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Mentally deranged man kills three Borno schoolchildren

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Kayode Idowu, Maiduguri

A mentally ill man, identified as Gaji Adamu, on Thursday went wild and attacked a school in Borno State with a machete, killing three pupils.

A school teacher and some other pupils were reported to have been injured by Adamu during the attack which occured around 9.30am.

The police, in a statement by its spokesman, Victor Isuku, a Deputy Superintendent of Police, said the suspect was mobbed by a crowd.

He said, "On November 30, 2017, at about 9.30am, one Gaji Adamu of Lube village, in the Kwaya Kusar Local Government Area, suspected to be of unsound mind, while armed with a machete, entered into Jafi Primary School, Kwaya Kusar town, and hacked two male pupils to death.

"A teacher and a female pupil were also injured during the attack. As a result, irate youths mobbed the suspect, who is now unconscious and has been admitted to an hospital under protective custody."

Isuku noted that the corpses of the victims had been deposited in the Gombe General Hospital mortuary, adding that the injured were responding to treatment in the hospital.

He said the state Commissioner of police, CP Damian Chukwu, had directed the Divisional Police Officer of Kwaya Kusar Division to transfer the suspect to the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department for discreet investigation.

Adamu said part of the investigation was also to determine the true mental condition of the suspect.

Malam Abdulhamid, a resident of the area, said three pupils died from the attack.

Abdulhamid, who is also a teacher in the area, revealed that two of the pupils died on the spot while the third child died at the hospital.

"It is not clear how the assailant managed to infiltrate the school. He attacked the pupils with a machete, killing three of them. He infleted injuries on others.

"A female teacher, Ms Salamatu, was also injured when she confronted the assailant in an attempt to save the children from the brutal attack.

"Some of the pupils sustained injuries while trying to escape. People came to their rescue and arrested the attacker," he said.

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