

One killed, 10 children injured in Kaduna explosion



AbdulGafar Alabelewe, Kaduna January 21, 2024



The Kaduna State Government has confirmed that one person died and 10 others were injured in the explosion that rocked Kidandan village in Giwa Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

This was as the State Governor, Senator Uba Sani ordered an urgent investigation into the cause of the explosion, to ensure the safety of residents of the community.

The Overseeing Commissioner, Ministry of Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan who confirmed the latest development in a statement Saturday night gave the identity of the boy who died as Zaidu Usman.

The Commissioner said, “According to preliminary reports from the traditional institution and security agencies, one of the pupils learning under a local cleric picked up an object from the bush, which later exploded amidst his fellow pupils.

“As of the time of this update, one pupil, Zaidu Usman, has been confirmed dead, while about ten injured victims are receiving medical attention at the Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital, Shika,” he explained.

He stated further that, Governor Uba Sani who received reports from security agencies commiserated with the community.

“The Governor also appealed to parents and community leaders to increase their vigilance on the activities of their children and wards, given their susceptibility to various dangers.

“The Governor has directed the Ministry of Internal Security and Home Affairs to liaise with security agencies for an urgent investigation into the cause of the explosion, to ensure the safety of residents, mobilize emergency support, and ensure prompt medical attention to victims.”

Aruwan said further updates would be duly communicated by the State Government as they unfold.

The Nation gathered that the incident occurred Saturday afternoon, as children had gone into the bush to fetch firewood and returned home with a strange object suspected to be an Improvised Explosive Device (IED).

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The Village Head of Kidandan, Alhaji Abubakar Umar, confirmed the incident.

“The injured children have been taken to the hospital for treatment. Right now I am compiling their names,” he said.

He also said that operatives of the Nigeria Police visited the community Saturday evening.

Explaining what happened, Councilor Representing Kidandan Ward, Hon. Abdullahi Ismail said the children picked the object in the bush where they went to fetch firewood and they were bringing it home when it exploded.

“I was told the children picked the object in the bush when they went looking for firewood. It exploded and injured them badly,” he said.

Other sources from the community said that the intestines of one of the victims were pulled out while others had their legs and arms broken.

Spokesman of the Kaduna State Police Command, ASP Mansir Hassan did not respond to calls put across to him for confirmation of the incident.