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## **OPINION**

TIMARIV: Boko Haram In Disguise By Goddey N. Ominyanwa

THE atmosphere is filled with the nefarious activities of the Islamic sect with the acronym "Boko Haram" which means being in antagonism with Western Education. In fact, the havoc this religious sect had caused in the Northern region of the country probably aimed at shaking the administration of our amiable President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan cannot be over stressed. Such security threat is out rightly condemned by well meaning citizens of the land, more especially as the main focus was on Christian worshippers of God in their various centers.

When the Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi emerged as the Chief Executive of Rivers State in 2007, he met a state of terrorism and cultism which he squarely tackled and brought the ugly situations under control as peace returned to the State and people could sleep with two eyes closed.

However, between 2001 and 2012, several anti-social agencies or uniformed organizations were established to monitor some socioeconomic and political activities in Rivers State particularly within the metropolitan city and its environs. One of such organizations was the recent body known as Rivers State Transport Management Authority (alias TIMARIV) that has turned a terrorist agency to innocent citizens of the society which may be likened to the unethical and ugly activities of Boko Haram. TIMARIV has created security unrest to the motorists as both private and commercial drivers could not ply the high ways and within the metropolitan domain with peace of mind.

It is of note that during the military regime, inhabitants of the society had not experienced the kind of embarrassment that is going on even in a democratic dispensation. An agency appointed by the State Government (TIMARIV) could take laws into its hand by assaulting innocent citizens to the point of death without being remorseful. This is amazing!

Of course, there were several criminal acts that has been committed by the government's agency and were carpeted, but the one that breaks the camels' back was the incident that had led to the death of a final year Engineering student of Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt - Tasie Nyenke who hails from Ibaa in Emohua Local Government Area (EMOLGA), which







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Princewill's Birthday Message To Gov. Amaechi

from Ibaa in Emohua Local Government Area (EMOLGA), which occurred on 19th May, 2012 along Rukpokwu axis of the Port Harcourt-Owerri road at about 5 p.m.

In a publication reflected at page 6 of the Beacon newspaper, Voll2 No.25 dated Friday, June 29 - July 5, 2012 captioned: "4 TIMARIV Officials In Custody For The Murder of R.S.U.S.T Student", it was obvious that the victim was accosted when he was checking his faulty car along the road, According to the publication at paragraph 8, "it may be recalled that 6 operatives of the Rivers State Transport Management Authority (TIMARIV), which has assumed the status of a terror squad, had, on May 19, 2012, beaten Tasie, an Engineering student of the RSUST...."

It is ironical that the lives of the detained TIMARIV officials were too crucial to the authorities that the agency represents than the deceased and relations left behind. The Police in a determined manner resisted the pressure mounted for the discharge of the culprits and to issue a no-case submission. The Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO) is applauded for recognizing the precedent of late President Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's Rule of Law and Due Process for advocating the proper prosecution of the murderers in the court of law by the Law enforcement agents.

Since May 29, 1999 democratic governance was born and in our dear country -Nigeria, had been operational for the past thirteen {13} years of civil administration. This is an indication that we are no more under tyrannical, dictatorial, depressional and oppressional dispensation. In other words, there is freedom of movement, expression of opinions, religious liberty and fundamental human rights among others.

Undoubtedly, with the trend of things happening before our very nose, it appears that instead of operating humanitarian administration in a democratic dispensation, it is rather demoncrazy! People cannot afford to become strangers and slaves in her bonafide land and environment. Without mincing words, the present administration was so palatable and sweet in the tongue at the embryonic stage but later turned soured and bittered in the stomach. It is equally noticed that the once extinguished cult organizations has once again reared its ugly head within the Diobu axis as inhabitants are panicking, Philosophically, it has been asserted that "dog cannot go back to its feaces."

Herein, it behooves one to call on the Management of Rivers State Government and all relevant authorities to call TIMARIV operators to order and/or if they cannot be tanned, should be disbanded. It is said that one cannot be in the water and allow the pepperish of the soap in the eye. If indigenes do not have the independence in her own State of residence, what will happen outside her domain? It is high time the people stand up against these new developments of terrorism and putting in place Boko Haram disguise.

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