Teenager dies, 10 injured in Bauchi blast

From Ahmed Mohammed, Bauchi

BAUCHI State Commissioner of Police Mohammed Ladan has confirmed the death of a teenager and injuring of 10 persons in a bomb blast that occurred at Bayan Gari in Bauchi yesterday.

Ladan told newsmen in Bauchi yesterday that "from the report gathered there was IEDs explosion in Bayan Gari; a small boy died, 10 people injured and they were taken to Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Teaching Hospital (ATBUTH), Bauchi".

It was gathered that the explosives were a leftover of the abandoned IEDs dumped in an uncompleted building in the area where a bomb exploded recently. "It wasn't targeted at anybody but a leftover, and tomorrow the police anti bomb squad will comb and sweep the area in collaboration with other security agencies", according to a security source.

The source said most of the people injured were those scampering for safety because of the loud sound of the explosion.

A resident of the area said they suspected that the explosives were dropped inside an abandoned old car near the building. "We were just drinking beer when we heard a loud sound; we have to run helter-skelter in order to save our lives, many people injured", the resident said.

Bakare wants corruption, insecurity addressed for successful 2015 polls

PASTOR Tunde Bakare of the Latter Rain Assembly says for Nigeria to witness successful general elections in 2015, issues such as corruption, violence and insecurity must be addressed.

"I seriously and fervently pray that it will not get to the stage of a people's revolt before positive changes begin to happen in Nigeria.

"Without doubt, the catalogue of mismanagement of resources, the unbridled stealing of public funds and the bewildering exposure of the level of corruption in almost every arm of government is a cause for worry.

"For the nation not to crumble is the reason for my message. This is no time for false accusations and counter accusations", Bakare said at a news briefing in Lagos yesterday.

Bakare said although President Goodluck Jonathan might be doing his best, the impact could not be felt because of the level of corruption in the country, saying Jonathan deserves sympathy and prayers from the citizens. Whatever positive change might come to the nation, according to him, would not be engineered by those benefitting from corruption.

"Positive change will only come from a breed without greed and a radical opposition to corruption. True genuine change can only come from those not infected by the present corruption malaise; it can only come from positive agents of social change who are totally sold out to public good", he said.

However, Bakare said it was regrettable that those crying for change had yet to take up the challenge of bringing about that change. On the possibility of contesting future elections, Bakare said: "I will be available to serve if my nation needs me." (NAN)