

# Collapsed fence kills five Borno children, injures one

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By Isah Ojo

Five children have lost their lives, while one other sustained injuries, following the collapse of a fence in the Bulumkutu area of Maiduguri, Borno State.

*PUNCH Metro* gathered that the incident occurred at about 8pm on Sunday.

Confirming the incident in a telephone interview on Monday, the Public Relations Officer of the Borno State Police Command, Nahum Daso, said the injured child was receiving treatment, while an investigation had commenced into the incident.

He said, “Yesterday (Sunday), at about 8pm, we received a report through the Divisional Police Officer of the Bulumkutu Division that a fence collapsed on six children.

“Unfortunately, five of the children, all below the age of 16, lost their lives, while one sustained injuries and is currently in the hospital.”

Speaking on the steps taken by the command, Daso said investigations had begun to determine the cause of the collapse and whether negligence was involved.

“The first action by the command is that we have immediately commenced an investigation into the fence—how it fell and other issues surrounding the incident.

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“We want to know if there was any act of negligence or other factors involved,” he added.

He also urged members of the public to observe proper structural standards when erecting buildings and to keep a close watch on their children.

“Nevertheless, we are calling on members of the public to be mindful of structural positioning, maintain good structural standards, and keep a close eye on their children,” he said.

It would be recalled that on July 30, PUNCH Metro reported that heavy rainfall had collapsed eight buildings and displaced residents in Maiduguri, the Borno State capital.

The rainfall, which started around 6:15am and lasted for about three hours, led to the displacement of families in Bulumkutu, Abuja, Moduganari, Ngomari, and other riverbank areas.

In a statement at the time, Daso said, “In the wake of the heavy rainfall that affected parts of Maiduguri, Gomari, Bulumkutu, Jidari, ITE, and other areas, the Borno State Police Command swiftly carried out on-the-scene assessments and deployed patrol teams across the affected areas.

“Unfortunately, eight buildings collapsed, but no casualties were recorded.”