

# Groups, JTF trade blame over killing of three in Bauchi

**From Ahmed Mohammed, Bauchi**

THE Hausa community in Tafawa Balewa has alleged three of its people were killed in the area, but the police, Army and the Sayawa community denied the allegation.

The Secretary of the Tafawa Balewa Town Development Association Youth Wing, Hassan Dahiru disclosed this at a press conference held yesterday at the Bauchi.

Dahiru who spoke in company of the chairman, Alhaji Sabiu Garba and the Public Relations Officer (PRO) Danliti Kauwa,

said the victims were Muslims travelling from Yelwan Shenda in Plateau State.

He accused the Sayawas of mounting roadblocks along the highway that passes through Tafawa Balewa town, thereby killing innocent Muslims.

He alleged that the three were brought out from their vehicle and slaughtered after which their vehicle was set ablaze.

He said that the killings were normally carried out between Tafawa Balewa Central Motor Park and after the River Tafawa Balewa bridge along the road to

and from Boi town in Bogoro Local Government Area.

He said that the killings have continued unabated in spite of the presence of the men of the Joint Task Force (JTF) who have the statutory function of mounting checkpoints in that locality.

But the Secretary of the Sayawa Council of Elders, Barister Bukata Zhyadi said it is not true that Sayawas were killing Muslims rather "it is our people that are being killed by them in collaboration with Boko Haram."

Also, Bauchi State Police

Commissioner Mohammed Ladan and spokesman of the JTF Captain Markus Mdahyelya in a telephone interviews said that the group is not telling the truth.

CP Ladan said "It's not true and I am not aware if it's true my DPO and area commander would tell me."

Captain Mdahyelya said: "If they have any source they should come forward and make official complaints rather than trying to castigate the JTF. JTF has no issue with religion and we are for both Christians and Muslims and we don't take sides."