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innocent people and the destruction of public and private property by Boko Haram insurgents cannot be accepted, hence the government needs to act fast to stop the insurgents.

Speaking on the recent murder of young children in their school premises in Potiskum, Yobe State, the murder of a prominent Muslim scholar and his associates in Nafada town, and the recent deadly attacks unleashed on seven towns in four states including Azare, Bauchi State, he called on the federal government to wake up to its chief duty of protecting life and property of Nigerians, especially in the north east where the insurgency is most endemic.

According to him, Nigerians view the fallout of these repeated attacks, particularly in the taking over of towns and villages by the insurgents, as portending a grave danger to the nation.

"Nigeria's sovereignty has been threatened, as a so called Islamic Caliphate has been carved out of her by the insurgents. An unfortunate, worrisome and embarrassing dimension has recently been added to the scenarios: the way soldiers take to their heels and abandon their bases, arms, ammunition and other military hardware on the approach of the insurgents! It is sad and an unfortunate fact that Nigerian security forces only surface after the deadly attacks and terrorize an already terrorized people by installing road blocks and searching homes and business premises."

He lamented that thousands of innocent citizens had either been killed or abducted, with the males forced into insurgency and the females into slavery.

"Thousands more are wallowing in Internally Displaced Persons camps in Nigeria and in refugee camps in neighbouring countries. Trillions of Naira worth of infrastructure and public and private properties have been destroyed," he noted.

In the light of the following unsavoury developments, the JNi not only condemned the nefarious activities the sect, but also called for "concerted introspection and sincere commitment by government to take proactive and effective measures in addressing this pernicious problem.

"The government should, as a matter of urgency, ensure that the security forces get all that they need for effective operations and that they serve diligently as soldiers should. In addition, all culprits must be apprehended and brought to justice, thus giving effect to the Laws of the land and deterring others."

Boko Haram kills 56 fishermen in Baga

Sultan Decries Blame Game As Boko Haram Kills 56 Fishermen In Baga

Our Correspondent

— Nov 24, 2014 | 10 Comments

By Midat Joseph, Kaduna; Kareem Haruna, Maiduguri; Muazu Elazeh, Katsina; Bayo Oladeji, Abuja

The president of the Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNi) and Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar III, has told the federal government to wake up to its fundamental and obligatory responsibility of protecting the life and property of Nigerians.

The Sultan urged the federal government to act fast and stop wallowing in diatribe, as human lives are sacred and must be seen to be treated as such.

Briefing journalists in Kaduna, the JNi secretary-general, Dr. Khalid Abubakar Aliyu, on behalf of the Sultan, said the incessant killing and maiming of

Gunmen suspected to be Boko Haram members on Friday slaughtered 46 fishermen and drowned eight others while they were returning from a fishing expedition in Doron-Baga village in Baga district of Kukawa local government area, Borno State, security sources and witnesses said.

The Islamists, who were said to have ambushed the unsuspecting fishermen, were in no hurry as they used their knives to behead them one after the other, and those who resisted were bound hands and feet and dumped into the river to drown.

An official of the Nigeria Vigilante Group, Muhammed Abbas Gava, confirmed this incident to LEADERSHIP on phone.

"According to the reports we have so far received from our members in Baga, the slaughtered fishermen were returning from a fishing expedition they set out for on Thursday night," said Gava.

"The gunmen forced them off their boats, and, at gunpoint, began to slaughter them one after the other. They slaughtered 48 of them - our members found their corpses near the river, while the corpses of eight others whose necks had bruises were found floating near the river bank."

The vigilante official said the corpses of those found in the river "were those whom the Boko Haram terrorists' knives could not pierce through their skins, so they had to tie their legs and hands with ropes, then dropped them into the river to die."

A chieftain of the Fish Traders Association at Lake Chad Basin area, Alhaji Gamandi Abubakar, who also confirmed the incident to journalists on phone, described the incident "as the most bestial of all massacres I have ever witnessed."

LEADERSHIP gathered from sources in the stricken community that they had earlier received a threat letter purportedly written to them by the insurgent group to the effect that it would attack the town soon.

Doron-Baga, an isolated fishing settlement located near Baga town around the Chad Basin of Nigeria-Cameroon border, had suffered similar attacks from the Islamic sect.

LEADERSHIP recalls that about 20 fishermen were similarly slaughtered by the insurgents in May last year in the same fishing locality. In sympathy, the Borno State government had donated N250, 000 to each of the bereaved families.

Major fish traders say that 90 percent of Nigeria's stock fish supplied from the northern to southern Nigeria come from Doron-Baga village.

Nigeria Is Battling With Guerrilla Terrorists - Olukolade

... Says Boko Haram Will soon Be Defeated

The Nigeria's Defence spokesman, Major General Chris Olukolade, has appealed to the international community to be more objective by showing understanding to the peculiarity of Nigeria's current security situation.

He particularly criticised the hard stance of some western countries over perceived negative human rights rating of the Nigerian military, saying it is ill informed and based on a wrong mindset.

Olukolade made this comment while receiving the prestigious Alfred Daniel King Foundation award as a distinguished military information expert, in Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America. He noted that the Nigerian Armed Forces have always strived to operate in line with the professional global best practices.

Urging the world to recall that Nigeria has survived a civil war, social and political unrests, and several religious upheavals in the last 100 years of its existence as a nation, Olukolade said Nigerians can only look forward with a sense of pride to the next 100 years with renewed hope, vigour and certainty that the current travails would herald even greater prospect for Nigeria and her people.

He dismissed the notion that the terrorists in the north east of the country had overwhelmed the military as not only ridiculous but utterly baseless and conspiratorial in nature.

He reminded the critics that the war against the terrorists is not conventional warfare but purely a guerilla one in which terrorists fight sporadically and melt back into the social system.

Unfortunately he noted, some international interests are desperate to portray Nigeria as a failed state, show the world that democratic governance is not good for Nigeria, ridicule the Nigerian armed forces and make them seem incapable of safeguarding its sovereignty.

The Defence spokesman said: "If with the sophistication of global coalition, money and military resources so far deployed to fighting the Islamic State (IS), western powers are yet to dislodge ISIS from Iraq and Syria, then it is imperative they should show more understanding in respect of the Boko Haram war in Nigeria."

He emphasized that the insurgency is a passing phase in the history of Nigeria as very soon, with the concerted efforts of the Nigerian military, the support from the Nigerian government, more understanding from the international community and, more importantly, with the support of the Nigerian people, Boko Haram will be defeated.

Earlier while presenting the award of excellence in Defence Information Dissemination, chairperson of the Foundation and widow of A.D. King, Mrs. Naomi Ruth Barber King, had expressed her delight at honouring the Nigerian military spokesperson for displaying excellence in defence leadership, information management and commitment to service, which, she noted, serves as a shining example that others could emulate.

She stated further that through professional military activities, General.

The A.D. King Foundation, a US-based youth empowerment organisation, is a conflict resolution entity formed to change the mindset

that promote violence and war with non-violent principles, methods and direct actions.

America Warned Us About Boko Haram — Masari

The American government warned its Nigerian counterpart about the Boko Haram insurgency years before it began in 2009, former speaker of the House of Representatives Aminu Bello Masari has revealed.

Speaking to newsmen in Katsina yesterday, Masari said while he was the speaker six years ago, the American authorities wrote to the Nigerian government and listed five things that, if not addressed, could lead to the disintegration of the nation by 2015.

"Most of the things they warned us about are currently happening including, of course, this Boko Haram," the former speaker said, even as he expressed the fear that the activities of the terrorists, if not halted, could lead to the disintegration of the nation.

Masari, who was speaker from 2007 to 2011, chided the federal government for last week's lock-out of the current speaker, Aminu Tambuwal, and other lawmakers at the National Assembly.

"What happened shows the type of leadership we have in the nation and it is suggestive of the danger ahead should the nation allow the current leadership to continue beyond 2015," he noted

He further accused the federal government of using police and other security agencies to create confusion in the nation even as he warned the security agents to take caution.

Masari, who is seeking to govern Katsina State on the platform of opposition All Progressives Congress (APC), said he would fill in the apparent void in the leadership in the state.

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