

This website and many others will display better if you use the Firefox web browser. Simply go to: [GetFirefox.com](http://www.getfirefox.com)

HOME NEWS BUSINESS CITY NEWS SPORT COLUMNS **OTHER SECTIONS** ABOUT US OUR PAPERS E-MAIL ADVERTISING

## 38 killed in Bauchi skirmishes

WRITTEN BY AHMED MOHAMMED, MOHAMMED ABUBAKAR & MUAAZU HARDAWA, BAUCHI

MONDAY, 28 DECEMBER 2009 22:28



Soldiers guard the Kala-Kato enclave at Zango area on the outskirts of Bauchi Metropolis in Bauchi State yesterday.

Thirty eight people died at Zango village on the outskirts of Bauchi yesterday in what the police said was a clash between members of a fringe Muslim sect described as the Kala Kato. The sect members had earlier in the day killed a soldier and a policeman, who were on security duties for the state's Operation Flush. Among those killed yesterday was the sect leader Malam Badamasi, who was from Alkalari Local Government Area in Bauchi State.

Residents said the sect members had held a preaching session the previous night at which they espoused views regarded by the wider Muslim community as heretical. Early yesterday morning, the sect members

numbering more than 500 also embarked on a procession.

Bauchi State Police Commissioner Atiku Yusuf Kafur told newsmen in Bauchi yesterday that "the sect members burnt four houses, two belonging to them while two belonged to their neighbours." He said 16 people were injured including a police man and "we rescued 16 people and arrested 20 suspects, nine adults and eleven juveniles. We recovered explosive devices, two AK 47 rifles, 7 rounds of ammunition and hundreds of dangerous weapons of various types, as well as some with blood stains."

Narrating the cause of the incident, Commissioner of Police Atiku Kafur said, "the leader [of the sect] lived in the area for so many years and he had an illness, something like pox came in to his body. He was advised by some of his followers to go to the wife of one of them who used to cure sickness, and he went to her. The woman told him that one of his followers used charms on him, the situation that led to division within the sect because some of his followers left him and started a plot to kill him."

The commissioner added that the members of the sect were fighting among themselves and because of the fight, the sect leader became aggrieved and he made an inciting preaching yesterday morning. He said the sect leader's neighbours were disturbed and they complained to members of the state's security team Operation Flush, which then carried out a field operation to monitor and maintain peace in the area.

He said the police received a report that six soldiers went there trying to stop the preaching, not knowing that the militants were well armed. They attacked the soldiers and killed one, then went away with his rifle.

Yusuf Kafur added that upon receiving the complain, they deployed mobile policemen to the area. He said even though the sect members were well armed and they were using their arms against the police, but police used over 100 smoke canisters to force them out of their enclave "and we successfully moved them in where we traced that they killed themselves. We evacuated 37 dead bodies inside the enclave even though some of them were alive but they passed away in the hospital."

The commissioner said Police used guns to defend themselves but it took them "several hours to move members of the sect from their enclave and the situation was brought under control around 2pm in the afternoon." He said the area was now calm. He asked residents that run into the bush to return to their homes, saying "we are still pursuing other members of the group that sneaked away." He said the fight ended in the village and it did not spread to any part of Bauchi town.

Mallam Ayuba Musa, a resident of the area, told Daily Trust that the residents of the area were disturbed by the manner in which the members of the Kala Kato sect did their preaching and were inciting the public; hence they reported the matter to the security agencies. Ayuba Musa added that the crisis began when the Kala Kato members killed two soldiers and a policeman and burnt people's houses.

In his own account of the situation, Ustaz Sadiq sufyan said the Kala Kato members were preaching when they made statements that were inciting, condemning the government for arresting members of the Boko Haram sect.

"The soldiers came and stayed in one place waiting, and on the other hand I saw ten members of the sect in long white jumpers. There were weapons in their hands like knives, swords, daggers and guns. We started hearing gun shots. When we enquired, we were told that the Kala Kato group killed a soldier with a knife and seized his rifle." Ayuba added that "these members of the Kala Kato, even when you shoot them, the gun will not fire. They will just clear their jumper and continue fighting the security men."

State Secretary of the Nigeria Red Cross Alhaji Adamu Abubakar told Daily Trust that "we moved 20 corpses and 16 casualties from the scene of the incident to the Bauchi State Specialist hospital, but the situation was brought under control with the efforts made by security personnel."

Alhaji Adamu said 1000 displaced persons had taken refuge at the building of Defense Industry situated in the industrial area near Zango. He said their major problem was how to feed the refugees, and that they were waiting for the state's Emergency Relief Committee to move in.

## Search

 **Search**


Web



Daily Trust



Weekly Trust



Sunday Trust

## Your opinion

**Do you think the Federal Government is addressing the fuel crisis adequately?**



No



Yes



Not Sure

**Vote!**

**Result!**

## Middle East News ?

Middle East Latest & Updated News Hottest News With Maktoob Business

[business.maktoob.com](http://business.maktoob.com)

Ads by Google

## Lead stories

- 28 December 2009 38 killed in Bauchi skirmishes
- 28 December 2009 Faruk: Security heads to roll
- 28 December 2009 Shekarau explains Obudu retreat
- 28 December 2009 Bafarawa used FG waiver for self- EFCC
- 28 December 2009 What Faruk preached, by Kaduna friends
- 27 December 2009 Maryam Babangida dies at 61
- 27 December 2009 Mark, Atiku condole with IBB
- 27 December 2009 Yar'adua: FEC gets 72-hour ultimatum
- 25 December 2009 Fuel scarcity mars Xmas- Long queues- Prices soar
- 25 December 2009 Ghana's president turns down Christmas gifts
- 25 December 2009 Jonathan urges Nigerians to intensify prayers for Yar'adua
- 25 December 2009 Fuel scarcity: Senate asks Lukman to tell the truth
- 24 December 2009 'AG can't make VP acting President'
- 24 December 2009 Declare Yar'adua incapacitated Ex-MP asks court
- 24 December 2009 Bafarawa, others get bail
- 24 December 2009 FEC approves N7.6bn house

Abubakar said before they were subdued, the sect members were shouting at the top of their voices that they were the real Yan Tatsine, i.e. followers of the late sect leader Muhammadu Marwa alias Maitatsine who was killed during a major uprising in Kano in 1980. Some of them also shouted that they were the real Boko Haram, he said.

The State Commissioner overseeing the Ministry of Information Captain Bala Jibrin told Daily Trust on telephone that there was a statement signed by the Secretary to the State Government Ahmed Ibrahim Dandija which explained the truth of the matter.

He then read from the statement, which said “there was a little fracas that occurred in a small village called Zango near Bauchi as a result of misunderstanding between members of an Islamic sect and their followers and the situation was brought under control. People should go about their normal businesses. People should open their shops and continue with their real business. The area is now calm and government is in full control of the situation.”

The commissioner said government noted that some agents of mischief were over blowing the matter and warned that anybody caught doing so will be dealt with decisively. He said adequate security had been deployed to the area to ensure peace.

The State Police Public Relations Officer ASP Mohammed Barau told newsmen that there was a fracas in the area and security personnel were deployed to quell the situation, adding that Police will brief the press on the truth of all that had happened at the end of the Security Council meeting going on at the time of filing this report.

In their separate account of the crisis, some of the people residing in the area told Daily Trust that they went to their various places of work when they were called back by their families and told that there was a problem in their area.

## Comments

# **unnecessary killings – Adams 4all** 2009-12-29 01:11

The world ending is fast approaching, and the problems are faster than imagination. What the hell is this again? Every day religious crises, first maitatsine, kala kato, boko haram and lots of them. Our ulamas need to sense the muslims ummah on the implication of uprising in islam before we muslims finish ourselves.

[Reply](#)

# **peace – gaddafi yusuf muhamm** 2009-12-29 06:51

people of bauchi state why is it that always you are the course? never the less the islamic scholars should always put this at the back of their mind that (WAMA KALAQATUL JINN WAL INS ILLALI YA ABUDUN) then is their fighting each other in course of serving Allah??? plz my state members the world has come to an end so try to do some thing that you will account for it in the here after, But not going for unnecessary fight that will result your death.

[Reply](#)

# **ohhh GOD – mohmoh** 2009-12-29 08:20

ana wata ga wata..to Allah ya kawo mana sauki.

[Reply](#)

# **May God have mercy on them – Umar Muhammed** 2009-12-29 09:28

The statement that says the forces found them dead, dead as in how? the Kala Kato killed themselves by shooting or what? that is confusing. All muslim should not the consequences of suicide is going to hell fire...May God continue to protect our country..amin

[Reply](#)

# **Musulunchi...! – Abdulkadir Ali Bage** 2009-12-29 09:50

From sunni to shiites, izala to darika, kutupasha to maitatsine... and a host of others known and unknown. What are our Islamic scholars preaching...? Islam being a religion of PEACE should never be viewed from the perspective of some self righteous/ proclaimed individuals based on their personal opinion as to what it should be, not what was prescribed...!

[Reply](#)

# **Skirmishes & Caprices In Religious Disguise – Isa Mariri** 2009-12-29 10:01

The teachings and precepts of religions are never hostile or antagonistic to peace and harmony. Lets pray to God Almighty for peace and tolerance in Nigeria

[Reply](#)

[Refresh comments list](#)

[RSS feed for comments to this post.](#)

## Add comment

- Comment Form Guidelines: The comment form must be filled in with a proper or legitimate sounding name and email address. Comments using keywords, spam or suspicious information in the comment form will be edited or deleted.
- Email Privacy: Email addresses are required for commenting, and they are not published on the site, nor shared. They may be used however in comments published in the print edition of our titles.
- Language and Manners: This site is “family friendly” and comments which include offensive or inappropriate language, or considered by the site administrator to be rude and offensive, will be edited or deleted.

for VP

- 23 December 2009 [Maduekwe spends N2.7 billion on foreign trips](#)
- 23 December 2009 [Phone charges may drop in 2010](#)
- 23 December 2009 [Govs are to blame for water shortage – Ruma](#)
- 23 December 2009 [INEC: We will cancel Anambra polls if...](#)

• A Comment is a conversation: A comment which does not add to the conversation, runs of on an inappropriate tangent, or kills the conversation may be edited, moved, or deleted.

• What To Do If Your Comment Does Not Appear: If you leave a comment on this site and it does not appear, do not worry. It is only undergoing a mandatory review process to see if it meets the criteria listed above.

• No Personal Attack Comments Permitted: In the interest of fair play, no personal attacks are permitted in this site's comments. You may question or argue the content, but not attack the subjects in the item nor any other 'commenters'. Failure to respect fellow participants on this site could result in blocked access.

• Comment Spam: Any comment assumed to be possible comment spam will be deleted and marked as comment spam.

• Blocking: Anyone who violates this Comments Policy may be blocked from future access and/or commenting on this site.

• All Rights Reserved: The site owner (Media Trust Ltd) reserves the right to edit, delete, move, or mark as spam any and all comments. They also have the right to block access to any one or group from commenting or from the entire site.

• Hold Harmless: All comments within this site are the responsibility of the commenter, not the site owner.

By submitting a comment on our site, you agree that the comment content is your own, and to hold this site, [www.dailytrust.com], and all subsidiaries and representatives harmless from any and all repercussions, damages, or liability.

 Name (required) E-mail (required) Website Title (required)

1000 symbols left

☐ Notify me of follow-up comments

Refresh

[Send](#)

JComments

[WEEKLY TRUST](#)   [SUNDAY TRUST](#)   [AMINIYA](#)   [AFRICAN OF THE YEAR](#)   [GALLERIES](#)