



NIGERIAN MUSLIMS NETWORK

And hold fast, all of you together, to the Rope of Allah, and be not disunited

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NMN condemns the calculated acts of massacre in Jos

(For immediate release)

Tuesday 26 January 2010 (10 Safar 1431)

The Nigerian Muslims Network (NMN) condemns, in strong terms, the calculated acts of massacre currently going on in Plateau State against citizens resident in Jos and environs, especially our Muslim brethren. We wish to call on the Federal Government to critically look into this case and bring the perpetrators of the heinous crime to book, no matter HOW highly placed they may be.

The reaction and public commentary of Government officials in Jos clearly encouraged the act of terrorism METED out to a particular ethnic group or groups. This is a clear antithesis of the purpose of democratic government, which ought to show even handedness in dealing with affairs of citizens as guaranteed by the constitution, without fear or favour. Such unguarded comments from government officials are, indeed, the height of irresponsibility which deserves condemnation by all people of good will.

We in the NMN feel that the attitude exhibited by government officials in Plateau State can only breed more violence as it seems to support a doctrine that a group can settle scores with another through violence - nothing can be more dangerous in heterogeneous communities, such as the one in Plateau, especially Jos. The more injustice is allowed to fester, the more is the overall tolerance and fortitude of human sanity stretched thin and the closer the society gets to a state of anarchy.

The NMN hereby REITERATES its call on the Federal Government to exert its might in bringing lasting and enduring peace to the troubled state; otherwise government will be considered to have failed and will at best be portended as a non-partisan arbiter. Furthermore, the Federal Government must make any law or regulation that gives credence to discriminatory terminologies such as 'settlers' and 'indigenes' within the Federal Republic of Nigeria absolutely illegal.

Signed,

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