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## **The Daily Telegraph**

### **Bombs kill at least 21 in attacks on Red Sea tourists**

By Hugh Miles in Dahab and Tim Butcher

AT LEAST 21 people were killed and more than 70 injured, including three Britons, last night when three bombs ripped through an Egyptian diving resort.

The simultaneous blasts, on the ancient festival of Shamm el-Nessim, hit the Nelson restaurant, the Aladdin cafe and the Ghazala supermarket, in the Red Sea resort of Dahab.

Residents said that they saw body parts on the street outside the restaurant. Rania Nassif, 34, an Egyptian businesswoman on holiday in Dahab said she was in a nearby restaurant packed with foreigners, including Russians, when she saw a flash and heard a huge explosion. Seconds later she heard another.

"As we came out we saw blood all over the floor," she said. "We saw a police car taking injured people away. There was panic. Injured people were running in their blood."

Mohamed Hani, the governor of South Sinai, said the blasts were the work of suicide bombers. But security sources said early investigations suggested planted explosive devices.

Mr Hani said victims included tourists from Britain, Germany, Russia, Italy, South Korea and America. Thomson Holidays said it had 43 British holidaymakers staying at two hotels in Dahab, but neither was affected.

Ellie Gough, 22, a nanny from Finsbury Park, north London, and her friend Amy Jay, 25, were in the nearby Bishbishi Garden Village when they heard three "massive bangs".

"We thought they were just fireworks," Miss Gough said. "But it was only after we saw dozens of people and cars with lots of injured people crammed inside heading towards the hospital that we realised something had happened."

President Hosni Mubarak, who battled against a violent campaign by militant Islamists in the 1990s, called the blasts a terrorist act. President George W Bush described them as a "heinous act".

Last July a triple bombing in nearby Sharm el Sheikh, a recent holiday destination for Tony Blair and his family, killed 63 people including 11 British tourists.

