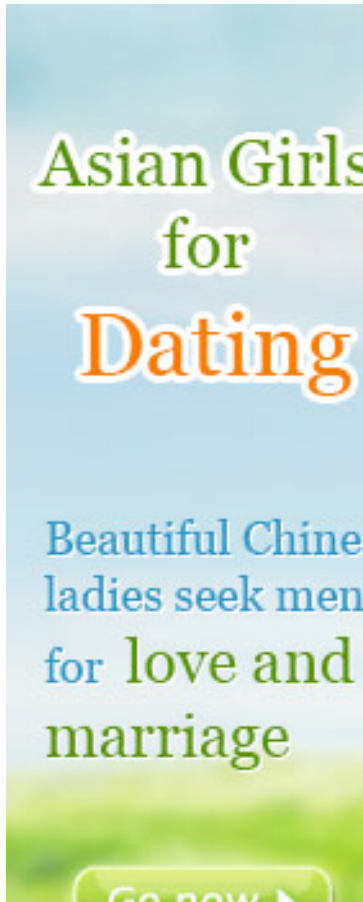


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One killed as blasts, ballot snatching affect voting in Borno

Written by Hamza Idris and Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri Wednesday, 27 April 2011 00:00



THREE separate bomb blasts occasioned by ballot box snatching affected turnout of voters in Maiduguri and Jere local government areas of Borno State yesterday even though voting had taken place peacefully in most parts of the state.

The first bomb which was planted under a refuse dump by the roadside at 'Dogo Mai Lamba' in London Ciki area of Maiduguri, exploded when a commercial bus driver drove over it with his vehicle around 6.45am. Borno State Police Commissioner Mic Zuokumor who confirmed the incident said nobody died but the vehicle was badly hit. Thirty minutes after, another bomb which was buried by the roadside was discovered at Damboa road by some children who alerted a passerby. Witnesses said the man summoned courage and picked the object and threw it into a nearby cemetery where it exploded. No one was killed, the police commissioner said.

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The third bomb which exploded at Baga Road hit a street light around 7.30am. Witnesses said it was planted near a police checkpoint but no one was killed because the police were yet to report for duty. The Police commissioner said men of the State Security Service (SSS) have also arrested seven people whose ages range between 18 and 25 while planting bombs along Kashim Ibrahim way in Maiduguri.

Elsewhere around 1.45pm, four gunmen rode on motorcycles and attacked a polling centre at Jajeri where they shot and killed one man and injured four others.

Meanwhile, the Shehu of Borno, Alhaji Abubakar Ibn Garbai Al -Amin El-Kanemi, yesterday in Maiduguri advised politicians not to see politics as a do or die affair but a platform for building a peaceful society.

He described the desperate attitude of some politicians who are seeking power by all means as unnecessary. He also regretted the loss of lives and property as well as the attendant mutual suspicion in parts of the country that trailed the presidential election.

“Aggrieved and discontented groups should seek redress in court rather than resorting to wanton violence,” the Shehu, who spoke to journalists shortly after casting his votes at the Mairari polling unit in his palace, said.

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One die, five injured
blast
In Borno, Sheriff fight
senate
We'll tackle Borno's
Shettima
Governorship, Memt
Representatives and
ANPP's choice of SI
— Nasir Abba Aji
Kowa party will end
Mustapha

