

Four Muslims charged with terrorism in Denmark  
AFP, Copenhagen

Four young Muslims were charged in Denmark yesterday with planning terrorist bombings in Denmark or abroad, the justice ministry said.

The four men were accused of acquiring chemicals and laboratory instruments to make triacetone triperoxide (TATP) explosives, often used by suicide bombers.

TATP bombs were used in the July 2005 London bombings.

The identities of the four were not disclosed. They are residents of Denmark but do not hold Danish citizenship.

The men were part of a group of nine people arrested in a September 2006 swoop in Odense in central Denmark.

Three of the nine had been remanded in custody, while the six others, including the fourth person indicted on Wednesday, were released.

Britain's appeal court clears 'The Da Vinci Code' author  
AFP, London

Britain's Court of Appeal ruled yesterday that American author Dan Brown did not steal key elements from an earlier book for his blockbuster novel "The Da Vinci Code".

Last April, Brown was cleared by the High Court of accusations that he breached copyright by plagiarising passages and ideas from "The Holy Blood And The Holy Grail", for his 2003 book.

Michael Baigent and Richard Leigh, two of the earlier book's authors, took their case to the appeal court and now face a legal costs bill approaching three million pounds (six million dollars, 4.5 million euros).

"The Da Vinci Code" has sold more than 40 million copies around the world, has been translated into 44 languages and has made Brown into a dollar multi-millionaire.

The best-selling author did not attend the appeal hearing.

Yahaya said the tanker over-

turned while trying to park in the village of Katugal, some 150 kilometres (90 miles) south of the state capital Kaduna.

The federal road safety chief for Kaduna, Charles Okpabio, confirmed that there were survivors but declined to say how many or where they are being treated.

It was not immediately clear if the impact of the accident caused fuel to leak from the tanker or whether the vehicle was vandalized.

"More than 70 people have been confirmed dead. There are some survivors but we don't know exactly how many," the spokesman said.

"The tanker turned over, the villagers came to scoop fuel and then the tanker caught fire," he explained.

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ality figures are common in Nigeria where vehicles are often poorly maintained, overloaded and driven in a reckless fashion.

In November of last year a driver lost control of his lorry outside Kaduna during gubernatorial primaries and crashed into a crowd, crushing scores of people to death.

Almost equally common are fires where people perish whilst scooping fuel, be it from oil company installations or trucks.

Nigeria's tens of millions who live in poverty rarely pass up on opportunities to gather free fuel, which can always be sold in jerrycans to motorists who run out, from pipelines or vehicles that have either been damaged or vandalized.

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