Nigeria:Another Christian girl escaped death by whiskers in Bauchi State over alleged blasphemy

From <u>The Daily Sun, Nigeri</u>a the <u>Nigerian Tribune</u> and <u>The</u> <u>Paradise</u>

Barely one week after Deborah Samuel was killed in Sokoto over alleged blasphemy against Prophet Muhammad (SAW), a Christian lady has escaped being killed in Katanga, Warji Local Government Area of Bauchi State.

Our correspondent gathered that Muslim youths mounted a search for the lady immediately after the Jummaat prayers but could not find her. It was alleged that on receiving information on the impending danger, the girl was whisked away to safety.

Enraged by not seeing her, the irate Muslim youths allegedly started destroying properties belonging to Christians in area. Another source told our correspondent that it was one of youths who recently got converted from Christianity to Islam that allegedly raised the alarm of the alleged blasphemy by the Christian lady and led other Muslim youths in search of her.

A source disclosed that few buildings were set blaze and some Christians, including a pastor of ECWA church, were injured.

"We were at home Friday evening when we heard shouts from Muslim youths in their hundreds wanting to attack the ECWA church but Christian youths and others resisted and repelled them but after they had already set the shops attached to the church on fire. ..In the process, one of the pastors of the ECWA Church was seriously wounded, as I am speaking to you, efforts are on to save his life as he lost much blood due to the injuries inflicted on him," one of the sources said.

One of the leaders of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in the state confirmed the situation and told Tribune Online that the Police Commissioner in the state and the SSA to the Governor of Bauchi State on Christian Religious Affairs, have been intimated.

He (a leader of CAN) called on the Christian community in the state not to allow the situation to degenerate even though they have to protect themselves from the attackers assuring that security operatives will do everything possible to safeguard lives and properties.

All efforts to get confirmation of the situation in Warji officially from the State Police Command failed at the time of this report.

Some newspapers I read later name the woman and give details of her workplace; I'll leave my post as it is for now.