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31 killed in Yola blast

From Kabiru R. Anwar, Yola

A bomb blast killed 31 people including women and children at a lorry park known as Kasuwan Tipa in Yola metropolis late yesterday.

The blast went off at about 8pm when crowded with food sellers, petty traders as well as those who patronise their businesses.

Our correspondent who visited the scene reported that security personnel cordoned the area as rescue workers evacuated bodies and the wounded to hospital.

Family members who rushed to look for their missing relatives wailed as they awaited information on the fate of their loved ones.

Witnesses said dozens of people were feared killed in the blast. It was not clear whether the bomb was planted or it was a suicide attack.

The police spokesman, Othman Abubakar, said 31 persons died in the incident while many sustained injuries.

A Red Cross official, Aliyu Maikano, said dozens were evacuated to the Specialist Hospital as well as the Federal Medical Centre in Yola, saying officials were trying to determine the casualty figure.

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