

Boko Haram kills 25 in Borno village

From Hamza Idris & Ibrahim Sawab, Maiduguri

Despite fears of attacks by the dreaded Boko Haram insurgents, there was mass turnout of voters in Maiduguri, the Borno State capital and other places described by

INEC as safe locations for elections to hold.

As early as 7am, thousands of people, including women, some with children on their backs were seen trekking to polling units.

However, 25 people were reportedly killed by the Boko Haram insurgents at Buratai town in Biu Local Government Area in

southern part of the state, following a morning raid.

Governor Kashim Shettima, who commented on the attack in Buratai while speaking to journalists at the Government House in Maiduguri shortly after casting his vote at Shettimari polling unit in the metropolis, described the incident as sad. Shettima said his commissioner for education, Isa Buratai, had already visited the scene of the attack and promised to also visit the area to sympathize with the people.

The governor expressed gratitude to God for making it possible for election to hold in Borno State despite reservations from various quarters and assured that change was about to happen in Nigeria.

Kamilu Hamisu, a resident of Buratai said many

Boko Haram insurgents stormed the town around 4am yesterday, killed 25 people, injured five others and set many houses ablaze.

"In fact, they warned our people not to take part in today's (yesterday's) election and vowed to disrupt any attempt at promoting democracy," he said.

Our correspondent reports that even before the attack on Buratai, INEC in Borno State, probably acting on security report, had asked voters from six wards, including Buratai, Garubula, Gunda, Madalau, Mandaragau to converge on Miringa, which is located 15 kilometers away from Biu in order to cast their votes.

Hundreds of thousands of people thronged the polling stations in Maiduguri to cast their votes. The Borno State

Resident Electoral Commissioner, Samuel Madaki Usman, said they have distributed 1,417,750 PVCs to prospective voters, stressing that Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from 16 out of the 27 local government areas of the state would cast their votes in camps in Maiduguri.

Our correspondents who visited some of the camps report large turnout of displaced persons, even as thousands of others that, who live with relatives in the town thronged the camps in order to cast their votes.

At the Government College in Maiduguri where thousands of people from Gwoza are camped, Senator Ali Ndume who represents the area at the senate was seen crying while casting his vote.

Ndume said he was

saddened by the difficulties his people were passing through as a result of the failure of the Federal Government to protect them.

Some people from Gwoza complained that they were disenfranchised because INEC officials could not give them their PVCs.

The Shehu of Borno, Alhaji Abubakar Garbai Al-Amin El-Kanemi, who cast his vote at his palace urged politicians vying for offices not to truncate Nigeria's democracy by inciting violence in the event that lost out in the elections.

Despite late arrival of election materials in some places, the voting went on successfully and counting had commence in some places.

Presidential poll: Buhari routs Jonathan in Aso Rock

By Isiaka Wakili, Fidelis Mac-Leva, Amina Alhassan, Abuja & Misbahu Bashir, Kaduna

The All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential Candidate, General Muhammadu Buhari, defeated President Goodluck Jonathan of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) at the Aso Rock polling units.

Buhari got a total of 613 votes, while Jonathan polled a total of 595 votes. At the

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has won Presidential and National Assembly elections in his new polling unit. The results were announced by the Presiding Officer, Olorunfemi Raphael.

Sambo transferred from Kabala Camp Road Unit to Kabala Swimming Pool Road few days to election. The PDP won 105 votes in presidential poll to defeat the All Progressives Congress (APC) that got 20 votes. The PDP won 101 votes for the senatorial and 95 for the House of Representatives election, while the APC won 21 votes

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