

# Residents groan as 24-hour curfew hits third day in Maiduguri

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**R**esidents of Maiduguri yesterday expressed reservations as the 24-hour curfew imposed by the military on the state capital enters its third day. The 7 Division of the Nigerian Army in the evening of Thursday announced a 24-hour curfew on Maiduguri, shortly after a failed attempt by Boko Haram insurgents to take over the

Giwa Barracks, which is next to the Maimalari barracks in terms of size and importance.

Nearly 80 people, including civilians, vigilantes and some soldiers died during the attack while "dozens" of the insurgents were also killed. Since the slamming of the curfew, movement was forced to a halt even as thousands of people, who normally goes out daily to look for what to eat were taken unawares and forced to remain at home.

As the curfew enters its third day, essential commodities, including water and food, medicine, fuel for generators, firewood among others are visibly lacking as markets and stores have all remained closed.

It was only yesterday that the spokesman of the 7 Division, Colonel Tukur Gusau announced a five hour suspension of the curfew which has since elapsed. According to Gusau's statement, "the curfew currently in place is partially lifted

for only today (yesterday) 15 May 2015 from 1200hrs (12pm) to 1700hrs(5pm). However, vehicular movement is still restricted within the city. Please be vigilant and report any security breach to the nearest military establishment," the statement said.

Sources said the temporary suspension was to allow Muslims to observe the Jumma'a prayers and to pave way for some final year secondary school students to write their exams.