

Seven worshippers die in Borno mosque suicide attack

Published July 24, 2018



Kayode Idowu, Maiduguri

Seven Muslim worshippers were killed when a suicide bomber attacked a mosque in Konduga, Borno State on Monday, the police and the National Emergency Management Authority, have said.

The police said the male suicide bomber had disguised as one of the worshippers to gain access into the mosque where Muslim faithful were observing the early morning prayer.

He detonated the bomb shortly after he entered the mosque and killed seven worshippers and injured seven persons in the process.

A statement signed by the spokesman for the Borno State Police Command, Edet Okon, read, “Today, being 23rd July 2018 at about 0455hrs, a male suicide bomber detonated an IED strapped to his body in the Goni Modu Lashibe mosque in the Konduga L.G.A. killing himself and seven worshippers.

“Seven other persons were injured and were rushed to the General Hospital, Konduga for treatment. The corpses have equally been evacuated to the mortuary. The scene of the incident has been sanitised by a team of EOD personnel of the Nigeria Police Force.”

He added that the Commissioner of Police Borno State, Damian Chukwu, encouraged members of the public to be strong and continue to support the Police and other security forces in the fight against insurgency and other criminal acts in the state.

He assured the residents of the determination of the police to ensure their safety.

In a statement, the NEMA North-East Zonal Coordinator, Alhaji Bashir Garga, confirmed the attack and the casualty figure.

Garga, who claimed that the area attacked was now “calm and placid,” said the injured had been evacuated by NEMA operatives and security officials to Maiduguri, the state capital, for further medical attention.

In another development, the police in Borno State with the support of the Civilian JTF and hunters engaged nine Boko Haram suspects on Saturday in Galte village of Nganzai council of the state.

The Police Commissioner told journalists on Monday that during the encounter, two suspects were killed while two others were arrested.

He lamented that though five suspects managed to escape, four rifles and 22 rounds of ammunition were recovered from the Boko Haram members.

Chukwu said while interrogating the arrested suspects, they confessed that they came from the Sambisa Forest on a mission to rustle cattle.

He added, “The rustling of cattle was at the behest of their Commander, Bukar Bulama, now deceased, whose body was recovered by our men.”

He added that the arrested terrorists confessed that they left Sambisa Forest armed with five AK-47 rifles on foot to rustle cattle in the council.

Speaking on the two arrested suspects, Chukwu said that Babagana Muhammad, 34, and Abba Goni Saleh, 17; were from the Gwange ward, Maiduguri and Dikwa council of Borno State, respectively.

He said that other suspects, who he said, were on the run, included Baba Mai Goro, Abba Ngumuri, Mamman Dikwa, Kalli Dikwa and Adam Dikwa.

Chukwu said even though there were no casualties on the side of the police, a Civilian JTF commander, Mohammed Umar, was shot in the hand and was responding to treatment.

Copyright PUNCH.

All rights reserved. This material, and other digital content on this website, may not be reproduced, published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed in whole or in part without prior express written permission from PUNCH.