

Gunmen Kill Two Clerics, As JTF Arrests Boko Haram 'Informant'

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GUNMEN shot dead two clerics and a resident during separate attacks in Potiskum town and at the London Chiki Ward of Maiduguri metropolis, both in Yobe and Borno States, respectively.

The attacks are coming after the constitution of a panel by President Jonathan to weigh the option of an amnesty for Boko Haram militants.

The two Moslem clerics, according to an eyewitness, were shot at the Kandahar and T-Junction areas of Potiskum, at 8pm and 10pm on Friday, while the Maiduguri resident was killed at about 9.36am on Saturday.

Potiskum is located 100 kilometres west of Damaturu, the Yobe State capital

and was an epicentre of Islamist sect activities in 2012.

Speaking on the Maiduguri incident, a resident said two gunmen trailed the victim on foot and shot him at close range.

Men of the Joint Task Force rushed to the scene and cordoned off the area.

He said the police have taken the body of the slain resident to the morgue at the Maiduguri Specialist Hospital.

The corpses of the two clerics were buried yesterday at the Potiskum cemetery, according to Islamic rites.

Confirming the incident, Yobe State police commissioner, Sanusi Rufai, said the clerics were shot dead by armed hoodlums, adding that the JTF or police have made no arrests.

Meanwhile, the JTF in Maiduguri, Borno State, arrested a terror suspect in the Hausari Ward of the metropolis at about 2.30pm on Friday.

Hausari, according to JTF sources, is one of 14 areas designated 'black spots' by the task

force.

An eyewitness said the suspect, who came on a bicycle, was picked up at a shop near the Shehu of Borno's palace mosque, as people returned from Jumat prayers.

A resident of Hausari told The Guardian that the arrested person is an informant to the Boko Haram sect who observes JTF patrols and military posts in Hausari, Mafoni and Lawan Bukar Wards.


He said to avoid suspicious eyes, the suspect moves around on a bicycle.

Acting on a tip off, some six soldiers rushed to the scene at about 2.35pm and nabbed the suspect.

The man, who did not resist arrest, pleaded: "For God's sake, don't arrest me. I am not the only member of Boko Haram sect in Maiduguri."

Confirming the incident yesterday, JTF spokesman, Lt. Col Sagir Musa, said: "We had a successful arrest of a suspected informant of the Boko Haram sect on Dandal Way. Our men are investigating and the suspect is cooperating."

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