Again, gunmen kill monarch in Taraba mosque, injure others

From Charles Akpeji, Jalingo

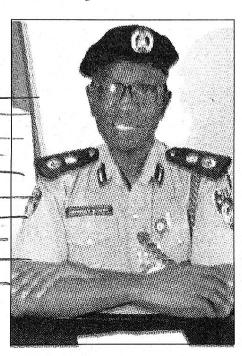
"UNMEN have killed a

district head in a mosque at Maisamari town of Sardauna Local Council of Taraba State. The Guardian learnt that many worshippers were injured in the attack, which occurred at about 7:25p.m. on Monday, during the Ishaa prayers.

It was gathered that the gunmen, who came in their numbers, stormed the mosque during the prayers and started shooting sporadically.

A source from the community said, but for timely intervention of the people from the community who thronged out en-mass to confront the gunmen, more casualties would have been recorded.

He said: "The residents



CP Shokoya

of the community came out in their large numbers to confront the gunmen, which forced them to flee into the surrounding mountains of the town. "

"The residents were courageous enough to come out when the shooting started and forced the gunmen to escape, hence nobody was abducted by the gunmen and normalcy has since returned to the town."

Meanwhile, the killed monarch, Alhaji Abdulkadir Maisamari, has been buried yesterday morning according to the Muslim rites.

Contacted, spokesperson for the state command, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Usman Abdullahi, confirmed the incident, but he did not give the details as he was still expecting additional information from the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in the area.

The incident occurred barely two weeks after armed bandits attacked worshippers in a mosque in Bali Local Council and killed three people, while several others were abducted.