

# Gunmen kill business mogul, others in Maiduguri

**G**UNMEN on Thursday shot dead a Maiduguri-based merchant, Alhaji Abubakar Girigiri, 58, at his warehouse in the Bolori area of Maiduguri.

An eye witness told newsmen in Maiduguri that the gunmen came to the warehouse on foot, pretending to be customers before shooting him.

The witness said "a group of four teenagers arrived the warehouse on foot and met Girigiri attending to his business.

"After a short while, two of them brought out guns from their trousers and shot him at close range," the witness, who identified himself as Mallam Modu Lawal, said.

Lawal added that the businessman died on the spot.

"We tried to rush him to the hospital for help but he died before we could do anything."

The Police Public Relations Officer in Borno, Mr. Gideon Jibrin, confirmed the story but said the police were yet to get full details of the incident.

Jibrin also confirmed the killing of seven persons in Jere Local Government Area of the state by

gunmen.

He said: "the police is trying to get the full details of the report, so we can unravel the mystery behind the killings."

The Joint Task Force (JTF) on Operation Restore Order also confirmed the

killing of three security men in the early hours of Thursday at the Ruwan Zafi area of Maiduguri.

The JTF Spokesman, Lt.-Col. Sagir Musa, in a statement in Maiduguri, stated that the task force was already after the

suspected killers.

"This is to confirm that three security men were killed in the early hours of the day by suspected members of the Boko Haram group.

"Efforts are on to apprehend the killers," Musa said.

## NEMA advises Nigerians on disaster management

**T**HE National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has called on Nigerians to imbibe the culture of disaster risk reduction.

The North-West Zonal Coordinator of NEMA, Alhaji Musa Ilallah, made the call in Sokoto on Thursday at the opening of the 2012 workshop on strengthening disaster preparedness and mitigation at the state and local government levels.

Represented by Alhaji Aliyu Kafin-Dangi, Head, Training in the North-West zonal office, Kaduna, Ilallah also stressed the need for coordinated efforts by stakeholders in disaster management.

"These are those at the federal, state and local governments and

other stakeholders. This is necessary for an overall success in disaster management.

"We must continue to see ourselves as partners in progress in disaster management in the country," Ilallah said.

He said the workshop was to coordinate and facilitate a process for development of appropriate systems, procedures, expertise and resources at all levels for effective mitigation and efficient response to disasters.

"It is also aimed at improving the capacity of local government officials in providing a mechanism for integration and coordination at the state and local government levels," he said.

The Director-General,

Sokoto State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Alhaji Hassan Maccido, who was represented by Alhaji Mustapha Umar, commended NEMA for its sustained efforts in the prevention and mitigation of disasters.

Maccido said the workshop would improve the knowledge of the participants and facilitate disaster prevention and management at the grassroots.

Alhaji Tukur Ladan, from Silame Local Government, on behalf of the participants, lauded NEMA for the conference.

"We are appreciative of NEMA's efforts and we are determined to ensure the success of all its activities at all levels," he said.