

# *Nigeria: Hundreds of women and children kidnapped, locals say*

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Boko Haram militants in northern Nigeria have kidnapped more than 400 young women and children from Damasak, according to residents of the town.

Locals said the Islamist militants killed dozens of the people they captured, before fleeing with the rest of them.

There was no immediate official confirmation of the number of people kidnapped.

In Damasak, Souleymane Ali told Reuters: "They took 506 young women and children. They killed about 50 of them before leaving."

Boko Haram, which also abducted 300 schoolgirls in the region last April, wants to create a caliphate in northern Nigeria.

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