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## 45 villagers killed in fresh Boko Haram attack

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FROM TIMOTHY OLANREWAJU, MAIDUGURI

No fewer than 45 villagers were at the weekend killed in a fishing community in northern part of Borno State by Boko Haram. Sources said the suspected terrorists who rode into the Doro Baga in Kukawa Local Government Area on motorcycles, attacked some villagers mostly fishermen, killing at least 45.

Doro Baga is located near Baga town around the Chad Basin of Nigeria-Cameroon border. Known as the economic nerve-centre of desert-prone northern Borno, the community is popular for its availability of fishes in commercial quantity as most of the smoked fishes consumed in many homes in the country are believed to come from the area.

A source who did not want his name in print, said most of the victims were fleeing Gwoza residents who left Maiduguri to Doro Baga on fishing expedition to eke a living. He regretted the victims fled their communities in Gwoza after series of raids and attacks by Boko Haram, "only to walk into the insurgents' den again at Doro Baga."

Leader of the Fish Traders Association at Lake Chad Basin area, Abubakar Gamandi, confirmed the attack to journalists on telephone. But officials of Kukawa LGA said they were yet to get the details at press time.

An official in the council who preferred to remain anonymous, said insurgents had earlier in the week written a letter to the town, threatening to unleash terror on the area. He, however, said he was yet to ascertain how the attack took place.

Boko Haram has intensified attacks on communities in the state since July with seven council areas coming under their control. They are Gwoza, Bama, Gamboru Ngala, Abadam, Kala Balga, Mafa, Dikwa while Damboa had been recaptured by military.

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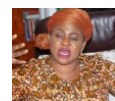
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