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Headmaster, three teachers shot in Kano



Details

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Written by Lawan Danjuma Adamu, **Kano**



Gunmen yesterday morning attacked a primary school at the outskirts of **Kano** city, injuring a **headmaster** and **three teachers**.

The attack on Danmaliki Primary School in Kumbotso local government was the first on staff of a school by assailants in the state. Last year, insurgents had bombed and set fire to a number of school buildings in different parts of the state.

Yesterday's attack was carried out minutes after the school had opened for classes by two gunmen, who asked **teachers** to lie down on the ground before shooting them in the back.

Two staff, including the school's head teacher, were fatally injured in the assault that victims said lasted only few minutes. Two other **teachers** have been treated of minor injuries and discharged, hospital officials at the Malam Aminu **Kano** Teaching Hospital (AKTH) told Daily Trust.

It was gathered that the assailants took away mobile phones belonging to their victims and a motorcycle.

Explaining the incident to our correspondent, shortly after he was wheeled out of theatre, the school's **headmaster**, Nasiru Hassan, said he first sighted the gunmen in the school premises, he did not think they could pose any danger.

He said because they appeared gentle, his mind told him they were security men on a routine activity at the school.

"But when I saw them ordering one of the **teachers** to lie on the ground, I became suspicious of them because that particular staff was gentleman and could not have done anything to warrant such a treatment," he said.

He said immediately the men sighted him coming out of his office, they beckoned at him to come. "Something told me they were dangerous and that I should run back into my office and seek for an exit from there," he added, saying however that as soon as he got to their place, they asked him to lie face down on the ground.

"They asked us to surrender our phones and motorcycles keys. I gave them my phone and they collected other people's phones and keys. One of them started a motorcycle and ordered his partner to shoot us," he said.

"The next thing I heard was young pupils screaming and thick dust enveloped us. That was when it dawned on me that we have been **shot** and suddenly, everything about me became dark and I thought I was going to die," he explained. He said he suspected that the gunman had ran out of ammunition, otherwise they would have been killed.

Hassan, who said he had been in the teaching profession for 22 years, told Daily Trust that he bled seriously before he was taken to the hospital.

According to him, a bullet had been extracted from his back at the hospital. He gave the name of two other **teachers** that were treated and discharged as Dahiru Nasiru Auwal and Nura Usman.

Another teacher, Dangana Bako, who was waiting to be operated at the accident and emergency unit of AKTH, said he was also **shot** in the back and shoulder.

The teacher, who said he has been teaching Social Studies for 23 years, added that he had resumed work at the school on Monday after furthering his education. "I reported back to the school on Monday and came

to work Tuesday, when the incident happened," he said.

Meanwhile, a nurse on duty at the accident and emergency unit of the AKTH, said the patients were in stable conditions, adding that two others had been treated of gunshot wounds and discharged. He said one of the patients would be operated upon later.

Kano State police command confirmed the attack, saying that the gunmen fled the scene before the arrival of security forces. However, the spokesperson of the **Kano** State Ministry of Education said she would not comment because she was not aware of the incident.

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