

# Borno: Boko Haram abducts 100 women, kids, teenagers

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## ...Kills 30

From TIMOTHY OLANREWAJU, Maiduguri

**B**oko Haram insurgents have raided another Borno community in over six

hours attack, killing at least 30 people and taking away more than 100 women, children and teenagers, fleeing residents have disclosed.

The attack which was not known until Wednesday night, was said to have occurred last Friday at Gamsuri, a small but commercially active town in Damboa Local Government, south of Borno along Chibok road where over 200 schoolgirls were kidnapped by Boko Haram eight months ago.

In a manner reminiscent of the April 14 abduction of the Chibok schoolgirls few metres away, armed Boko Haram fighters arrived Gamsuri at about 5.30pm last Friday, shooting sporadically, sources said. "They were firing into different directions and throwing explosive devices into houses and forcing people to rush out of their houses," Usman Kida, a resident of Dam-

boa told Daily Sun on phone, adding that the insurgents came with over five 4-wheel drive vehicles "with arms."

Usman said his relations who were lucky to escape to Damboa, about 10 kilometres away recounted their ordeal and that of Gamsuri residents in the hand of the Boko Haram sect. He said at least 30 people, mostly men, who either attempted to escape or were "too scared to come out" some were shot dead, while some slaughtered by the insurgents.

A youth vigilante who did not want his name in print, said the insurgents separated women, children and teenagers from other men where they had gathered them, claiming the insurgents vowed to marry off the teenagers "since their parents could not do that." He described the abduction as sad and barbaric, calling on authority to empower the youth

volunteers to safeguard the communities.

News of the attack could not get to the military authority for quick response because of breakdown of communication facilities, a military source said. Most of the telecom facilities in the area have been destroyed by the sect in its five years old violent campaigns in the northern part of the country.

A security source said the some military troops who were mobilized to the area after the attack intercepted the insurgents near a bush as they were attempting to flee, adding that troops engaged the insurgents in a shoot out. "Some of them were killed and one of their vehicle mounted with anti-aircraft gun was destroyed," he said though Daily Sun could not verify the claim as at press time. Authority was yet to react to the incident.

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