

Boko Haram attacks Borno market, kills scores



Mainok market, 56 kilometres from Maiduguri, the Borno State capital came under Boko Haram attack on Thursday, leaving scores of buyers and sellers dead.

The insurgents robbed their victims of money and foodstuff, military sources said yesterday.

Mainok is located on the Kano/Damaturu/Maiduguri highway.

Witnesses said the terrorists struck at about 1.30pm when business was in full swing.

A traveller, Hassan Maina who was on his way to Damaturu said he and his fellow travellers were almost caught in the firing spree of the insurgents.

He said it was the heavy sounds of the gun shots that alerted them to the danger ahead.

He said: "Hundreds of traders and residents fled the market in confusion, running to cross the highway to the other side while vehicles passing through the town were also making attempts to escape. It was such confusion."

"Many people may have been killed judging from the way the insurgents were shooting at the crowd. Vehicles were hitting one another and the Boko Haram kept shooting," he added.

Another source said that the attackers first fired a Rapid Propelled Grenade (RPG) into the market before

they started shooting.

“The death toll may be high because there were many people in the market,” the source said.