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Gunmen kill 20 in Borno

THURSDAY, 04 OCTOBER 2012 00:00 FROM SAXONE AKHAINE
(KADUNA), ADAMU ABUH (ABUJA) AND NJADVARA MUSA
(MAIDUGURI) [NEWS - NATIONAL](#)

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• Police arrest two in Kaduna

• 'Gun ownership for all is solution to terrorism'

Twenty people have been killed at the State Low Cost Housing Estate (SLHE) in Abaganaram ward, Maiduguri, Borno State.

Also, the Kaduna State police command has arrested two suspected members of Boko Haram.

Besides, a human rights activist Emmanuel Onwubiko has suggested that Nigerians of all classes should be allowed to bear arms as effective means of protecting themselves from all forms of violent attacks.

Onwubiko who is the national coordinator of the Human Rights Writers Association of Nigeria (HURIWA) maintained that the measure was required to avert the wanton killing of Nigerians through the activities of disgruntled elements in the society.

Onwubiko who marked the fifth year anniversary of the formation of HURIWA, spoke against the backdrop of the massacre of 48 students of the Adamawa State Polytechnic in Mubi by gunmen suspected to be members of the dreaded Boko Haram insurgents.

Onwubiko maintained that it would not be out of place if the United Nations and the African Union send peace enforcers and armed troops to Nigeria to save Nigerians from imminent extermination by what he termed illegal armed non-state actors.

Nine hours after the Abaganaram massacre, two gunmen suspected to be members of the same group, were also shot dead by men of the military Joint Task Force (JTF) at the Masidimami Bridge in the early hours of Tuesday.

The gunmen, according to JTF source, were said to have used the Ngadabul River to flee Maiduguri with their AK 47 rifles on their shoulders.

"We were on our routine patrol of the Biu Road, and Sulemanti areas when we sighted two boys with rifles who attempted to flee by the stream and we shot them dead near the bridge at dawn," explained the source, who did not want to be identified.

Confirming the separate incidents yesterday in Maiduguri, the Borno State Police Command spokesman, Gideon Jibrin said that there were serial attacks on many residents of the Housing Estate, Abaganaram on Monday night.

He also said that the armed hoodlums went from house to house at the estate in their selective and silent killings of 20 residents by slitting their throats.

He said that the resort to slitting the victims' throats was because of the fear of the JTF and police getting to know.

The Kaduna State police command also said that gunmen suspected to be members of the Islamic sect, killed a policeman in the Zaria area of Kaduna yesterday.

Also arrested were 28 armed robbers including an ex-air force officer said to be among those terrorising the state in recent times.

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The arrest of the suspected members of the Islamic militant group came 72 hours after a joint military operation at Gaskiya in Zaria, which left two members of the sect dead.

Several members of the sect were arrested during the raid and they had been arrested by the state command of the police for further investigation.

Addressing reporters, the Police Public Relations Officer, Aminu Lawal, a deputy superintendent of police, DSP, said yesterday that dangerous weapons such as two AK 47 rifles, grenades, laptops, handsets, 23 rounds of ammunition, cable wires, jerry cans filled with dangerous chemicals and i-pad were recovered from the hideouts of the suspects both in Zaria and Kaduna.

Lawan also said that the recovered items were used in the manufacturing of explosives, which the suspected members of the sect used to carry out their attacks, adding that the two suspected Boko Haram members were arrested in Tundun Wada area of the metropolis.

On the killing of the policeman in Zaria by suspected members of Boko Haram, the PPRO explained that the incident took place at about 7:30 a.m. at Gwangila area of Zaria metropolis, saying, "contrary to what people are saying, let me clarify that it was not an explosion but gunshot by people on a motor bike."




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Author of this article: **From Saxone Akhaine (Kaduna), Adamu Abuh (Abuja) and Njadvara Musa (Maiduguri)**



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