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Gunmen Burn Borno Church, Kill Banker

SATURDAY, 11 AUGUST 2012 00:00 FROM ISA ABDULSALAMI (JOS)
AND NJADVARA MUSA (MAIDUGURI) NEWS - NATIONAL



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AS violence and assassination of residents continue to rage in Maiduguri, the Borno State capital, a gang of suspected Boko Haram gunmen have attacked the Ekilisiyar Yan'uwa Nigeria (EYN) Church, Gajigana setting it ablaze, with the Pastor escaping while his son was shot in the leg.

Gajigana is 55 kilometres North of Maiduguri.



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Barely an hour after torching the Church, a banker with FCMB, in Maiduguri, Yakubu Abdullahi was also shot dead at his Sabon Layi of Gwange Ward residence while his friend was wounded in the leg, at the breaking of their Ramadan fast by 7.45pm.

Confirming the Church attacks yesterday, former Secretary-General of EYN, Mr. Yohanna Yusuf Balami, in a telephone conversation, disclosed that a gang of suspected gunmen attacked the Church, shooting the son of the pastor.

He said the pastor who was around the premises escaped being unhurt as his son has been rushed to a hospital where he is receiving treatment.

Speaking on the two incidents in Maiduguri, the Borno State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Gideon Jibrin said it was "unfortunate and saddened" for the FCMB banker and EYN Church to be attacked.

Meanwhile, the Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO) has condemned in strong terms the recent killings of innocent Nigerians in a place of worship, describing it as unwarranted, provocative, criminal and horrendous as well as an infringement on the rights to life and freedom of worship of all Nigerians.

The CLO advised Kogi State government to realise early enough that the primary responsibility of any government is to protect life and property across the state. "The office of the governor must act fast and

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creatively rise up to the challenges of threat to lives and other acts of criminality in the state.

He said no arrest has been made.

The governor must learn and improve on what some of the past governors did in the state to spare it of religious and ethnic pressures, tensions and killings.

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We hope to see the end massive killings of innocent lives in Nigeria, this can only be achieved when our leaders know there responsibities

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