

Suicide Bomber Kills 50 In Mosque, Militiamen Slay 60 Herdsmen

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29



Yola / Abuja / Katsina – At least 50 worshippers were killed in a suicide bomb attack at Madina mosque in Dazala area of Mubi town in Adamawa on Tuesday.

According to eyewitnesses, the suspected suicide bomber carried out the attack about 5a.m during the Muslim early morning prayers in the Unguwar Shuwa area of Mubi, 125 miles from Adamawa State capital, Yola.

In a similar development, the Adamawa State Police Command on Tuesday said gunmen killed over 60 herdsmen in Kikan community of Numan Local Government Area of Adamawa State.

Tuesday's suicide attack at the Madina mosque was the biggest Boko Haram attack in Adamawa since December 2016, when two female suicide bombers killed 45 people at a crowded market in Madagali.

Adamawa Police Command's Public Relations Officer, SP Abubakar Othman, confirmed the death of 50 worshippers.

Othman said that a young boy was responsible for the blast.

“We have 50 dead and we are now trying to get the exact number of those injured,” Othman said.

“It was a (suicide) bomber who mingled with worshippers. He entered the mosque along with other worshippers for the morning prayers.

“It was when the prayers were on that he set off his explosives.”

Asked who was responsible, Othman said, “We all know the trend. We don’t suspect anyone specifically but we know those behind such kind of attacks.”

The attack bore all the hallmarks of Boko Haram, the Islamist militants whose insurgency has left at least 20,000 people dead and more than 2.6 million others homeless since 2009.

Haruna Furo, Executive Secretary, Adamawa State Emergency Management Agency, and Musa Hamad Bello, chairman of the Mubi North Local Government Area, both confirmed the attack.

Abubakar Sule, who lives near the mosque, said he was present during the rescue operation and that more than 40 people died on the spot while several others were taken to hospital with severe and life-threatening injuries.

“The roof was blown off. People near the mosque said the prayer was mid-way when the bomber, who was obviously in the congregation, detonated his explosives.

“This is obviously the work of Boko Haram.”

In October 2012, at least 40 people were killed in an attack on student housing in Mubi that was widely blamed on Boko Haram.

In June 2014, at least 40 football supporters, including women and children, died in a bomb attack after a match in the Kabang area of the town.

Boko Haram briefly overran Mubi in late 2014 as its fighters rampaged across North East, seizing towns and villages in its quest to establish an Islamic state.