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Prosecute Jos killers,NBA tells govt

By Pam Ayuba | Published 13/03/2010 | News | Rating: ★★★★★



Almost a week after the brutal killings that took place in three villages in Jos South and Barkin Ladi local government areas, the Nigerian Bar Association, NBA, Jos branch, has joined in calling for the immediate prosecution of those caught in the murder.

Last Sunday, 500 people, mostly children and women, were slaughtered in cold blood in Dogo Nahawa, Zot and Rassat villages by people whom security operatives said were Fulani herdsmen.

They were given mass burial in three different mass graves by the state government. Both local and international bodies have shown grave concern over the gruesome murder described as "barbaric, heinous, uncivil and man's inhumanity to man."

Three different groups, mostly women, had staged three demonstrations in Jos and Abuja.

All of them condemned the attacks and have called for the immediate removal and sack of the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen Abdulrahman Danbazzau, and the GOC 3 armoured division of the Maxwell Khobe Military Cantonment, Maj. Gen. Saleh Maina.

They all accused the military officers of taking side.

The Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) and Human Rights Committee are demanding the immediate trial of all those said to have been caught in the killings.

The NBA noted with utmost concern the extra-judicial killing of one Dung Sambo, an SS one student in Barkin-Ladi local government area.

In a statement jointly signed by the Association's Chairman and Secretary, Barr. Alfred Damun and Clement Iornongu respectively, said since premeditated bloodletting took place in Dogo Nahawa and other villages in Jos South and Barkin-Ladi local government areas, "there have been reported cases of extra-judicial killings with impunity by security agents and one example is the killing of Dung Sambo".

NBA also condemned the Plateau State Command's Police Public relations Officer, ASP Mohammed Lerema, for trivializing the heinous crime as reprisal attacks, reminding the Police that "such glib statements during insane attack, can result in monumental loss of many lives and property".

According to the statement, "We commend the Police for making some arrests of suspected perpetrators of the mayhem but we frown at the attempt by the Police PRO, Plateau State Command, to trivialize the heinous crime as reprisal attacks.

"The Police should be reminded that such glib statements made during insane attacks resulting in monumental loss of lives and property weaken public confidence and trust in public institutions and officers charged with the responsibility of protecting lives and property."

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michael chuks Rating: ★★★★★ said this on 13 Mar 2010 12:25:13 PM WAT

Including saleh maine and danbazau. They both should be relieved of their duty for gross incompetence. (Reply to this comment)

S.M. Rating: ★★★★★ said this on 13 Mar 2010 3:17:00 PM WAT

So NBA is portraying itself as a christian organisation. While I agreed with them that the perpetrators of the crime should be punished, they didn't make the same call when muslims were the victims in January. Let's try to always they the truth even if it is against us or kinsmen. That is the only way to remain in peace and to achieve progress. (Reply to this comment)

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