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## 20 Feared Dead in Mubi Multiple Explosions

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### Police Headquarters

Two weeks after 46 students of a federal polytechnic were killed by unknown gunmen

suspected to be members of Boko Haram in Mubi, Adamawa State, the community was again rocked by multiple bomb explosions on Wednesday, in which 20 were feared dead. This came as another twin bomb explosions rocked Gudun Hausawa and Zango communities in Bauchi State on Wednesday just at the time that four persons were burnt to ashes in a bloody bus attack in Gwatukuru near Dass, suspected to have been masterminded by Fulani herdsman.

The Mubi explosions, according to police sources, resulted in destruction of many lives and property. According to an eye witness, the explosion was targeted at a patrol vehicle belonging to the Joint Military Task Force (JTF) which was maintaining peace at a popular market, Kasuwan Kuturu, some metres away from the General Hospital in the town.

The multiple explosions which began in the morning, continued into late afternoon and left scores of people injured. As at the time of filing this report, the death roll has not been ascertained even as the Adamawa Police Command confirmed the incident to THISDAY.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Mohammed Ibrahim, declined comments on the death toll, saying he was still awaiting adequate report from the Mubi Area Command of the Police. He disclosed that security chiefs in the state were holding a meeting on the issue at the time.

However, an eyewitness who told our correspondent that about 20 bodies were being moved to Mubi General Hospital, added that he could not ascertain if they were dead or

alive. He also said more victims of the explosion were being helped by sympathisers.

In Bauchi, though the twin bomb explosions in Gudun Hausawa and Zango area did not record any casualty, an attack carried out by suspected Fulani herdsmen against a moving vehicle, resulted in an inferno in which four people were burnt to ashes in Gwatukuru near Dass.

THISDAY checks revealed that in one of the explosions, the pulpit of COCIN Church in Zango and a building near the church were destroyed while the second explosion destroyed a fence in Gudum Sayawa.

Only last month, nine elder citizens were shot dead while relaxing in the same Zango area and a week later, three others were killed when a suicide bomber attempted to bomb St. Johns Catholic church, Bauchi.

Investigation by our correspondent revealed that the bomb planted on the pulpit of the COCIN church in Zango exploded at about nine O'clock on Wednesday night, almost at the same time that the one in Gudum Hausawa also exploded.

Narrating how the incident occurred, a man whose house is adjacent to the church in Zango, and affected by the blast, said he saw two men on a motorcycle coming into the church that night but said he thought they were only members of the church on patrol.

According to the man who pleaded anonymity, "the explosion occurred few minutes after

they left taking the two security men in the church by surprise.”

No life was lost in the two explosions but the Chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in the state, Revd Lawi Pokti, said the development sent fear and panic among residents particularly Christians in the state.

Pokti called on Christians to remain calm and watch what they say without taking part in “this increasing evil and wickedness” just as he appealed to security operatives to be proactive in handling the current insecurity in the state.

Meanwhile, some people suspected to be Fulani herdsmen have attacked a bus, killing four people yesterday in Gwatukuru village near Dass Local Government Area of Bauchi State.

Nine people were seriously injured after a bus with the registration number AA 82 TFB belonging to the Seyawa Council of Elders and Traditional Rulers was set ablaze.

According to Secreatry of the Sayawa Concil of Elders, Bukata Zyadi, the victims were burnt to ashes while the injured were taken to various hospitals in both Jos, Plateau State and Dass General Hospital.

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