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El-ZakZaky Condemns Military Action Against
Islamic Movement

El-ZakZaky Condemns Military Action Against Islamic Movement

Saturday, 26 July 2014 20:56

Written by Saxone Akhaine, Northern Bureau
Chief

Category: National

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• Says Soldiers Killed 35
Members, Two Sons

FOLLOWING Friday's
clash between soldiers
and members of the El-
ZakZaky Islamic
Movement of
Nigeria in Zaria, the

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**Movement's leader, Sheik
Ibrahim El-ZakZaky,
yesterday, alleged that
armed soldiers killed 35
members, including two of
his biological sons.**

Condemning the activities of Nigeria's security forces, El-ZakZaky, said the incident occurred as the Islamic sect was holding procession in Zaria.

Narrating his ideal, he said the group had a total of 16 corpses in its custody as at Friday, while nine other corpses, apart from his two sons, were taken to the teaching hospital the same night. He added that soldiers also "killed three people this morning (Saturday) as they were passing in front of the Hussainiya, headquarters of the movement.

According to the Shiites leader, "One of my sons Mahmud, student of Almustapha University, Beirut, was shot in the abdomen and he started bleeding; we tried to rush him to hospital but the soldiers blocked everywhere along the way, and he bled to death.

"The soldiers also arrested some other people, including three of

member dies

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my sons. They were taken alive and two of them were later killed. They include Ahmad, a Chemical Engineering student at Shenyang University, China,

Hamid, an Aeronautical Engineer at Xian University, China. According to him, one of his children was wounded in the leg but survived the attack.

El-ZakZaky disclosed that the police assisted members of the Movement to locate the whereabouts of its members, as they group learnt that they were taken to Basawa.

“When we demanded for the release of our people, the army refused, saying they would take them to Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital (ABUTH) for treatment. I want to assure you that these two children were murdered in cold blood, because they were taken alive.

It was reported that the convoy of soldiers were held up in traffic created by the procession. The Commanding

Officer 11 Field Engineer Regiment, Basawa, Zaria was on his way when the



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incident happened.”

The Army Headquarters had issued a statement through Major Gen. Chris Olukolade, the Defence spokesperson, confirming that the Islamic Movement held a procession. Olukolade assured that the incident was being investigated to determine, among other issues, those who fired at the soldiers using the procession as cover.

Meanwhile, normalcy has returned to Zaria city after the pandemonium that followed the clash. Reacting to the incident, leader of the Northern Civil Society Coalition, Mallam Shehu Sani, remarked that “We have received the tragic story of the gruesome and cold-blooded killing of members of the sheikh El-Zakzaky-led Islamic movement in Zaria by armed soldiers. We have learnt that members of the movement were fired at while on their yearly peaceful procession, in solidarity with the people of Palestine, which as a result also led to the death of two children of Sheikh El-ZakZaky.

“The unprovoked attack and killing of the members of the Islamic movement

by the soldiers stands
unreservedly condemned.
The killings are cruel,
inhuman, barbaric and a
dangerous act with wider
security

implications for the peace
and stability of our
country. It is most
unfortunate and sad that
our security forces have
not learnt their lessons on
grievous implications of
cold blood killings
of religious leaders or
their faithful.”

Mallam Sani urged the
Federal Government to
investigate the killings and
“bring to book all those
who perpetrated this
despicable and callous
act.”



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