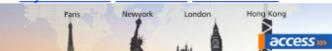
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Blast Traumatises Kaduna Residents

10 Apr 2012

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Victim of Kaduna Explosion

By John Shiklam, Hammed Shittu, Jaiyeola Andrews and Femi Durojaiye

The traumatising effect of the Sunday bomb blast, which claimed many lives in Kaduna still pervades the city Monday as the victims count their losses.

Some of the victims in the hospitals have been transferred to the Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital (ABUTH) Shika near Zaria as a result of their critical

condition.

Also the Okada riders in the state under the aegis of Amalgamated Commercial Motorcycle Owners and Riders Association of Nigeria (ACMO-RAN) Monday claimed that over 100 of their members perished in the blast.

About 40 people were reported dead in the incident, although authorities of the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) had confirmed 36 people. Most of them Okada riders were killed in the blast. The union said it was compiling names of those who died in the blast with a view to inform those whose relations are not within Kaduna

Secretary General of ACOMORAN, Nasir Mamman, told THISDAY in Kaduna Monday that officials of the association in the state are trying to get the statistics of those that died in the blast.

It was learnt that quite a number of the Okada riders, who died in the incident came from neighbouring states of Kano, Katsina and Zamfara State.

He argued that it was untrue contrary to speculations that their members are involved in most of the crime in the state, pointing out that most of the criminal elements, especially the bombers operate in exotic cars.

Meanwhile, torrents of condemnation continued Monday to trail the Kaduna blast. Catholic Archbishop of Abuja, Most Reverend John Onaiyekan, said the attacks on Nigerians by the Boko-Haram sect were unnecessary.

He said Nigerians must trace the real roots of the menace as there were no justifiable reasons for their several attacks on the citizenry.

Onaiyekan said this at the 20th anniversary of Sir David Osunde Foundation's Easter Monday national celebration with People Living with Disabilities (PLWD) in Abuja.

Similarly, Kwara State Governor, Alhaji Abdulfatah Ahmed, has lamented the series of bomb explosions in Kaduna and Jos, Plateau State during the Easter period in which many lives were lost are alien to the nation's culture laced with humanity and spirit of brotherliness.

The Governor urged security agencies to ensure adequate conformity with the county's immigration laws to checkmate the activities of foreigners probably masquerading as Nigerians.

In condemning the act, Lagos State House of Assembly said the incident was unacceptable.

Chairman House Committee on information and strategy, Hon. Segun Olulade, described the attack as unethical and unfortunate saying federal government should take a decisive action to combat this terrorist group and wipe them out.

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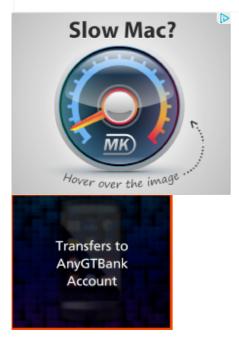
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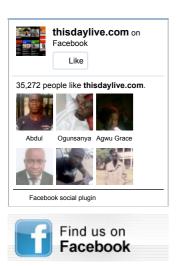
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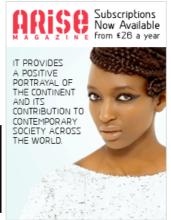
















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