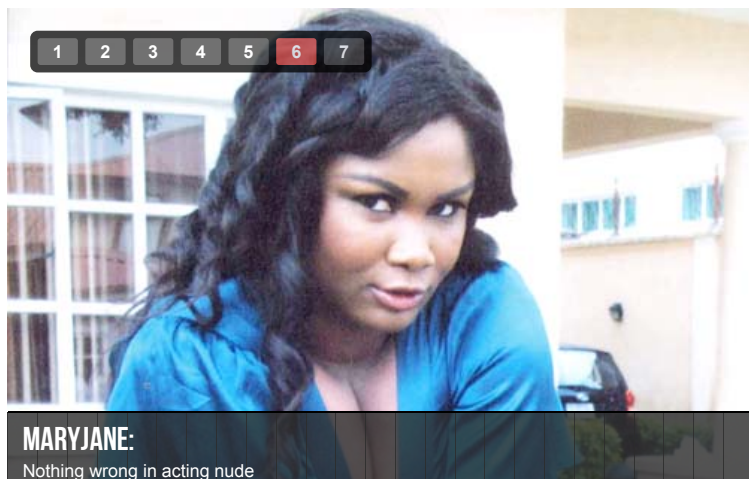


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# KANO BLASTS: DEATH TOLL RISES TO 70

Tuesday, 19 March 2013 23:47 | [Print](#) | [Email](#) | [Be the first to comment!](#)

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The number of casualties from Monday's bomb blast in a luxurious bus park in Kano state has risen to 70. Tobias Idika, the President of the Ohanaeze Ndi Igbo and a witness to the blast said 70 people have been confirmed dead and residents are still trying to identify their relatives.

He said five buses were fully loaded with passengers ready to take off when a golf vehicle suspected to be laden with explosives drove into the park and exploded.

Idika said many people died instantly while a yet to be known number of the people were admitted in hospitals across the state for various injuries.

However, the state's Commissioner of Police, Musa Daura, while addressing a news conference yesterday claimed

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that only 22 people were so far discovered dead from the blast while 65 others sustained injuries.

He said two suicide bombers drove a blue coloured car into luxurious bus park along New Road in Sabon Gari of the city.

He added that investigation is on-going to further ascertain the extent of the casualties.

The affected area has been cordoned off and search operation by the Joint Security Forces is on-going.

The Police commission has called on residents to keep calm and continue their normal businesses as the command will continue to protect their lives and property.

Yesterday, the Kano State Government described the attack as barbaric.

Deputy Governor Dr Umar Abdullahi Ganduje who was on a sympathy visit of the victims at Murtala Muhammad Hospital, Kano said Islamic religion does not permit this kind of heinous crime against innocent lives.

Ganduje said: "What happened is a calamity; it is unfortunate. Those who committed this crime are real criminals and they are totally condemned; they are not representing any religion in this world they are on their own. Islam does not allow for this kind of act. It is totally condemned by the Holy Quran".

A victim of the attack, Abdussalam Babanlami told Daily Champion that he was going to Lagos where he said he grew up, but that he had no money, so he went to his boss Uche Daniel and told him. He said his boss told him to bring his load and travel for free. As I was putting my bag I heard a heavy sound only for me to see my intestine come out and letter in the hospital'.

Another victim, Bushara Usman said he was going to Port Harcourt with his five friend five of them he only saw himself laying close to their corpses with his nose blown off and his leg and hands broken.

A 15 year old boy Muhammad Sani who was selling pure water at the garage just died this morning after sustaining serious injury from the bomb attack.

Emmanuel Bode said he was charting with some of his Hausa friends who are touting at the garage he just heard something very powerful hitting his head and suddenly he saw Haruna, Saminu and Isa all dead.

Meanwhile, the leadership of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has condemned Monday bombing of southern-bound luxury buses in Kano which led to the death of scores of people.

Similarly the party condemned Monday killing of five persons by unknown gunmen in Maiduguri, Borno state capital.

The party while reacting to the development described the attacks as "cruel" saying they cannot be justified under any guise.

PDP National Publicity Secretary, Chief Olisa Metuh explained that the party was shocked by the attacks and has been deeply saddened over the manner in which Nigerians were being killed for no just cause.

Calling on those behind the attacks to have a rethink and realize that life is sacrosanct, the PDP maintained that Nigerians must learn to live in harmony and to eschew all acts of violence.

The party however urged Nigerians to be more vigilant even as it charged security agencies to double their efforts especially in intelligence gathering so as to forestall such attacks.

It commiserated with the families of the bereaved and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

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