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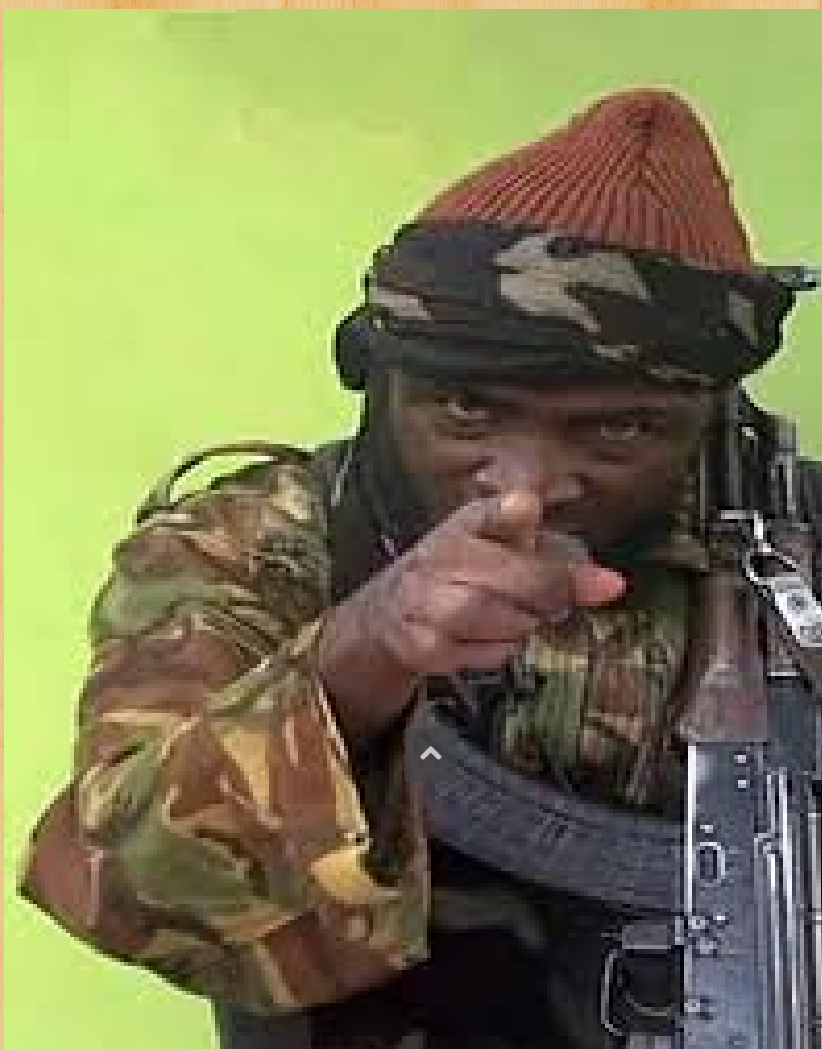
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Boko Haram Leader

Gunmen, Boko Haram kill 36 in Zamfara, Yobe

Posted by: Duku Yaki, Danaturu in Featured, News 9 hours ago

It was a bloody weekend in some parts of the country as 38 people were killed in various violent circumstances in Yobe, Zamfara and Kogi states.

In Zamfara, gunmen invaded two villages, killed about 30 people and carted away property.

In Yobe State's commercial capital, Potiskum, a Boko Haram suicide bomber detonated his bomb at a church, killing himself and six others.

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Three people died in a communal clash in Kogi State. Many houses were also razed.

Among those killed in the suicide bombing are a woman and her baby strapped onto her back at a church in Jigawa on the outskirts of Potiskum, witnesses said.

According to the eyewitness, a tricycle rider dropped off the bomber at the church premises where he disguised as a worshipper before carrying out his devilish mission.

A rescue worker said: "We picked up one woman with a baby on her back."

A source at the Potiskum General Hospital told our correspondent that five people were brought in dead. One person was injured. But the injured later died in the hospital.

"We have received five bodies plus the suicide bomber. Only one person is injured," the source said.

The attack occurred at one outreach station of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

Police spokesman Toyin Gbadegesin said: "A male suicide bomber detonated a bomb at Redeemed Church at Jigawa area of Potiskum, killing five on the spot.

"A female member of the church who sustained injuries also died while receiving treatment in the hospital."

He said the injured were in various health facilities in the area.

Potiskum last suffered a twin suicide attack on June 15 when 10 people were killed and several others injured.

No fewer than 30 persons have been reported dead following fresh attacks by gunmen in Birnin-Magaji Local Government Area of Zamfara, the NAN reports.

Local Government Chairman Muhammad Gusami told NAN yesterday that the attacks took place in Kokeya and Chigama villages.

Gusami said the gunmen invaded Kokeya village with motorcycles and killed two persons, set some houses ablaze and carted away animals, mostly cows.

He said the "unfortunate incident" had been reported to the Divisional Police Officer of Birnin-Magaji as well as soldiers on surveillance the zone.

According to him, the attackers, the next day invaded the neighbouring village of Chigama.

"The gunmen killed more than 30 persons whose bodies were still being recovered from the bush," he said.

The chairman said the bodies had been taken to Birnin-magaji General Hospital.

He said the Chigama attack took place shortly after three police trucks left the area when they noticed that peace had returned to the area.

He added that the armed bandits also set many houses on fire in Chigama village.

An eyewitness, Malam Ibrahim Sani, said the gunmen who invaded Kokeya came while the villagers were closing from their prayers.

"The attackers shot sporadically in the air, which prompted the people of Chigama to intervene.

"That may have provoked the gunmen to come back so as to punish Chigama people for trying to prevent the attack the previous day.

"While three persons were killed from Kokeya and Chigama on the first day in Kokeya, more than 30 were killed on the second day in Chigama while several houses were burnt," said Sani.

Police spokesman Sanusi Amiru, who confirmed the attack, said the police and the military moved to the area and normalcy had been restored.

The Shehu of Borno, Alhaji Abubakar Ibn Garbai, yesterday urged Muslims to intensify prayers for divine intervention against the Boko Haram insurgency.

The emir spoke when he received members of the Indimi Mosque Management Committee at his palace in Maiduguri.

He lamented that the state had witnessed tremendous setbacks due to the insurgency, and expressed optimism in the power of prayers to end the problem.

Garbai prayed the committee for its numerous efforts in spreading Islamic knowledge.

He also commended the mosque for organising yearly Qur'anic tafsir (preaching) during Ramadan fast to educate Muslims on the religion.



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