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Latest Adamawa Village Attack: 10 Soldiers, Scores Of Insurgents Killed

By Our Correspondents (<http://leadership.ng/reporter/by-our-correspondents/>)

— Nov 19, 2014 | 11 Comments

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As the Boko Haram insurgents continue to extend their operations through suicide bombers, some residents have now resorted to jungle justice for bombers who get caught.

A man reportedly trying to plant explosives at the central motor park in Gombe, Gombe State, was set on fire after an angry mob piled used tires on him.

Eyewitnesses told the Hausa Service of the BBC that the suspect was waiting suspiciously to enter the Gombe central motor park when

vigilantes in the area confronted him after he refused to open his black bag containing a bomb.

After the man was beaten with sticks, the crowd immediately gathered around him, doused him with gasoline and burnt him to ashes.

Meanwhile, at least 10 soldiers and scores of Boko Haram fighters have been reported dead after a fierce gun battle between the two in Gombi town of Adamawa State which had been under the sect's control since last week.

Gombi town, seen as an entry point to Yola, the state capital, was stormed by the Boko Haram sect last Thursday.

Residents of the town told the BBC that the insurgents took on the troops who wanted to reclaim the town in a shoot-out yesterday morning.

"I can't say the number of casualties during the fight but the sect members left the place," a resident said.

The sect attacked Gombi town after the Civilian JTF reclaimed Mubi, the state's second largest town, from the terrorists.

A scorched-earth military response reclaimed the territory but deadly Boko Haram raids on towns and villages in the area have continued unabated.

Lafia boils as 12 killed, 30 houses burnt, banks shut

Following raging unrest in Lafia, the Nasarawa State capital which started on Sunday morning, 12 persons were reportedly killed yesterday in communal clashes involving Eggon and Kambari youths.

Seven Eggon youths were killed by soldiers along Barikin Abdulkahi (BAD) road after some of them reportedly engaged soldiers

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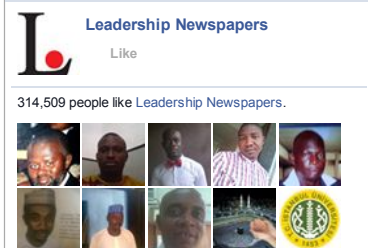
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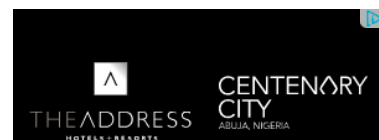
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trying to disperse the warring factions, shooting one of them. This forced the soldiers to engage the armed youths, killing seven.

Similarly, soldiers also killed four hoodlums around Tudun Amba area of Lafia town after they blocked the Lafia-Doma road and were harassing motorists and searching their vehicles for people of other ethnic groups to kill.

A corpse was also discovered around Agwadu area yesterday morning though indications suggest that the middle-aged man was killed yesterday in his farm but was not discovered until a day after.

At Farin Kasa area, over 30 houses were said to have been burnt as the Kambari and Eggon youths battled for supremacy before the arrival of soldiers.

As the crisis raged on, banks stayed shut with their entrances were under lock and key, and customers who stormed banking premises in droves were left stranded.

When LEADERSHIP visited Fidelity Bank at about 11am, customers were seen eagerly awaiting, hoping that the bank's authorities would have a change of heart, which never came.

A worker with the state ministry of environment, Mr Jonathan Ortoho, told our reporter that he had been at the bank since 8am so that he could get some money to relocate his family to Makurdi, Benue State.

At Skye bank on Jos road, the security guards at the gate simply said, "We are closed till further notice."

Schools, public offices and business premises remained largely closed for fear of the unknown.

Also, following rumours of an impending attack on Lafia town, residents of Tudun Gwandara, Millionaires Quarters and Bukan Sidi have largely moved out of town with most of them relocating to Nasarawa-Eggon local government area.

Boko Haram has killed 8,000 of our members – EYN Church

*Wants UN to intervene

The Ekkilisiyan Yan'uwa, a Nigeria church of the Brethren, EYN, yesterday disclosed that Boko Haram insurgents had killed over 8,000 of its members while 700,000 were displaced and scattered in Jos, Benue, Kaduna and Abuja.

Engr. Daniel Kadzair, who gave these figures to newsmen at the premises of EYN in Jos, also said that 270 branches of the church had been destroyed completely, adding that 45 out of the 50 district councils had been affected.

According to him, the federal government lacks the political will to protect and defend the people of northern Nigeria from the Boko Haram insurgency and attacks by Fulani militia.

"Federal government seems to be toying with the lives and limbs of the Christians in northern Nigeria for political gains. While Boko Haram and the Fulani militias and their sponsors are killing innocent Nigerian citizens, the government seems not to care and has abdicated its responsibility to protect lives," Kadzair stated.

"There have been protracted attacks by Fulani and other ethnic militia in Nasarawa, Benue, Plateau and many other state in the north, yet the government seems not to have bothered to find any lasting solution."

Kadzair, who is also the chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) youth wing in the North Central zone, declared that government had no excuse as to why its troops run away from the towns prior to attacks on such town by the Boko Haram without putting up any resistance, adding that government seems unconcerned about the genocide on northern Christian.

"We have lost confidence in the federal government of Nigeria; the United Nation must intervene and declare north eastern Nigeria a UN territory with immediate effect and send in UN peace keeping troops to secure the lives of the remaining traumatized people," he said.

According to him, available record shows that 11,213 Christians had been killed by Boko Haram and 1.56 million others displaced before Mubi, Maiha, Hong and Gombi local government areas were seized by the insurgents.

Terror Attacks: Deaths rose sharply to 61% in 2013 – Report

A report released by Institute for Economy and Peace (IEP) found that the number of people killed in terrorist attacks jumped to 61 percent from 2012 to 2013 due largely to unrest in the Middle East and Nigeria.

Deaths due to terrorism rose from 11,133 in 2012 to 17,958 in 2013, according to the Global Terrorism Index produced by the Australian based think tank.

"Since we first launched the GTI in 2012, we've seen a significant and worrying increase in worldwide incidences of terrorism," said IEP founder Steve Killelea in a statement to the Hausa Service of the BBC and Voice of America (VOA).

"Over the last decade, the increase in terrorism has been linked to radical Islamic groups whose violent theologies have been broadly taught. To counteract these influences, moderate forms of Sunni theologies need to be championed by Sunni Muslim nations," he said.

"There is no doubt it is a growing problem. The causes are complex but the four groups responsible for most of the deaths all have their roots in fundamentalist Islam," Killelea added.

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"More than 80 percent of those deaths occurred in just five countries: Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria and Syria," the report said.

Findings in the Global Terrorism Index added that four groups – the Islamic State group, formerly known as ISIS or ISIL, Boko Haram, al-Qaida and the Taliban – were blamed for 66 percent of all fatalities.

"Explosives were used in 60 percent of terrorist attacks, while suicide bombings accounted for less than 5 percent of the attacks.

The report ranked Iraq as No. 1 among the top 10 countries that had the highest levels of terrorist activity in 2013. The rest, in order, are: Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Syria, India, Somalia, Yemen, Philippines and Thailand.

Jerusalem Synagogue Attack: Palestinians kill 4, Injure 8 Israeli worshippers

2 attackers shot dead

Four Israelis have been killed and eight injured as two men armed with a pistol and knives attacked a West Jerusalem synagogue.

The Abu Ali Mustafa Brigades, the military wing of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said it carried out the attack.

The attackers – Palestinians from East Jerusalem – were shot dead.

Israel's PM vowed a "heavy" response and has already ordered the destruction of the homes of the attackers.

The attack happened at the Bnei Torah Kehilat Yaakov synagogue and religious seminary site on Harav Shimon Agassi Street – home to a largely Orthodox Jewish community in the Har Nof neighbourhood.

The victims were Rabbi Moshe Twersky, 59, head of the seminary, Arie Kupinsky, 43, and Kalman Levine, 55, all of whom also held US passports. The fourth victim, Avraham Goldberg, 68, is also a UK citizen.

Photos distributed by Israeli authorities showed a man in a prayer shawl lying dead, a bloodied butcher's cleaver on the floor and prayer books covered in blood.

"We are viewing this as a terrorist attack," said police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld, who confirmed the four dead and that the two assailants, both from predominantly Arab East Jerusalem, had been shot dead by police.

Police say there was a shoot-out with the attackers when officers reached the scene.

It is the deadliest attack in six years in Jerusalem, which has seen weeks of unrest, partly fuelled by tension over a disputed holy site.

Three of the victims were dual Israeli-US nationals, the US state department has confirmed, while the fourth was a dual Israeli-UK citizen.

Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu blamed the attack on "incitement" by the militant group, Hamas, and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Mr Abbas's office issued a statement condemning the attack on Jewish worshippers in their place of prayer and the killing of civilians no matter who was doing it.

Hamas, the Palestinian faction that governs the Gaza Strip, on the other hand, said it was "a natural reaction to Israel's practices" against Palestinians.

US President Barack Obama also condemned the attack, saying there can be no justification for such attacks against innocent civilians.

US Secretary of State John Kerry described the attack as an act of "pure terror".

Israeli Internal Security Minister Yitzhak Aharonovitch said he was seeking a partial easing of gun controls so that military officers and security guards could carry weapons while off-duty.

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