

Insurgents kill 40 in fresh attack

Members of the militant Islamist group again invaded another Borno village, killing at least 40 persons and injuring several others.

News of the killings in Dalwa-Masuba, Damboa Local Government Area spread on Sunday as irate youths took to the streets of Maiduguri protesting the killing of a roadside trader by a stray bullet fired by a soldier.

The Boko Haram insurgents were said to have also burnt down the entire Dalwa-Masuba village and three pickup vans loaded with firewood on Saturday night.

A member of the security vigilante in the village, who gave his name as Abbas Gava, told journalists on the telephone that no security personnel had reached the community as of 3pm on Sunday.

"We heard about the attack from some of people who fled the village and we had to drive there in our own patrol van. The entire village was set on fire and about 40 persons were lying dead all over the place. Three pickup vans carrying firewood were also set ablaze," he said.

Attempts to confirm the attack yielded no result as the spokespersons for the relevant security agencies could not be reached on the telephone.

Protest in Maiduguri

There was also a breach of the peace in Maiduguri on Sunday, when a stray bullet fired by a soldier at one of the numerous checkpoints in the city missed its target (a commercial tricycle operator) and killed a trader.

The commercial tricyclist was said to have refused to stop when ordered by the soldiers on guard at the West End area of the town.

It was gathered that the soldiers suspected him to be a suicide bomber and therefore fired when he refused to stop.

But instead of hitting him, the bullet killed the roadside trader, thereby triggering off the protest by hundreds of angry youths.

An eyewitness, Mallam Mohammed Bukar,

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