lokoja_Nigeria/figures?lo=1); Retrieved on 09-05-2025].

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Descriptive survey method of research was adopted for this study and it generated qualitative data. From the information gotten from the National Population Commission (2022) and Nigeria High Commission (2022), Nigeria is made up of 36 states and the federal capital territory. Kogi State of Nigeria was selected as the study area via the application of purposive sampling method because over the years, there have been frequent occurrences of kidnapping in the state and even in recent time (2025), Business Day reported incessant kidnapping in Kogi community.

Desktop study was used as the instrument for data collection in this research; several literature in and outside Nigeria and five different online newspapers in Nigeria with the availability of kidnapping cases particularly those in Kogi State were reviewed to get information relating to them. The main sources of data are the media (online newspapers). However, other information related to this study was drawn from the journal articles, Wikipedia, report, blogs, website and official Facebook page. Table was used to present the data obtained from all the newspapers and they were analysed and checked via contents analysis technique by comparing the extracted/interpreted data with the raw newspaper information, in order to validate the results. The results of the analysis were used to draw out important conclusions for the purpose of the research.

DATA PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS

The media (online newspapers) that were used to gather the research data via their reports are daily post media limited, Nigerian tribune, punch Nigeria limited, the nation newspaper limited and vanguard media limited Nigeria. Table 1 shows the distribution of different employed media and the nature of data generated from them. It shows that out of five newspapers employed, four of them generated both architectural and other data, while one generated only other data.

Table 1: Distribution of Different Media and the Nature of Data Generated

S/N	Media (Online Newspaper)	Nature of Data Generated
1	Daily Post Media Limited	Architectural and other Data
2	Nigerian Tribune	Architectural and other Data
3	Punch Nigeria Limited	Other Data
4	The Nation Newspaper Limited	Architectural and other Data
5	Vanguard Media Limited Nigeria	Architectural and other Data

Source: Reviewed Work, 2025.

Reports from Daily Post Media Limited

Daily Post (2014) reported that suspected kidnappers abducted two of the children of the Speaker of Kogi State House of Assembly Alhaji Momoh-Jimoh Lawal; it was gathered that the abductors invaded the residence of the speaker at about 4am Nigerian time, scaled the fence and broke into the house at Okengwe in Okene Local Government Area. The abductors also made away with other valuables such as television set, generator, Toyota Yaris saloon car belonging to the wife of the speaker and 20,000 Naira; the incident was promptly reported to the police and other security agencies in the state (Daily Post, 2014).

Reports from Nigerian Tribune

Report from Tribune (2025a) showed that hunters group in Yagba West Local Government Area of Kogi State have successfully rescued Mr Adekunle Raphael Ola, a kidnapped victim from a criminal hideout and cleared the den of suspected kidnappers. The victim, who hails from Ijumu Local Government Area was abducted on 15th January around 8pm Nigerian time at his residence in Iyara. According to the victim, about seven armed kidnappers stormed his compound and forcefully entered his house, beat him and his wife, requested money and subsequently took him away. Owing to this incident, the Executive Chairman of Yagba West Local Government Hon. Tosin Olokun commended the commitment of local hunters and vigilante team for ensuring the safety of residents and travelers in the state stating that their bravery has restored hope in grassroots security architecture. The victim, before he was reunited with his family had undergone medical treatment, recounted his ordeal, describing the conditions at the hideout of kidnappers as dehumanising.

According to Tribune (2025b), for quite some time now, Kogi State particularly Kogi West and Kogi East Senatorial districts have been facing security problems following the invasion of killer herders and kidnappers who are on rampage in the state. Tribune (2025b) revealed that the insecurity situation is in contrast to what it was during the tenure of former governor of the state Alhaji Yahaya Bello. It was stated that the then administration was able to curtail the situation by bringing the criminals to their knees; however today, in those districts, people can no longer go to bed without fear.

Reports from Punch Nigeria Limited

According to Punch (2025a), all occupants of an 18-seater bus plying the Itobe/ Ochadamu road in Kogi East Senatorial District were abducted. It was gathered that the incident happened around 5pm Nigerian time on Tuesday when the fully loaded Hummer Toyota bus with registration number LAM 979 LG was hijacked at Ajegwu before Ochadamu and all occupants were taken into the bush; the kidnappers intercepted the vehicle just behind their car and marched the bus occupants into the bush (Punch, 2025a).

Punch (2025b) explained that there is worsening security situation in Kogi State as experts blame the situation on the decision of the state government to open its borders; several Local Government Areas of Kogi State have not been in a happy state in recent times as kidnappers invaded several villages, carting away several victims while several others have been killed. It was further explained that right now, several villages across the three senatorial districts have been deserted as villagers relocate to safer areas for fear of being kidnapped, raped, maimed or outrightly killed by the rampaging hoodlums; worse affected communities include Kupa, Tajimi, Ogbaibon in Lokoja Local

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Government and Suku, Kiri, Abihi, Ike and Akutupa in Bunu district of Kabba-Bunu Local
Government.

In the eastern flank of the state, villages such as Bagana and Bagaji villages in Omala Local Government Area (LGA) and some other communities in Dekina LGA, Imane in Olamaboro LGA have been deserted for the same reason of bandit invasion (Punch, 2025b). From Punch (2025b), no fewer than 2,000 herders camp in the forests even as more Fulani herders are daily trooping into the forests leading to the killing of several persons and leading to the raping of women and under-aged girls. Further report revealed that kidnappers are in groups and wearing security uniforms Punch (2025b).

Punch (2025b) reported that the same fear in Odo-Ape also in Kabba Bunu LG stating that the community was recently unsettled by the abduction of their councilor and eight others; they were picked from their respective homes in the middle of the night. Punch (2025b) stated that its correspondent who visited Oyo village, the epicentre of the kidnapping episode in Lokoja LGA observed that several houses have been abandoned in the village. Observers believe the rising spate of insecurity is due to the decision of state government to open the borders of the state to herdsmen who has been alleged to have brought on their trail bandits displaced from the North-East (Punch, 2025b).

Reports from The Nation Newspaper Limited

According to The Nation (2021), the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences in Kogi State University, Professor John Olatunde Alabi was abducted from his residence in Anyigba, the host community of the university by dare-devil gunmen on September 27 and experienced the trauma of being kept in a dark and lonely room blindfolded for five days.

The Professor recalled that he was accosted at the gate of his private residence, which is about 10 minutes' drive from the campus of Kogi State University (The Nation, 2021). Unknown to him, his assailants had been trailing him since he left the campus on that day for home. So, it was no sooner than he alighted from his car that his abductors emerged and pointed guns at him. They told him that they were neither robbers nor assassins but it would be in his interest to cooperate with them. It was reported by The Nation (2021) that the professor could not get anybody to assist him or intervene because the kidnappers were armed and shooting guns into the air. From his residence, the professor was transferred to a house where he stayed for five days. He said that throughout the period, he was blindfolded such that it was impossible for him to know when it was day or night except the cocks were crowing or his abductors were smoking, drinking and playing their loud music.

From The Nation (2021), it was further reported that the professor was not the only one in captivity but he had no way of seeing the other captives because he was blindfolded and kept in a very important person (VIP) cell. He said: "they had a camp where they detained people. It was a cell with only a small window. The windows had been blocked anyway and thus no light.

With the benefit of insight, the professor said that from the voices of his abductors they were young people in their 20s and definitely not up to 30 (The Nation, 2021). The professor further said that from his interactions with his abductors, they were not really happy doing kidnapping business but were largely forced by the economic situation of the country. The professor recalled that one of his

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abductors told him that he graduated in 2018 but because he was unemployed, he came to Lagos to do okada (commercial motorcycle) business. Unfortunately, after a while, the business was banned in the area and he was invited to Kogi State to join a kidnapping syndicate (The Nation, 2021). The other one said he had graduated for more than six years and he got employment with the state government during the last regime but was told that he was on the waiting list, so he had not been paid for four years. The third one said he dropped out of Kogi State University and asked if the professor could help him to get certificate from the institution. The professor said if you are sure you dropped out of school and you have medical reasons, write to me. As a Dean, I would make a case to the school to consider giving you extra years. If it is not medical, if it is financial, write to the school. The kidnapper said his case was different, saying that he dropped out because he needed money to buy the certificate. The professor replied that we do not sell certificates in the faculty; it is the Senate that issues certificates. Apparently miffed by the response of the professor, the last speaker insisted that the professor must pay 20 million Naira as ransom. The kidnapper said I will not reduce it and he threatened (The Nation, 2021).

While many believe that kidnapping is exclusive to a section of the country, Professor Alabi warned that kidnapping is now localised because different groups in Nigeria are involved in the ugly business (The Nation, 2021). According to the Professor, you just need an insider to form a gang but these ones are collaborators; there are collaboration of the locals joining outsiders and the youths are ready to be used by outsiders.

From The Nation (2021), Professor Alabi described the members of the gang as intelligent. He said that the message the kidnappers have for Nigerians is that our education system is in shambles. Nigeria produces graduates but do not match them with skills. They leave school but no job and the politicians engage them during elections, arm them and they cannot wait till the next election. The kidnappers believe that our generation is corrupt; they cannot get jobs. Our generation is enjoying it and as at the time (2021) of this newspaper report, government cannot pay N30,000 minimum wage while politicians feed their dogs with N100,000. They believe that our generation has failed them and what people are seeing now is little because the youths are angry. The professor said his abductors confirmed that they abducted him not because they had anything against him but to make a statement. According to the professor, one of them said he knew him; that he is a graduate of Kogi State University. The professor asked what department and the kidnapper threatened to blow his head off. He said I told you I am a graduate and you want me to remove my hood?

According to The Nation (2021), unknown to Professor Alabi, those who abducted him had information about him because his profile was not only checked on Google, the abductors went round town to know the kind of person he was. They said the professor is a nice man; that he help people. They said with a tinge of excitement. Unfortunately for the professor, raising the sum of money demanded by the kidnappers was a big issue as it is the policy of the Kogi State University not to pay ransoms for their kidnapped staff. This is on the premise that the kidnappers would be insatiable and would be encouraged to keep abducting lecturers. Professor Alabi said as unpalatable as his experience with the kidnappers was, the incident made him to resolve that whatever opportunity he had, he would let people to know that we have serious problems on our hands as a country.

Reports from Vanguard Media Limited Nigeria

From the information obtained from Vanguard (2015), the first reported case of kidnapping in 2013 occurred when one Mustapha was said to have been adopted at his home at Ihima in Okehi Local Government Area of Kogi State but unfortunately, he was later found dead and buried inside a forest in the area some weeks after; while that was said to be political, sometime in August of that same year, the younger brother of the former governor of the state, Prince Abubakar Audu was kidnapped by gunmen at his Aloma home in Ofu Local Government Area of the state.

Vanguard (2015) further revealed that after the news of the kidnapping of the brother of Audu, the Bursar of the Federal Polytechnic, Idah in Idah Local Government Area of the state was kidnapped while his younger brother who was with him was killed in the process. However, the Bursar was released after three weeks in captivity of the kidnappers following the payment of undisclosed amount as ransom. In February 2014, the wife and daughter of the former Chairman of Adavi Local Government, Salihu Adaviruku was kidnapped in their house; the woman and her daughter spent over three weeks in the captivity of kidnappers before they were released after undisclosed ransom was paid to the kidnappers (Vanguard, 2015).

Vanguard (2015) further reported that barely a month after the release of the wife and daughter of Adavi Local Government Chairman, two sons of the Speaker of the State House of Assembly Hon Momohjimoh Lawal were kidnapped at his residence in Okene, Okene Local Government Area; the children had to stay in captivity for over two months as a result of the inability of the Speaker to meet up with the N200 million ransom demanded. While the people of the central were still battling with the kidnap of the two sons of the Speaker, on 28th May, 2014, Hajia Hawawu Bello, mother of the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Fair Plus Transport and Alhaji Yahaya Bello who was by that time a governorship aspirant under the All Progressive Congress (APC) was kidnapped at her Nagazi residence in Adavi Local Government Area (Vanguard, 2015).

It was reported by Vanguard (2015) that the kidnapping train moved back to Kogi East, as the Rector of the Federal Polytechnic, Idah, Mathew Akpata was abducted but lucky for him, when the vehicle in which his abductors were conveying him to their hideout got involved in an accident, the rector was abandoned inside the boot of the car. Also on May 31, 2014, the registrar of the same polytechnic, Abu Kazim was abducted from his house at the institution premises. The most dastard act last year was the abduction of 80-year-old American Missionary, Rev. Phyllis Sortor. Abduction of Sortor also occurred two days after a director of Adavi Local Government Abdulazeez Ohere who had been kidnapped was rescued by the police from his abductors (Vanguard, 2015).

Vanguard (2015) revealed that kidnapping continued unabated in the state because some police officers are also part of the kidnapping cartel as they leak information to the kidnappers and also offer themselves as go-between for the family in negotiating ransom with the kidnappers. In addition, Vanguard (2015) stated that piqued by the incessant rate of kidnapping, the State Governor of that time, Capt. Idris Wada placed a 5 million Naira cash reward on anyone who volunteered information towards the arrest of any kidnapper who had laid siege to the state in recent times.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The research considered the issues associated with kidnappings with their consequence of demands for ransom in exchange for releasing the victims; it particularly considered kidnapping cases in Kogi State of Nigeria because of their frequent occurrences in the state. The aim of the research was to overview the cases of kidnapping at residential environments in Kogi State, in order to generate architectural and other safety measures to curtail their future occurrences in Nigeria. To achieve this, both architectural and other data were first generated and later employed for the measures for curtailing the future occurrences of kidnapping.

The architectural research findings showed that: kidnappers scaled the fence and broke into the house, armed kidnappers stormed the compound and forcefully entered the house, a professor was kidnapped at the gate of his private residence immediately he alighted from his car, series of kidnapping cases at places of residence were found in Kogi State and several villages across the three senatorial districts have been deserted as villagers relocated to safer areas for fear of being kidnapped.

Other research findings are as follows: kidnappers invaded the residence during the dark hour, kidnappers made away with valuables such as television set, generator and Toyota Yaris saloon car and 20,000 Naira; kidnappers beat the victims and requested money in the house, the conditions at the hideout of kidnappers are dehumanising; in this year (2025), kidnappers are on rampage in Kogi State, the administration of former governor Yahaya Bello of Kogi State was able to curtail insecurity situation but now the kidnappers have resumed their activities, there is worsening insecurity situation in Kogi State as experts blame the situation on the decision of state government to open its borders to herdsmen of which it has been alleged to have brought on their trail bandits displaced from the North-East; kidnappers are in groups and wearing security uniforms, abductee was transferred to a house where he stayed for five days, abductee could not get anybody to assist him or intervene because the kidnappers were armed and shooting guns into the air.

In addition, kidnappers were young people in their 20s and definitely not up to 30 and they are intelligent, kidnappers are not really happy with their kidnapping businesses but they were largely forced by the economic situation of the country, some of the kidnappers are graduates but joined a kidnapping syndicate because of unemployment, a kidnapper dropped out of university because he needed money to buy the certificate, kidnapping is now localised as against many believe that it is exclusive to a section of the country, the message of the kidnappers to Nigerians is that education system in the country is in shambles stating that Nigeria produce graduates but does not match them with skills; politicians engage kidnappers with arms during elections and they cannot wait till the next election, kidnappers believe that the generation is corrupt and has failed them and promised to kidnap more because the youth are hungry.

Moreover, kidnappers do not only checked the profile of the abductee on Google but they also went round the town to know the kind of the person, a professor was kidnapped because the kidnappers found out that he uses money to help people, kidnappers kill their abductee, some police officers in Kogi State are part of the kidnapping cartel as they leak information to the kidnappers and also offer themselves as go-between for the family in negotiating ransom with the kidnappers and the former Kogi State Governor Capt. Idris Wada placed a 5 million Naira cash reward on anyone who

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volunteered information towards the arrest of any kidnapper who had laid siege to the state in recent times. Having considered the findings of this research, the following safety measures are therefore recommended to improve security against kidnapping in Nigeria.

Safety Measures for the Architectural Design of Residential Buildings against Kidnappings in Nigeria

- i. Design of every fence must have a minimum height of three metres having protective devices such as barb wires, fin irons in conjunction with security electric wires on their top to stop kidnappers from scaling over them to the house.
- ii. Residential buildings must have a design of very strong automatic sliding gate and having protective devices above it as exactly in the case of fence, in order to reduce delay arising from manual gate opening that may lead to kidnapping at the gate entrance.
- iii. All fence/gate protective devices such as barb wires and fin irons must be well and professionally fixed to international standard, so that kidnappers cannot be able to easily pulled them down and scale to the house.
- iv. All external doors must be well reinforced steel type to international standard, in order to reduce the rate at which kidnappers enter the house forcefully.
- v. Design of all windows must have burglary proofs and they must be erected with a standard concrete mix with adequate curing, in order to stop their easy removal by the kidnappers to enter the house forcefully.
- vi. Design of all windows must have double burglary proofs both internally and externally having window panel in between them to strengthen the resistance against their easy removal by the kidnappers to enter the house forcefully.
- vii. Design of all verandah and eave ceilings must be concrete type to international standard, in order to minimise the rate at which the kidnappers enter the house forcefully.
- viii. Every sit out or verandah must have a very strong burglary proof design to reduce the rate at which the kidnappers enter the house forcefully.
- ix. Design of all the sit out or verandah burglary proofs must be erected with a standard concrete mix with adequate curing, in order to curtail their easy removal by the kidnappers to enter the house forcefully.
- x. Preferably or otherwise, every residential building must have a central strong room that is similar to bank vault with perforations of 0.45 metre high at the top very close to the ceiling level and having 0.3 metre distance between the top of the perforations and the bottom of the ceiling, so that victims can hide themselves there and call the attention of military or security personnel in case of kidnapping, since there are series of kidnapping cases at places of residence.
- xi. There should be mini military duty post in every village/neighbourhood design, in order to scare away kidnappers from operating, since several villages have been deserted as villagers relocated to safer areas for fear of being kidnapped.

Other Safety Measures to Reduce Kidnappings at Residential Environment in Nigeria

- i. Government should install solar external lighting in all residential environments to check the activities of kidnappers at nights, since public electric power in Nigeria is not stable and the kidnappers invaded the residence during the dark hour.
- ii. Valuable money (cash) should not be kept at home, so as to avoid kidnappers from carrying them away; thus, cashless should be encouraged by individuals.
- iii. Wealthy people should seek for approval of the government to see if they can be officially and privately armed in addition to their human securities to avoid their beatings by kidnappers when demanding for money at home before abduction.
- iv. Should in case anyone became victim of kidnappers, there should be a very good medical treatment immediately after the time of captivity since the conditions at the hideout of kidnappers are dehumanising.
- v. Government should install adequate Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras in various streets in residential places to monitor the activities of kidnappers, since they are on rampage.
- vi. The present and future government administrations should always refer to the past administration of former Governor Yahaya Bello of Kogi State to know how his government was able to massively reduced kidnappings in the state, so that the affected areas of kidnapping in Nigeria can be subjected to the same workable measures that were previously employed, in order to reduce increase of kidnappings in Nigeria.
- vii. States borders should be well monitored by securities against kidnappers, since it has been established that there is worsening security situation in the state as experts blame the situation on the decision of the government to open its borders to herdsmen of which it has been alleged to have brought on their trail bandits.
- viii. Nigerian military should form a workable committee who will be on mufti to search for the kidnappers that are in groups and wearing security uniforms, so that they can be arrested and jailed.
- ix. Efforts should be doubled in locating the hideouts or houses of kidnappers where their abductees are kept, so that those hideouts or houses can be immediately destroyed.
- x. Nigerian military should form a workable committee to find out about how kidnappers are getting their weapons, so that the supplies of such weapons can be immediately stopped, in order to reduce their weapons like guns for shooting into the air, so as to enable people to courageously intervene during kidnapping.
- xi. Government should double efforts regarding scholarship awards to the youths to go to school, so that their minds can be taken away from kidnapping businesses, since kidnappers are intelligent youths of the ages between 20 and 30.
- xii. Economic problem in Nigeria must be effectively be addressed by the government, since kidnappers were largely forced into kidnapping businesses by the economic situation of the country.
- xiii. Unemployment problem in Nigeria must be effectively be addressed by the government, since some of the kidnappers are graduates but joined a kidnapping syndicate because of unemployment.
- xiv. Parents should properly train up their children regarding finances and morality, so that when they grow up, they will not be carried away by the love of money to buy certificates from kidnapping businesses.

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- xv. There is a very serious need for the government to intensify efforts in fighting kidnapping, since kidnappers kill their abductee and kidnapping is now localised as against many believe that it is exclusive to a section of Nigeria.
- xvi. Efforts to match Nigerian education with skills by the National Universities Commission in Nigeria should be doubled, since the message of the kidnappers to Nigerians is that education system in the country is in shambles stating that Nigeria produce graduates but does not match them with skills.
- xvii. Government must derive a means to stop politicians from engaging people with arms during elections of which the arms will later in turn be used for kidnapping businesses after election.
- xviii. Efforts in fighting corruption in Nigeria should be doubled, so that life can be easy for everybody, since the kidnappers believe that the generation is corrupt and has failed them.
- xix. Government should intensify food distribution across different state in Nigeria, since the kidnappers have promised to kidnap more because they (youth) are hungry.
- xx. People should be very careful about their online information because kidnappers check them to use for their abduction.
- xxi. All Nigerians should be well informed not to be releasing information without justifiable reasons to individuals that will later use them for kidnapping.
- xxii. Individual financial help to people should be very secret as kidnappers use such information for abductions.
- xxiii. The management of Nigerian Police Force should warn their officers against being part of kidnapping cartel.
- xxiv. Any police officer that is caught being part of the kidnapping cartel by leaking information to the kidnappers and also offer himself/herself as go-between for the family in negotiating ransom with the kidnappers or doing otherwise with the kidnappers should be dismissed from his/her official job immediately and must be jailed for minimum of 10 years or as may be better determined by the court of law.
- xxv. Any apprehended kidnapper must be jailed for minimum of 10 years or as may be properly determined by the court of law.
- xxvi. Government should place a five million Naira cash reward on anyone who volunteered information towards the arrest of any kidnapper who had laid siege to any state in recent times as previously done by the former Kogi State Governor Capt. Idris Wada.

RESEARCH GAP

This research solemnly depended on the review of newspapers for data collection without any visit to the study domain or where people were kidnapped, so as to get other physical data that may not have been discussed in the newspapers; this is a research gap. Therefore, in the next similar research, this gap should be addressed.

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