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Policeman Killed as Explosions Rock Kaduna

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Explosions Rock Kaduna

From John Shiklam in Kaduna

Two explosions rocked Kaduna State again on Tuesday, killing a policeman from the Anti-Bomb Disposal Unit of the state Police Command.

The incident occurred close to the market at the pedestrian bridge, a few metres away from the Sultan Bello Mosque at Angwan Sarki area of Kaduna city, barely a week after the city suffered multiple bomb blasts.

An eyewitness said the first explosion occurred at about 11 a.m. and the area was immediately condoned off by police men.

However, as the police were searching the area to ensure that no explosion was hidden anywhere, the second one exploded, shattering the policeman into pieces.

The explosions led to serious pandemonium as people scampered for safety. Residents of the area and passersby ran for their dare lives.

The Angwan Sarki Market was closed. Vehicles plying Kawo/Central Market route quickly abandoned the road and diverted to others routes as security agents condoned the area.

The police man was said to have been one of those who were combing the area in search of any other explosive that may have been hidden there.

The spokesman of the Kaduna State Police Command, DSP Aminu Lawan, who confirmed the incident, said the late policeman was one of those from the Special Anti-Bomb Unit, who were sweeping the area to defuse any hidden explosive.

"We had sent our men to condone off the area. Men of the Special Anti-Bomb Unit were also there to search and defuse any hidden explosive in the area. The police man that was killed was one of those that were sweeping the area for hidden explosives.

"He saw something in a black polythene bag and he wanted to defuse it and then it exploded, killing him instantly," Lawan said.

The youths who were visibly angry with the persistent incidences of bombing were also cursing whoever must have been doing the act, declaring that time had come when every well meaning person must raise against those planting bombs and killing innocent people.

Also in another development, police checkpoints within Kaduna metropolis have disappeared following the directives of the Acting Inspector General of Police (IG), Alhaji Abubakar Mohammed.

THISDAY observed except for the security checks around the Headquarters of the Kaduna state police Command and all police stations within the city, there were no checkpoints being man by the police at any road within the city.