

"After they ensured that they killed him, the gunmen fled on their motorcycle the gunmen used and we are doing everything possible to get them to my finding. He did not die and same thing with the nurse that was shot along with Professor Mbibu," DSP Lawal said.

5 killed in Maiduguri - JTF

Hamza Idris and Yahaya Ibrahim,
Maiduguri

The Joint Task Force (JTF) in Borno State said five people were killed when gunmen sneaked into a village located on the outskirts of Maiduguri and killed five people including a serving Nigerian Police traffic warden.

But sources told Weekly Trust that at least 18 people were killed in the attacks which were carried out in Telari and Musari villages on the outskirts of Maiduguri.

Spokesman of the JTF Lt Col Sagir Musa said in a statement yesterday that five people were killed, adding that "information available to the JTF Operation Restore Order indicated that unknown gunmen sneaked into Musari Community – a village located on the outskirts of Maiduguri and secretly carried out selective killings of five people including a serving Nigerian Police Traffic Warden. The incident happened in the early hours of today, between 1 – 3 am.

“The Joint Task Force troops that responded to a distressed call came, arrested three suspected assailants and recovered one AK 47 Rifle with ten rounds of 7.62mm ammunition. Investigation has since commenced and the operation to apprehend fleeing members of the gang is ongoing.

"The Task Force wishes to once again remind members of the public to pass any credible information to the JTF through the under listed Hot Lines that are operational 24/7; 080-64174066, 070-85464012, 081-54429346" the statement said.

But the villagers said at least 18 people including a man and two of his children when about 12 assailants, armed with guns, knives and other dangerous weapons stormed Telari village around 1am where they killed an aged man and two of his male children.

"After eliminating their targets, the attackers proceeded to Musari, another settlement which is not more than

five kilometers from Baga Market in Maiduguri where they killed 15 people," a local who lives in Telari said.

He said all the victims were carefully selected and executed. Another man was lucky because he was breathing when security operatives arrived and took him to hospital, he said.

Another resident of Musari said the attackers moved from one house to another and killed their targets.

"They (attackers) carried the heinous act in commando style, because nobody noticed their movement...there was no electricity and no moonlight," the villager said.

He said the attackers deliberately refused to use their guns in order not to attract soldiers from the nearby Maimalari Barracks along Baga road.

"We only heard families of the victims screaming, wailing and crying, calling for help which was not forthcoming," the villager said.

Some aid workers and security

professionals like him from shuttling between Nigeria and foreign countries to perform surgeries.

operatives who participated in evacuating the corpses said the two settlements were awash with blood.

"It was a gory scene. I have never seen something like this because the victims were slaughtered," one of them said.

Weekly Trust reports that dozens of people, including policemen, SSS and Civil Defence operatives, Immigration and Customs men have relocated to settlements on the outskirts of Maiduguri after the killings of their colleagues in Maiduguri town in the last one year.

Yesterday's attacks came less than 12 hours when Alhaji Abubakar Girgir, a business mogul and five other people were killed in Maiduguri.

Observers say the insurgents are becoming more audacious, going by the manner they are targeting and eliminating anybody they want.

"It is unimaginable to say that gunmen can enter a market in the heart of the city, kill and sneak away without a trace," Musa Ali, a trader in Maiduguri observed.

JTF 'kills Boko Haram member in Yobe'

Hamza Idris, Maiduguri

The Joint Task Force (JTF) in Yobe State said its men have intercepted a group of gunmen, suspected to be members of the Jama'atu Ahlis Sunnah Lidda'awati Wal Jihad, also known as Boko Haram in Gujba local government area of Yobe State,

Lt Lazarus Eli, spokesman of the JTF has said in a statement on Thursday that one Boko Haram member was killed in the encounter while other suspects escaped with gunshot wounds.

According to the statement, "at about 2pm Thursday, 27 December 2012, men of JTF on patrol encountered suspected terrorists at Gujba general area. One suspected terrorists was killed in the encounter and several others escaped with gunshot wounds after abandoning their vehicle."

“Items recovered include five AK 47 rifles, 211 rounds of ammunition and ten magazines. Other items include one Mitsubishi Canter truck, two motorcycles, Improvised Explosives Devices (IEDs) materials, medical supplies and Police Uniform”, the statement said.

The statement also added that JTF will continue to work assiduously to make Yobe state a safe place to dwell.

Prison, courts torched in Adamawa attack

Ibrahim Abdul'Aziz, Yola

Gunmen stormed Maiha Local Government Area in Adamawa State where they attacked a police station, prison, presidential lodge, area court, district head's office, Local Education Authority and the Nigeria Customs Service post.

Maiha LG chairman Malam Mohammed Jibrilla said the gunmen came on foot and motorcycles, divided themselves in groups before attacking their targets.

Jibrilla said the gunmen, who used explosives, engaged in gun battle with the policemen.

"At the prisons, all the 35 inmates were released, but 11 of them are so far back or re-arrested," he said. The Adamawa State Police Command Public Relations Officer, DSP Mohammed Ibrahim,

also confirmed the attack and the killing of one policeman and a civilian. "We lost one of our men and a civilian," Ibrahim said.

"The gunmen believed to be Boko Haram were about 40 in number and came in Hilux cars and on motorcycles around 1:00 am and attacked the police station and other security offices, including area court, burning them," a resident Garbajo Abubakar told Weekly Trust.

"They opened fire on the security personnel, but it is hard to say how many people were hurt or killed," Abubakar said.

Also corroborating, another resident, Mr. John Yohanna, said the gunmen went into town "chanting 'Allahu Akbar' and burnt down the divisional police station and other government establishments."