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Pajhwok

Suicide bombing at funeral kills 30

By Abdul Mueed Hashimi

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Thirty people were killed and 50 others wounded when a suicide bomber exploded attacked a funeral ceremony in the eastern province of Nangarhar, officials said.



A man injured in a bomb blast is wheeled into a hospital in Jalalabad September 4, 2012. A suicide bomber blew himself up at a funeral on Tuesday, killing at least 20 people and wounding dozens, officials said, one of the biggest attacks on civilians in weeks.

Ahmad Zia Abdulzai, the governor's spokesman, told Pajhwok Afghan News the casualties occurred when bomber detonated his explosive vest at the funeral for Haji Rafiullah, a resident of Door Baba district.

A brother of the district chief, Haji Hamesha Gul, recognised the assailant and fired several shots at him, the official said, adding that he still managed to reach his target. A son of Gul was among the dead

The incident took place at around 3pm when the attacker detonated the explosives strapped to his body near the district headquarters, said the town's administrative, who was injured along with his brother.

Nangarhar's deputy police chief Cpl. Abdul Jalil Shamal confirmed the casualty figures. He said locals, including tribal elders, participated in the funeral.

Public Health Director Dr. Baz Mohammad Khan said the injured were being evacuated to hospitals in neighbouring district and Jalalabad, the provincial capital.

Dr. Rahman Gul, director of the Ghanikhel district hospital, said they had so far received 24 wounded people, some of them in critical condition.