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Boko Haram takes over Adamawa town, turns emir's palace to headquarters

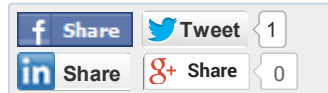
Boko Haram takes over Adamawa town, turns emir's palace to headquarters

Thursday, 30 October 2014 20:43

Written by Emmanuel Ande (Yola) and Njadvara Musa (Maiduguri)

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THE Boko Haram sect yesterday captured the commercial centre of Adamawa State, Mubi, killing over 200 people during the two days bloody operations that sacked military from the war zone.

A survivor, Mr. James Audu, a student at Adamawa State University, told The Guardian that one of his lecturers, a professor, with his entire family members were killed yesterday by the deadly gang.

He said: "I slept in the bush, I escaped into Cameroun and from there, I entered Nigeria through Maiha Local Council. I saw many dead bodies in the bush and many injured people were lying helpless, especially children and women."

Another survivor, Alhaji Abubakar Adamu, a handset trader in Mubi market, said that the Boko Haram members after sacking the palace of the Emir of Mubi, Alhaji Abubakar Isa Ahmadu, who is presently in Mecca for holy pilgrimage, hosted their flag to signify it as their administrative headquarters.

He alleged that the number of dead people was high because the military stopped the residents of Mubi town from running out of the town

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when the heavily-armed attackers were approaching the town.

"People were chased back into Mubi town by soldiers who blocked all the entrances and exits preventing people that want to escape from Mubi", he stated.

Commercial bank areas have been taken over by those escaping from the attack, as they kept vigil at ATMs to cash money for transport to other parts of the country and feeding.

When The Guardian visited the banks, there were over 200 people in each of the banks in Yola, the state capital, waiting to cash money.

At the time of filing in this report, military and other

security agents operating in the state are yet to make any public statement on the massacre going on in Mubi.

Meanwhile a fleeing resident of Mubi town in Adamawa State yesterday said that with the capture of the border commercial city by Boko Haram insurgents in the afternoon, the central market, banks and police stations were torched with the blowing up of the bridge that links the emir's palace with the Republic of Cameroun.

The Mubi Central Prison containing over 400 inmates was also torched, thereby setting all the inmates free. While some of the residents fled to Yola, Maiha and Virmim, others hid in their houses as the Nigerian Air Force (NAF) fighter jet hovers over the captured border town.

Speaking yesterday in a telephone interview from an undisclosed location in Mubi, Abdulrahman Kwancham, a resident, said that the insurgents have succeeded in taking over the town after torching 11 commercial banks, a central market and three main police stations before hoisting the black and white Boko Haram flag at the emir's palace by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

He further disclosed that the bridge linking the emir's palace and

Republic of Cameroun through the eastern 29-kilometre Mubi-Sahuda Road, was also blown up by the insurgents to prevent some residents and other security personnel from fleeing the captured commercial town.

On whether there were soldiers before and after the multiple attacks and bombing, Kwancham however said: "Any person or security operative that tells you that the insurgents are in fierce battle with soldiers to control and

retain Mubi is not telling you the truth. The true situation of security was that soldiers and some residents have fled the central market that holds every Wednesday, which is still burning with plumes of smoke into the sky.

