

Terrorism: Declare Total, Uncompromising War On Boko Haram, Criminal Elements –ACF Tells FG



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The Apex Northern socio- cultural and political organisation, the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF), has called for a total and uncompromising fight against criminal elements including the Boko Haram, terrorists in the wake of the weekend bomb attack in Borno State.

Professor Tukur Muhammad-Baba, National Publicity Secretary, in a statement said ACF is saddened to receive news about coordinated suicide bomb attacks on Gwoza community of Borno State. ACF said: "The sordid events led to the death of at least 31 persons, including women and children (perhaps still counting), with scores of people wounded.

Although no persons or groups have claimed responsibility for the cowardly attacks, they had all the tell-tale hallmarks of the well-known terror strategies of Boko Haram religious extremist insurgents.

" The Forum also observed that the attacks were specifically targeted, for maximum impact, at a wedding party, a funeral and a hospital, all soft and defenceless targets, as undertaken by brainwashed female agents.

ACF, however, commended the quick response of the relevant federal and Borno State agencies to the tragedy and: "Called for doubling down on the efforts to exterminate the Boko Haram insurgency through need strategic synergy between communities, state and Federal authorities, religious leaders, international bilateral and multilateral agencies.

"No efforts should be spared to ensure speedy return to normalcy for the people of Borno and indeed all communities across the nation under siege by extremists, insurgents, terrorists and bandits.

The fight against the criminal elements must be total and uncompromising and implemented first on firefight and later at the ideological levels.

"Government needs to intensify the current policy on engaging with bandits, extremists and insurgents, seeking to win them back into normal society.

However, the strategy must be anchored on the basis of overwhelming and demonstrable force. The terror merchants must be stopped from holding grounds, absolutely anywhere in Nigeria, for much longer." ACF also strongly condemns the dastardly and evil attacks and extends condolences to the families, friends and loved ones on the loss of lives.