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an attack that bore the hallmarks of Boko Haram, a local militia and residents said Friday.

The girl, aged around 12, detonated the device late Thursday when open-air classes were on in Muna Dalti, on the outskirts of Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state.

She walked up to the group of boys who were just ending their lessons and “blew herself up in their midst,” Mohammed Bola, head of the militia in the area, told AFP.

“She killed three boys and injured four others,” Bola said about the attack which happened around 1900 GMT.

Moments earlier, another young girl stormed into a house in the area and detonated her

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explosives, injuring one person, said resident Salisu Mohammed.

“The house was totally destroyed. Luckily, no one was killed as the occupants of the house were outside chatting with neighbors,” he said.

The two bombers sneaked into the area together but split to attack different targets, Bola said.

The scene of the bombings, a popular night time venue for residents, has been repeatedly targeted by suicide attacks blamed on Boko Haram.

The militant group is notorious for suicide attacks on civilian targets including schools, mosques and motor parks.

In April, three people were killed and 33 injured in

twin suicide blasts among a crowd in Muna Dalti which houses a sprawling camp for thousands displaced by the militia violence.

Another faction affiliated to the Daesh group focuses on military targets, although it has recently been blamed for attacks on civilians.

The decade-long violence has killed 35,000 people in northeast Nigeria and displaced around two million from their homes, creating a dire humanitarian crisis.

The conflict has spread to neighboring Niger, Chad and Cameroon, prompting a regional military response to combat the militant groups.



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