

LG treasurer, seven others killed in Borno

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

Eight persons, including a deputy treasurer of a local government area, were at the early hours of Sunday killed by gunmen in Gajigana town in Magumari local government area about 55 kilometres away from Maiduguri in Borno State.

Locals said the assailants, who stormed the village around 3am, killed the treasurer, a woman and six other people.

The gunmen were said to have

selected some household in the community and carefully carried out the assassination of the eight people.

Mallam Musa Grema, a resident of the town, told our correspondent on phone that he saw eight people including three young men when

their bodies were brought out for burial.

JTF spokesman Lt Col Sagir Musa confirmed the attack but did not give the exact number of victims.

Also a rescue worker confirmed the killing of the eight people.

Two human trafficking suspects arrested in Niger

From Aliyu M. Hamagani, Minna

Niger State police command has arrested two people suspected to have been involved in human trafficking for being in possession of 21 children believed to have been abducted from different parts of the country.

The suspects, Salisu Rabi and Jibrin Shehu, were apprehended last Saturday in Kagara area in Rafi local government area of the state.

Daily Trust learnt that the suspects were believed to have been members of the human trafficking ring involved in child labour business that have been arrested by the police when a J5 bus conveying the children was intercepted.

The children that were rescued by the police are within the age bracket of 4 to 15 years and were said to have been abducted from Jigawa, Kebbi, Katsina and Kano states.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) for the state police command DSP Pius Edobor confirmed the story and the police have taken custody of the children.

...Two die, 20 injured in Enugu auto crash

From Tony Adibe, Enugu

Two persons died while over 20 others were injured yesterday when an auto crash occurred along the Enugu-Onitsha highway. The incident, which occurred at Nkwo Ezeagu axis in Ezeagu Local

Government Area of Enugu State, involved two buses marked LSD936XA and XA927ZLL. It was gathered that the buses were travelling in opposite directions when they collided.

Enugu State Police Public Relations Officer, Ebere Amaraizu, who confirmed the

incident, said the drivers of the buses died on the spot while about 20 others sustained several degrees of injuries.

He said some of those injured were taken to hospitals situated around 9th Mile, while others were taken to the National Orthopaedic Hospital, Enugu.



From Left: Nigeria Ambassador to Canada, Ojo Maduekwe, Senator Dan Meredith and Mr Ed Fast at the Canada Trade Mission Workshop in Abuja yesterday.

PHOTO: MACJOHN AKANDE

Gunmen shoot dead AIT watchman in Bauchi

From Ahmed Mohammed, Bauchi

Gunmen suspected to be armed robbers have shot dead a security guard for Bauchi AIT/Raypower, Malam Idris Yusuf after he left his place of his work near his house in Bauchi.

Head of station Mr. Terver Tsav confirmed the killing, saying "Idris came across the robbers along Tirwun village in Bauchi metropolis after closing from duty between 10pm and 11pm."

He also said "from the report we gathered the robbers were said to have sought for his assistance with petrol as their car ran short of petrol and were without money. At that time the owners of the stolen car trailed them

and raised an alarm; the armed robbers were about to run when Idris grabbed one of the suspects not knowing that the suspect had a gun which he brought out and shot him in the abdomen".

He said he was taken to Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Teaching Hospital where he gave up the ghost around 4am yesterday.

The deceased was buried at Gombe Road burial ground in Bauchi according to Islamic injunctions.

Tsav described the deceased as a Good Samaritan who wanted to use his money to buy fuel for the stranded men not knowing that they have stolen the car.

Efforts to get the comment of the Bauchi State Police Public Relations Officer failed.

Ohaneze crisis: Southeast govs, political leaders call for withdrawal of court cases

Following the crisis in the Ohaneze Ndigbo, governors and political leaders in the South East have called for the withdrawal of all related cases from the courts.

Addressing journalists in Enugu on Sunday at the end of the governors and political stakeholders meeting, Chairman of the forum Governor Peter Obi of Anambra said the call was for the benefit of the Igbo to make the organisation stronger.

"We just finished a meeting of the South East political leadership with some eminent people. We discussed the issue of Ohaneze Ndigbo which is a very important body that is holding all of us and at the end, set up a committee to look into the problems on how to make Ohaneze stronger."

"That committee is headed by Sen. Ben Obi and other members.

We also resolved that all issues that are pending in court regarding Ohaneze be withdrawn. We are appealing for all those involved for the sake of Igbo people to withdraw cases from the courts and stop further statements regarding Ohaneze," the governor said.

On the absence of the governors during the organisation's recent election, Obi said the committee would also look into that and proffer solutions for its smooth running of.

Governors Rochas Okorocha of Imo, Theodore Orji of Abia and Martin Elechi of Ebonyi as well as Acting Governor Sunday Onyebuchi of Enugu attended the meeting.

Also in attendance were Senators Uche Chukwumerije and Ayogu Eze, as well as Rep. Oghachi Ozomgbachi among others (NAN)

101 get N10,000 monthly in Jema'a

From Sunday Isuwa, Kaduna

A total of 101 people will now get N10,000 each every month for sweeping town halls and other public places in Jema'a local government area of Kaduna State under the Federal Government Subsidy Re-investment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P)

Speaking in Kafanchan yesterday, Gabriel Hycinth Abba from the National Directorate for Employment (NDE) said the money will be paid directly to the beneficiaries accounts by the Federal Government.

"The category of people we engaged are widows, school drop-outs and unemployed youths who are to embark on sweeping of their community's town halls and market places," he said.

On his part, Chairman of Jema'a local government area Daniel Amos said he was not happy with the people he saw as beneficiaries of the programme.

"The people I am seeing here are well-to-do individuals instead of those suffering. The local government doesn't have the capacity to do it because politicians have hijacked the process and instead of bringing people who are suffering, they selected their allies. Anytime they need our support, we will come in," Amos said.