



NMN CONDEMNS THE ARREST OF KOGI UNIVERSITY LECTURER OVER ALLEGED BOKO HARAM MEMBERSHIP

The Nigerian Muslims Network (NMN) condemns in the strongest terms, the arrest of Dr. Muhammad Nazeef by the Department of State Security Service (SSS) on the allegation of being a member of a Boko Haram group. Dr. Nazeef, a lecturer in Islamic Studies at the Kogi State University, Ayingba was ridiculed, humiliated and dehumanized while showing him on the network news of the Nigeria Television Authority (NTA) on Wednesday, October 30, 2013.

Sheikh Nazif is a peace-loving Nigerian, whose good character has been attested to by many people; a Muslim leader, who engages in Islamic propagation activities at Al-Bayan Islamic School, Jos, where he is the director. The school houses a Central Mosque and Dr. Nazif regularly gives lectures and delivers Friday sermon in the mosque. His sermons against the ideal and idea of Boko haram are clear testimonies of his stand against the Boko haram struggles.

The action of SSS is a declaration of war against every Muslim scholar that espouses pristine teaching of Islam, supremacy of Shariah and Islam as a way of life.

His arrest and remand are nothing but a set up, and it signals the kind of wicked, vicious and mischievous witch-hunting of committed Muslim scholars and activists by the Nigerian security apparatus and their allies. The SSS is strongly advised to spend her energy in tracking down the real Boko haram members instead of unlawfully humiliating innocent souls.

We, therefore, appeal to all peace loving Nigerians, human rights activists and Muslim leaders to intervene in this unholy and unjust arrest and detention of this prominent Muslim scholar and leader. He should be released forthwith or be charged to court immediately if there is any iota of evidence against him.

Signed,

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