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## 3 civilians dead in Balkh suicide attack

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Three civilians were killed and five policemen injured in a suicide bomb attack near a health clinic in the Charbolak district of northern Balkh province on Tuesday, an official said.

The explosion took place at around 12:30pm in front of the health clinic, where explosives tied to a bicycle were detonated, police spokesman Sher Jan Durani told Pajhwok Afghan News.

He said three civilians, including a child, were killed and five police officials injured in the explosion. The injured were taken to a military hospital and their health condition is said to be stable.

In charge of the clinic, Dr. Abdul Hafiz, said he was busy examining patients when the blast happened. Quoting eyewitness, he said it was a suicide attack that killed three civilians and injured six policemen.

He added the dead body of the suicide attacker was also lying at the scene.

Resident Akhtarbai said the clinic was located near the police headquarters and policemen frequently passed by the area.

Meanwhile, the Interior Ministry in Kabul said two civilians, including a child, were killed and five policemen slightly injured in the suicide bombing.

Interior Minister Bismillah Mohammadi denounced the attack and extended his condolences to the victims' families. No group has claimed responsibility for the assault so far.