

Fresh Church attack: Police killed, 2 others injured in Borno

BY NDAHI MARAMA

MAIDUGURI—A Police Constable, Amos Tangurda, attached to Cocin Church at Gomari Airport of Maiduguri metropolis, was Sunday night shot death at about 7:15p.m. by gunmen, while one of his colleagues and a security man, Mallam Akilahyel, who was recently employed by the church, sustained injuries.

According to an eyewitness, the suspects who came on a vehicle, parked close to the church and opened fire at the two Policemen who were assigned to guard the church.

The injured are current-

ly receiving treatment at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital.

It would be recalled that since the Christmas Eve attacks where some churches in the state were burnt down by suspected members of the dreaded Islamic sect, *Boko Haram*, the Commissioner of Police, CP, Mohammed Jinjiri Abubakar, directed all Divisional Police Officers, DPOs, to deploy their men to guard all churches in the metropolis.

Eyewitness account

When *Vanguard* visited the scene of the incident, a member of the church said: "We were standing in front of our house after

dinner when we saw a vehicle with tinted glasses parked close to the church. We thought the occupants were looking for somebody close by.

"After 10 minutes, all we could hear was gunfire between them and the policemen attached to the church.

"The gunfire went on for about seven minutes. Afterwards, they entered their vehicle and sped off. When some of us went to see what happened, we just saw one of the Policemen in the pool of his blood before he eventually died."

Though the pastor of the church, Elishah Gufwan, was not available at press time, members of

the church expressed dismay over the rampant killings and burning of churches in the state, and called on the state and the Federal Government to take a decisive action to address this ugly trend.

Police makes arrest

Also confirming the incident, Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, ASP Lawal Abdullahi, said already the Police Commissioner had visited the scene and a number of people arrested in connection with the attack.

He pointed out that as soon as police finished its investigation, those who found guilty would face the wrath of the law.

