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## Cries, as Boko Haram holds sway in Adamawa towns

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**By Clement Ekong**

*Special Correspondent, Yola*

**Since** the taking over of Michika and Bazza towns of Adamawa State on Sunday September 7, 2014 by members of the Boko Haram sect, residents of the areas are crying loud, as the two towns are yet to be recaptured by the Nigerian soldiers contrary to speculations by the military.

The residents lamented that the insurgents have maintained their siege on the two towns as they continue slaughtering innocence people and raping women trapped in the towns while plundering properties without being harassed.

The startling revelation was made by a coalition of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) consisting of Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) Michika chapter, Civil Servants Forum, The Northern Christian Elders Forum and Kamwe Christian Community Forum at a press briefing at the NUJ Press Centre, Yola on Tuesday.

Spokesperson of the forum Reverend Joel Billi, who is also the Michika CAN Chairman, noted that the

insinuations that the military has recaptured Michika and Baza towns were blatant lies, as the insurgents are still in control of Michika and Bazza towns.

According to Billi, “as at today, Tuesday, 16th September 2014, Boko Haram is still in Michika riding on heavy motorcycles, shooting the citizens ransacking and vandalising resident’s shops and looting while also plundering churches and mosques.

“It is lamenting that the armed forces have been unable to contain them, flush and root out the insurgents who are raping our daughters and women,” he said.

He added that following the inability of the soldiers to rout the insurgents in the town, many people that were trapped on mountains, mostly women and children, are dying of hunger, as the insurgents killed five elderly men who were sick and could not escape.

He said further that the town is now littered with corpses of slain people, which are being feasted on by vultures, pigs and dogs, as there are no people to bury them.

He commended the local hunters and vigilante group who confronted the insurgents after realizing that they (insurgents) were out of ammunition and came down from the mountains, repelling them with their bows, arrows and dane guns.

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