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10 killed during Easter procession in Gombe

By Haruna Gimba Yaya, Gombe | Published Date Apr 23, 2019 1:53 AM

The Gombe State Police Command yesterday confirmed that eight children were killed and 30 others injured late Sunday night when a car rammed into a procession of Boys' Brigade members celebrating Easter in Gombe metropolis.

The command's spokesperson, Obed Mary Malum, told Daily Trust yesterday that the incident happened along the Biu road.

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She said the victims were mostly below 15-year-old.

She said an angry mob killed the driver who was an officer of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps and a policeman who was with him.

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She said the car was in the police custody and that the incident was being investigated.

Eyewitnesses said the children were from different ECWA churches in Gombe metropolis.

The state chairman of the Boys Brigade, Adams Borkono, said the incident happened around 11:30pm when the NSCDC officer and the policeman had an argument with some youths in the procession.

“After exchanging words with the youth, they allowed them to pass. However, the NSCDC who was driving the car made a u-turn, switched off his car’s light and rammed into them from behind, killing eight children on the spot and injured 31 others.

“The unfortunate action provoked other survivors from the tragedy. Therefore they chased the security officers, caught up with them and mobbed them to death,” Borkono said.

Meanwhile, the state deputy governor, Charles Iliya, has visited the Specialist Hospital in Gombe to console the injured and condole with the parents of the deceased.

He said the government would take action on the matter and prevent re-occurrence.

The deputy governor added that the state government would provide free treatment to all the victims.

The state chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria, Reverend Ibrahim Joda, called on the Christian faithful to be patient and remain calm.

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