

Groom, 2 others slaughtered in Maiduguri night raid

From Hamza Idris & Haruna Gimba
Yaya, Maiduguri

THREE people, including neighbours of Governor Kashim Shettima and a newly wed middle aged man, slaughtered in Maiduguri in two separate incidences on Friday and Saturday.

Witnesses said some attackers sneaked into a house that share fence with the Lawan Bukar ward family house of Governor Kashim Shettima and slaughtered

two people in the middle of the night on Friday.

Friday incident was followed by the slaughtering of a groom, Mustapha Kalla on Saturday at his Bagobiri area, another neighborhood in Lawan Bukar Ward.

Late Kalla, 25, reportedly got married three weeks ago and witnesses said his attackers slaughtered him like ram and left him in the pool of his blood.

"The two incidences occurred within a span of 30 hours...the

attackers used sharp knives and killed their victims," Mohammed Habu, a trader in the area said.

Resident Usman Bana described the manner the three people were killed as strange.

"In recent times, we have sadly started seeing a new wave of onslaught such as using sharp objects and knives to slaughter unsuspecting targets. Before now, many people were shot and killed with guns," he said.

"I think the attackers are using the new method to circumvent

sounds of gunshots which will definitely attract attention. This is my personal opinion any way. And you should not forget that Maiduguri is under State of Emergency and there is also dusk to dawn curfew," Bana said.

As at the time of filing this report, it could not be established whether the attack close to the family house of Shettima was targeted at somebody close to the governor.

"It is actually difficult to establish the mission of the

attackers but the fact is that a new comer will hardly say which is which among the two houses," another resident of the area said.

The new police spokesman in Borno State DSP Gideon Jibrin confirmed the two incidences in a telephone enquiry.

"We heard about the killings of three people at Lawan Bukar area and I am waiting to be fully briefed on the circumstances surrounding the incidences," the spokesman said.