

Suicide bombers kill

Kayode Idowu and
Umar Muhammed

(1) A bomb blast that rocked a Juma'at Mosque in Jambutu area of Jimeta in Yola, the Adamawa state capital on Friday killed 40 worshippers; injuring scores of others while a similar attack in a mosque in Maiduguri, Borno State, on the same day, killed about 18 persons.

(2) According to eyewitnesses, not less than 100 persons were injured in both incidents believed to have been carried out by Boko Haram insurgents.

The first of the blasts occurred in Maiduguri, when a suicide bomber detonated a bomb inside a mosque at the Jiddari Polo area of the town.

A member of a youth vigilante group in the area, Abba Idris, told one of our correspondents on the telephone that the lone suicide bomber joined worshippers in the mosque for the early morning prayers around 5.00am.

Idris said his group and emergency workers quickly moved to the scene after the explosion to evacuate the corpses and assist the injured get to the hospital.

The spokesperson for the National Emergency Management Agency in the North East, Abdulkadir Ibrahim, who confirmed the attack to *Saturday PUNCH* in a text message, said, "(A) suicide bomber detonated the bomb during the early morning Subh prayer; some people were killed. Rescue officials have concluded search and rescue efforts while the injured have been taken to hospitals within Maiduguri."

Meanwhile, the attack has put residents in the area in a state of apprehension.

A resident, Dauda Ishaq, expressed fear of a Boko Haram invasion in the area, saying that three strange boys believed to be suicide bombers, were sighted there on Thursday evening.

He said, "When some youths in the area mobilised to get them arrested, they fled. We believe that what we witnessed today (Friday) was carried out by one of the boys."

Meanwhile, it was learnt that the blast which occurred in Yola was carried out by an under-aged.

Eyewitnesses said the minor was with explosives, which immediately went off the moment he stepped inside the

The military immediately cordoned off all the access roads to the area, and over six ambulances were seen conveying the dead and the injured to hospitals.

Eyewitnesses said the death toll was up to 40.

However the National Emergency Management Agency, in a brief statement, said 27 persons were killed in the Yola blast while 96 others were injured.

The agency said the injured victims had been taken to two hospitals in the town.

It said, "About 27 persons died and 96 others were injured in today's (Friday) explosion at Jambutu mosque during Juma'at prayer."

"Injured victims were evacuated to the Federal Medical Centre, Yola and the Specialist Hospital, Jimata, Adamawa State."

It was learnt that rescue

Election petition
Friday October, Abba Idris, told one of our correspondents on the telephone that the lone suicide bomber joined worshippers in the mosque for the early morning prayers around 5.00am.

Deacon Christopher Enai as the party's candidate for the December 5 governorship election in Bayelsa State.

Oye said APGA was not concerned over who was appointed the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission as the interest of the party had always been to win elections irrespective of who headed the electoral body.

He said, "We have to build a nation that will be devoid of unnecessary partisanship and parochialism. What we witnessed in election petitions tribunal in Anambra State is something alarming because the tribunal gave