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by the *Boko Haram* gunmen."

A senior officer of the Department of State Security Service, (DSS) also confirmed the killing in Wala; but asked not to be quoted. "We have just received the report from our officers in Gwoza that the *Boko Haram* gunmen had attacked Wala village and killed 18 poor souls there; it is rather unfortunate and sad development despite our efforts up here", he said.

B The DSS officer also confirmed that some 12 hours earlier, another set of gunmen attacked Sabon-Kasuawa Village in Hawul Local Council, 210km south of Maiduguri, where they killed a local monarch district head and his guard.

A politician, Hyeldi Bwala, confirmed on phone that the gunmen attacked the monarch shortly after he returned from the mosque where he went to observe the Tuesday night prayers at about 7.30 p.m. "They simply walked right into the palace and shot him in his bedroom. And on their way out, they also shot his guard before fleeing into the dark night", said Bwala. Wala Village is also about 130 kilometres away from Chibok town where over 100 secondary school girls were abducted on Monday night.