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Al-Shabab Kills 5 Christian Road Workers in Mandera Kenya Ambush

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"Even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we will fear no evil, for Jesus is with us; His rod and staff, they comfort us."

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

Suspected al-Shabab gunmen killed five Christian road workers in Mandera County, Kenya, on Tuesday morning, 10 November 2026, ambushing their vehicle on the Mandera-Arabia road near the Somali border. Two police reservists escorting the team and the driver were killed with them, taking the death toll to eight. No group has claimed the attack, but Kenyan police say the gunmen are believed to be al-Shabab fighters who slipped back across the border into Somalia after the shooting.

The ambush happened at about 7 a.M. In the Hagarsu area, roughly eight kilometres south of Arabia Police Station, as the team travelled to a road construction site. The workers were in a Toyota double-cabin pickup belonging to a Nairobi-based construction company, heading for the road they were building.

The gunmen opened fire without warning, and seven people died where they sat. The driver, Hassan Hussein Kussow, died of his wounds after the attack.

The five workers were not from Mandera. They had come from hundreds of kilometres away to build a road in one of the most dangerous corners of Kenya, and they were killed for it.

Al-Shabab Mandera Ambush November 10: Father And Son Killed Together

Four of the workers came from Kinangop in Nyandarua County: John Ng'ang'a Munene, Peter Musili Kiondo, Stephen Kanyi Macharia and Stephen Munene Nga'ang'a. John was killed together with his son Stephen, a father and son who had travelled to Mandera to earn a living and died side by side on a road they were helping to build. The fifth worker, Peter Kahio Kariuki, came from Murang'a County.

The two police reservists who died protecting them were Mohamed Ibrahim Hussein, from Koromei in Mandera, and Abdifatah Abdille Ibrahim, from Bulla Barwaqo in Mandera Town. All eight worked for County Builders LTD, a company contracted by the Kenya Rural Roads Authority to tarmac the Mandera-Arabia road.

The driver was a local man. The five workers were outsiders, and that is exactly what made them a target.

The attack occured in a convoy of three vehicles, and only the first was hit. Godfrey Waweru, who survived, said his vehicle turned back after seeing what was happening to the one ahead.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

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