

Ten feared dead as explosions rock Borno

•Security beefed up in Kano

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Security was beefed up in Kano on Tuesday upon the news that three members of *Boko Haram* were among the 10 persons killed in Maiduguri when the fundamentalist Islamic sect set off another round of multiple bombs accompanied by gunshots.

The three men were in a car which exploded in front of Saint Patrick's Church, which the sect had attempted to bomb last Thursday.

On Monday, a prominent Islamic cleric, Ibrahim Biu, was shot dead in his home in Biu town, 187 kilometres from Maiduguri.

Eyewitnesses counted 10 corpses on Tuesday, although police said five died.

The divisional police headquarters and part of the church were destroyed.

The four bombs exploded after Governor Kashim Shettima addressed the state Assembly and later inspected the Baga Motor Park, Musa Usman State Secretariat, and the water treatment plant, all in Maiduguri.

Eyewitnesses recounted that gunmen invaded Gwange police divisional headquarters, detonated bombs and opened fire at those scampering for safety.

The police returned fire and shot dead three *Boko Haram* members. Stray bullets killed two civilians.

Five corpses and 14 injured persons were taken to the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital.

Another bomb was set off in a blue Honda Accord car ferrying explosive devices in front of the gate of the church.

The three occupants of the car, suspected to be *Boko Haram* members, were burnt to ashes. Two passers-by were also killed.

A policeman on guard at the church said the bomb in the car detonated after one was thrown from the car at the building.

Windows were shattered in the opposite Musa Usman Secretariat.

Police Public Relations Officer, Lawan Abdullahi, said despite the casualties, the day had been "a day of victory for the police because we gunned down three *Boko Haram* members."

An AK 47 rifle was recovered from the attackers of Gwonge police station.

Borno State Governor, Kashim Shettima, gave an assurance that he would not be deterred by the attacks, and would pursue peace and development.

The security build up in Kano is connected



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