

# Three children found dead in father's car booth in Maiduguri



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**Maiduguri**, the Borno State capital was thrown into grief and outrage yesterday following the discovery of three young children's bodies, including two belonging to a prominent political supporter of Governor Babagana Zulum, Zannah Jaridama Bornoye.

The discovery comes days after Bornoye posted a viral video and social media attacking alleged "cabals and hypocrites" around the governor.

Bornoye, a staunch supporter of the governor, had accused certain high-ranking figures around the governor of hypocrisy, sabotage, and self-enrichment through contracts and government's positions.

In a viral video posted on his Facebook page, Bornoeye lamented that many alleged “die-hard loyalists” were only interested in “contracts, big houses, and fat pockets” while undermining the governor’s vision and fighting him “underground.”

Bornoeye in the video challenged the figures he criticised to drag him to court.

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The deceased were Mama (14), Anwar (28 months), and a third child belonging to his neighbour.

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The bodies were found in the boot of an old vehicle in Bornoeye’s compound in the morning.

The children had been reported missing for nearly 24 hours. Jaridama had earlier used his Facebook page to plead for their safe return, even offering to surrender himself in exchange for their lives, stating: “It is me they are after, not my children.”

Borno State Police Commissioner Nazir Abdulmajid confirmed that operatives were deployed to the scene, adding that the bodies had been taken to the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital (UMTH) for an autopsy.

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“For now, we cannot really say this was what really transpired. And we have not established that it was linked to any political killing. But the autopsy will give the proof (to determine) if they were kidnapped and killed or they entered the boot and locked themselves, leading to their death,” he explained.