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30 killed in fresh Bauchi blast

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Suspected Boko Haram members on Sunday attacked Azare, Bauchi State's second largest town again killing 30 people and injured over 60 others.

Azare is the headquarters of Katagum Local Government Area of the state.

Sunday blast was the second explosion that the town would witness within a week. Last week, a bomb explosion killed 21 people and injured 30 others at a location very close to a branch of First Bank Plc in the town.

The explosion, which reportedly rocked the Kasuwar Jagwal area of the town, it was learnt, happened around 5.20pm.

It was learnt that by the time the dust raised by the blast subsided, about 30 people had been killed while 65 others were injured.

However, a news monitored on the Nigerian Television Authority on Sunday night quoted security operatives as saying that only 12 people died while 65 others were injured.

Efforts to get the Bauchi State Police Command's spokesman, Haruna Mohammed, to comment on the tragedy were futile as calls made to his mobile telephone number were not responded to.

But a resident of Azare, who witnessed the blast, insisted that he counted 30 corpses, adding that those injured were taken to Azare Federal Medical Centre for treatment.

Eyewitnesses said that many of the victims of the blast were women who traded in telephone and accessories.

Unconfirmed sources said that the suspected bomber described as a young man in his 20s had been arrested.

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