

Document: Translation from Hausa to English of a Boko Haram leaflet left by attackers of the Bauchi Federal Prison on Tuesday 7th September 2010

Nota: Over 700 prisoners, many of them Boko Haram members, were freed during the attack. Two leaflets were distributed by the sect on that day. The first was a small paper which just mentioned that the real name of the group was not Boko Haram (“Western Education is a sacrilege”) but Jama’atu Alhlissunnah lidda’awati wal Jihad (“the Sunni Community for the propagation of the Prophet’s Teachings and Jihad”): *Jama’atu Alhlissunnah lidda’awati wal Jihad ba Boko Haram ba*. This was the first time the group articulated its own name.

If the perpetrator has forgotten (the victim will not)¹

Peace and Blessings of Allah be with you

In the name of Allah, who has power over everything and who commands to worship only Him and nobody else.

Muslim brothers, we send special condolences on the recent events in this country, particularly in the city of Suldaniyyah (Jos). May Allah bring rest to those who died and grant us His special protection, Amen.

After this, we would like to warn about what happened in the past. Everyone can attest to the fact that since we started our activities about eight to nine years ago, we have never molested anyone. We only preached that it was forbidden to follow any path contrary to what Allah through his Messenger (Prophet Muhammad) commanded to follow. You are all witness to the sudden attack on our mosque during the early dawn prayer by this oppressive government, shooting and killing our members and arresting others. And yet there are, among our Muslims brothers, those who act as agents of the government to help the security forces kill or arrest us.²

This is a general notice to all [believers]: fighting this government is mandatory. Whoever refuses will be accountable to Allah. For us, we would rather die than fail Allah on the account of our deeds. Whoever can, join us. If not, shut up, for it does not concern you, leave us alone, and watch what will happen.

We are warning those who inform the security forces. We have certainly not forgotten, and we will never forget. By Allah, we will not leave the matter. Don’t think we will ever forget how you made it possible for them to kill innocent Muslims at Tashar Mosque [near the Yankari Express bus station and the Emir’s Palace] and the Dutsen Tanshi Police Station [both in Bauchi Town]³. How you helped them demolish our mosques and houses. How you helped them lying and accusing us of provoking the attacks, simply because you have the media to express any view you want.⁴ Therefore, get ready to run for your life if you were involved in one way or the other in the massacre of our people. From State officials to Ward heads, don’t turn us in to the security forces or your wife will become a widow, your children will become orphans, and your mother will have to give birth to another person to replace you after your death. You will certainly see things you would not want to see. Your only recourse is to repent and stop collaborating with the security forces. If you don’t, there’s a heavy punishment waiting for you.

You have been warned.

Signed: Jama’atu Alhlissunnah lidda’awati wal Jihad, waging a Jihad in this country called Nigeria.

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Hausa Original Version

In Maye Ya Manta

Assalumu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Da sunan Allah mai kowa mai komai, wanda ya wajabta wa bayin sa bautar sa shi kafai, kuma ya hane su da bautan wani wanda ba shi ba.

Ya ‘yan uwa Musulumi, mu na miƙa mu ku gaisuwar ta’aziyyar mu ta musamman a kan abin da ya ya ke faruwa a cikin kasar nan, musamman a garin Suldaniyyah (Jos). Mu na fatan Allah Ya jikan waɗanda su ka rasa rayukan su, ya kuma kare mu da kariyar sa, amin.

Bayan haka, mu na sanarwa gami da gargadi, a kan abin da ya faru a baya. Kowa zai zama mana shaida a kan tun da mu ke kimanin shekara takwas zuwa tara ba mu taɓa kowa ba. Kira mu ke yi a kan bai halasta a bi wani abin da ya sabawa abin da Allah da manzon sa su ka ce ba. Duk kun sani, haka kawai lokaci guda a kan idon ku a cikin masallacin mu da asubahi mu na sallah wannan azzalumar gwamnati su ka faɗa mana da harbi su ka kashe waɗan da su ka so, su ka kama waɗanda su ka so. Amma a hakan har za a samu waɗanda su ka cuna Musulmi don a kashe ko a kama.

To kowa da kowa ya sani, yakar wannan gwamnati wajibi ne a kan shi. Duk wanda bai yi ba sai Allah Ya tambaye shi. To mu kan da tambayar Allah gara barin duniya. Duk wanda zai iya, ya zo mu yi, in ba zaka iya ba kuwa to bakin ka kanin kafar ka, babu ruwan ka, ka bar mu, ka ga ikon Allah.

Sannan tunatar wa zuwa ga duk wanda ya san da hannun sa wajen cuna ‘yan uwa da a ka yi a baya. Lallai ba mu manta ba, kuma ba za mu manta ba, kuma lallai ne wallahi tallahi billahil azim ba za mu bari ba. Kar ku ɗauka za mu manta da yadda ku ka sa a ka kashe Musulmi haka kawai a Tashar Mass, da masallacin mu, Police Station na Dutsen Tanshi tare da rusa masallaci da gidajen ‘yan uwa, da kuma kirƙirar karya, ku jingina mana cewa wai mu ne mu ka kai mu ku hari, saboda dokin mai baki ya fi gudu. Saboda haka duk wanda ya san da hannun sa cikin wannan mummunar aika-aika na kisa ko cune, tun daga kan Gwamna har zuwa ma su Unguwanni, da duk wanda ya ke so matar sa ta yi takaba, ‘ya’yan sa su zama marayu, a sake haifar wani ba shi ba, to ya zage damtse sosai ya naɗe kafar wandon sa!!! Lallai ne za ku ga abin da ran ku ba zai so ba. Mafita a gun ku shi ne ku tuba, ku bar abin da ku ke yi. In ba haka ba, a kwai gargadi mai zafi ya na fuskantar ku.

In kunne ya ji, jiki ya tsira

Jama’atu Alhlissunnah lidda’awati wal Jihad, wacce ta ke Jihadi a kasar da a ke kira NIGERIA.

¹ This is the first segment of a Hausa proverb: *In maye ya manta, uwar da ba za ta manta ba*. “Maye” is a person who has special powers to absorb his victim’s souls. Thus if this person forgets he has absorbed the soul of a child, the mother of the child will not forget. Here, it means that if the perpetrator has forgotten his crimes, the victim will never forget.

² The exact sentence (*amma a hakan har za a samu waɗanda su ka cuna Musulmi don a kashe ko a kama*) centers around the word “cuna”, which, in this case, refers to an informant.

³ This is in reference to the initial uprising of the sect, whose members were killed by security forces in Bauchi Town on 26 July 2009.

⁴ The expression used (*dokin mai baki ya fi gudu*) means that the “horse of the rider who can talk rides faster.” Since the government (the rider) has greater access to the media (horse), it communicates its programs faster.