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Recall that the federal government had about a fortnight ago announced that it had reached a ceasefire agreement with the Islamist sect. Chief of Defence Staff Alex Badeh, who announced the ceasefire deal had also ordered field troops of the Nigerian armed forces to comply immediately.

Despite the ceasefire announcement, the sect had continued it's attacks on states in the north eastern part of the country as well as abductions. Shekau, the leader of the sect who has been thrice reportedly killed, speaking in the video, foreclosed the possibility of the abducted Chibok girls being released, saying they had already been married out to his fighters and added that the war against the Nigerian state continues.

"We don't know that impostor called Danladi Adamu, we have never mandated him or his like to speak on our behalf because in this war there is no going back.

"The issue of the girls is long forgotten because I have long married them off," Shekau said.

Meanwhile, members of the #Bringbackourgirls group have expressed concern over the rising spate of insurgency in towns in the North-East zone despite the announcement of the ceasefire agreement by the federal government.

"Let no one pretend that we are not facing the most substantial threat to the integrity and existence of our country. What more extreme manifestations are we waiting for than the evidence of a rampaging group of terrorists carrying out heinous carnage in Mubi in Adamawa, Borno, Yobe and Gombe barely two weeks after the Chief of Defence Staff publicly conveyed a stand down order to our troops who were in the front prosecuting the war?" the group said in a statement signed by 14 of its leaders.

**40 killed in Gombe bomb attack**

In what could be described as a mockery of the peace treaty said to have been brokered between the federal government and leaders of the Boko Haram sect, a multiple bomb explosion this morning rocked the terminus of the state-owned transport company, Gombe Line in Gombe, the Gombe state capital.

At least 40 people were killed, while scores sustained various degrees of injuries in the multiple explosions that occurred at about 9.30am. It was also gathered that the blast occurred barely 15 minutes after a military patrol team left the area.

The bus station descended into chaos after the bombs went off, with several being injured in a stampede as people tried to flee the scene, a rescue worker said.

Though it is not clear whether the Boko Haram sect was behind the attack in Gombe, as no one had claimed responsibility as at the time of going to press, the attack bore the traits of attacks carried out by the sect in the past. The extremists have a record of targeting commuters at busy bus terminuses.

They include two in April and May this year on the outskirts of Abuja that killed nearly 100 people. An October 23 attack at a bus station in Bauchi State killed five people, with many again blaming Boko Haram.

Those who witnessed the incident said the bombs were planted by three men who drove into the bus park in one vehicle and then dropped bags packed with explosives between the buses, which were filling up with passengers.

The suspected bombers, according to an employee of Gombe Line, Lawanti Aliyu, made to escape but were stopped in their tracks by a mob that apprehended them and attempted to lynch them before they were rescued and whisked away by security operatives.

Locals reportedly threw stones at the vehicles carrying security service personnel who rushed to the scene, apparently outraged by the fresh violence in the city, which has been attacked by Boko Haram in the past.

Spokesman of the state police command, Fwaje Atajiri who confirmed the incident, said, "They (the bombers) left the bomb inside one of the vehicles at the park. The blast went off at about 9.30am. Up till now we don't know the number of people, but it's a very busy park so many people would have died in such a bomb blast."

A rescue worker, who requested anonymity, said eight bodies were found dead at the scene and brought to the Gombe Specialist Hospital.

An official of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) who spoke on the grounds of anonymity however put the casualty figure at 30, saying 30 dead bodies were found at the first count. Another 34 were wounded, according to NEMA spokesman Manzo Ezekiel.

Gombe's police chief Abdullahi Kudu said three suspects were arrested immediately after the blasts at the Gombe Line Station. The police chief said he believed the suspected attackers had travelled together from Yobe, where the insurgents are thought to be in control of several towns and cities.

Gombe shares borders with the three northeastern states under emergency rule since May 2013, namely Adamawa, Borno and Yobe and yesterday's attack was just one in a series of attacks on the state this year alone. Early this year, precisely in April, a police station in Gombe metropolis was bombed, killing several people and leaving scores injured. On June 5 2014, a suspected suicide bomber attacked a police command carrier stationed outside a private residence of Governor Ibrahim Hassan Dankwambo. The incident claimed a total of five lives. Three days later, a female suicide bomber and a soldier died in a blast near Military Quarter Guard, Gombe State.

On July 8 this year, the alertness of police officers helped to avert what would have been a devastating bomb explosion at a

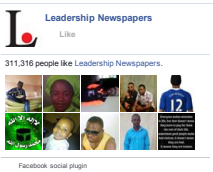
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secondary school in Gombe State.

Meanwhile, the Gombe State governor, Alh Ibrahim Hassan Dankwambo visited the scene of the blast shortly after he arrived from Abuja. He also visited the Gombe State Specialist Hospital and Federal Teaching Hospital Gombe, where the victims of the incident were admitted.

The Governor called on the general public to remain calm, as the security operatives were on top of the matter to fish out the perpetrators.

He promised that the government would pay all the medical bills of the victims and said that already, about 26 of them had been discharged, while 15 others were still on admission at the Federal Teaching Hospital, Gombe.

**Ceasefire in doubt**

The federal government's surprise announcement on October 17 that it had brokered a ceasefire deal with Boko Haram offered a sliver of hope that the brutal five-year uprising could be nearing an end.

The conflict, which Boko Haram says is aimed at creating an Islamic state in the northern part of the country, has left an estimated 13,000 people dead.

But the violence has continued at a relentless pace and many have questioned the credibility of the so-called Boko Haram envoy reportedly negotiating with the government.

The government maintains that the deal is still intact and has voiced hope that apparent talks in neighbouring Chad will lead to a clear decline in violence.

But critics, who were suspicious of the deal from outset, say Nigeria has again been duped by fraudulent negotiators who have little or no influence over Boko Haram's core leadership.

**Gunmen Attack Katsina Village, Kill 6**

Six people were reportedly feared killed and scores of houses burnt to ashes when suspected gunmen yesterday attacked Shinfidda Village in the Jibiya council area in Katsina State.

It was gathered that the gunmen invaded the sleepy community, which lies along the Katsina-Jibya road, at about 12 noon killing, maiming and burning down houses, shops and vehicles.

An eyewitness account said residents of the village scamped for safety when the attackers stormed the village wielding dangerous weapons including sophisticated guns.

Our source said the attackers, whom he claimed were suspected cattle rustlers on a robbery mission, were suspected to be living in the Dunburum Forest, a forest that spans Jibiya in Katsina, Zumi in Zamfara and Birnin Gwari in Kaduna states.

"They killed many people including innocent children and old people and burnt houses. As I speak to you, I am in the bush where I ran to for safety," our source said.

Another source told our correspondent that some youths of the village exchanged fire with the attackers, noting that some of the attackers were killed, but the rest ran away with their dead bodies.

Exact details of the number of people killed by the attackers were sketchy as at the time of filing this report, as our source said residents needed time to ascertain the number, and the extent of damage caused by the attackers.

It was further gathered that a detachment of security personnel including police, soldiers and men of the security and civil defence corps, was drafted to the area to restore normalcy.

Attempts to get an official response from the spokesman of the Katsina State Police Command, DSP Aminu Sadik Abubakar were fruitless, as he did not respond to a text message and several calls put

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Withdrawal Of Security Detail:

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Patriotic Citizen

• 3 days ago

Now that the video is available where is the Commander in Chief of LUCRATIVE LIARS in person of GEJ? Where is Mr Reuben Abati?Where is Minister Aminu wali and where is the most careless of all Alex Badeh? I tagged you as the most careless because you were not a politician? Your words suppose to fierce through the most strongest mountain because of your prestigious profession. But instead you went to join politicians that their names and actions are synonymous to LIES AND DECEIT. I can't just wait to hear any of you talk concerning this recent release of SHEKAU VIDEO. I am certain you will still find something to tell Nigerians. Badeh and senior military commanders honourably resign and allow serious minded officers to steer the affairs of the armed forces, I couldn't just believe that you are still waiting for someone to tell you how you all failed. We know some serious minded officers, we came across them and they are every where. Please don't stay and corrupt them because of the future of Nigeria that's at its stage of crumbling. All you need to do to save this situation is to ensure you give soldiers, young officers and middle class officers all their benefits, take a look at where their family lives when they are in the field, provide them with appreciable welfare packages. Then give them kits and modernized military gadgets, I bet you their output will be superb. Please you are not politicians, and am urging you to think in that direction. I urged you to ACT rather than to KEEP TELLING US ACUTE LIES. God, I could remember in the past immediately they show a private soldier on Television everybody around will keep quite and awaits what will come out from his mouth and if it were to be an officer wow people will remain calm as if he was actually there with them. People want to hear him talk, because then he meant all his words. But, political armed forces now became demons because if they tells you anything I bet you the outcome will always be otherwise. Presently Nigerians prefer seeing Mr Ibu or Osuofia telling them that they are going to Sambisa or they will end BOKO HARAM crises. Even if nothing, they will make us laugh for at least a second to relieve us off our dilemma. Those in authority to end any form of anomalies in the Nigerian soil KARMA AWAITS YOU!!!!

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Christianbus

• 3 days ago

This government have never been serious with dealing with this BH. It's very unfortunate that they didn't want this problem to end.  
The only time they want to fight back,some of the people benefitting from the unrest went and horribly start talking about cease fire to distract the Arm Force and let the BH to regroup and get more arms to kill more people.  
Now they have reverse everything back to square one. The criminals have got more arms and regroup.  
Who's fooling who here?  
There's God ooooh! One day God will be exposed them and Nigerians will see the truth.

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AIDU JERRY AGONI

• 3 days ago

who's fooling who, bh or fg?

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Mohammed Yahaya

• 3 days ago

Despite all this deception by the highly placed officers in this government, can we still have a space in our heart to trust them?????????

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Abbey Lincoln

→ Mohammed Yahaya • 3 days ago

Hello, Nigerians all your comments are been appreciated but the truth of the matter is that Nigeria Politicians, billionaires and wicked Religious Leaders both Christians and Muslims were supporting those DEVIL INCARNATE called BOKO HARAM.

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