

Residents of Maiduguri told Amnesty International that following the 2009 crisis, Ward Heads were instructed to turn-in any Boko Haram member in their domain or they would lose their position. According to one Maiduguri elder "Ward Heads had been going house to house showing security operatives where Boko Haram members live. Most members ran out of the state [in 2009] and their houses were boarded up. Then they came back and they killed Ward Heads."<sup>51</sup>

On 29 Oct 2011, Muslim cleric Sheikh Ali Jana'a was killed outside his home in Maiduguri. Jana'a is reported to have provided information about Boko Haram to security forces.<sup>52</sup>

On the night of 1 February 2012, seven male residents of Kwar Maila Ward, Maiduguri, were reportedly killed by having their throats cut in their homes by people believed to be members of Boko Haram. The spokesperson of the JTF confirmed the incident in a statement to journalists.<sup>53</sup> According to a Maiduguri based human rights activist interviewed by Amnesty International, six people died instantly and one later in hospital.<sup>54</sup> A Boko Haram spokesperson later claimed responsibility in a teleconference with journalists, saying, "We have earmarked 30 of them for execution because they betrayed our group. They exposed our 11 members who were summarily shot dead by the Joint Task Force on Saturday... So, we have succeeded in killing seven and we are sure of killing the remaining 23 any moment from now."<sup>55</sup>

On 20 February 2012, over 20 people were reportedly killed when Baga market in Maiduguri was attacked by gunmen and several bombs were detonated. Boko Haram claimed responsibility two days later in a telephone statement to journalists, in which Abul Qaqa, the group's purported spokesperson, said the attack had been carried out because traders from the market had assisted security forces in the arrest of one of their members.<sup>56</sup>

On 1 August 2012, Boko Haram released a statement threatening women who inform on them. Abul Qaqa stated: "This is a final warning to all of them. By God, whenever we catch any woman spying on us, we would slaughter her like a ram."<sup>57</sup>

### 3.3 ATTACKS ON CHURCHES

Over 20 churches have been attacked and over 200 people killed in attacks on churches across central and northern Nigeria since 2010. Boko Haram has claimed responsibility for many of the attacks<sup>58</sup> and has on numerous occasions explicitly stated their intention to target Christians.

At least three bombs exploded on 24 December 2011 in Jos, the Plateau state capital, killing an estimated 80 people and injuring many more. Boko Haram claimed responsibility. Dozens of other people were killed in gun and machete attacks in a wave of religious and ethnic violence that followed. Several buildings were burned down and businesses were closed for days.<sup>59</sup>

On 25 December 2011, Boko Haram bombed three churches killing 43 people in Saint Theresa Catholic Church in Madalla, a suburb of Abuja.<sup>60</sup> Bombs were also detonated in churches in Jos and Damaturu. Boko Haram claimed responsibility and implied that the purported motivation for the attacks was collective retribution for alleged government abuses against Muslims.<sup>61</sup>