PRESS RELEASE

YOBE MASSACRES: CISLAC CALLS FOR HUMANITARIAN CONCERN

Giving the recurrent and intense bloodbaths in Adamawa and Borno States and the very recent massacre of 57 students of Federal Government College, Yobe State in the overnight of Monday 25th February, 2014 by un-known persons presumed to be members of the Jama'atu ahlus sunnah lid da'awati wal jihad (JALISWAJ), Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) is compelled to appeal to all local and international machineries fuelling mayhems to put an end to the killings and bombardments of innocent citizens; as CISLAC observed that:

1. In recent times, careless and unintelligent public statements by the Federal Government and security agencies have triggered frequent attacks and killings of innocent Nigerians by the insurgents.
2. Soldiers guarding a checkpoint near the Federal government College Buni Yadi were reported to have been mysteriously withdrawn hours before the massacre.
3. No country in the world experiences the gravity of the ongoing mass killings and bombardments in Nigeria; and the government has shown insufficient concern with appreciative response to address the awful situations.
4. In spite of the financial resources (N348bn, N921.91bn and N950bn in 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively) committed to security vote from the national budget and human resources from Nigeria Army, Police, State Security Service among others; security agencies are yet to curtail the daily massive and continuous attacks by the insurgent.
5. Apart from being the victims of regular attacks, security personnel are not adequately equipped and fortified to curtail the attacks; and the degree of attacks by the insurgents have clearly indicated they are well positioned to be at advantage of the ongoing calamity.
6. The degree of destructions on facilities has denied victims of various attacks access to adequate medical attention including the security personnel whose families have been subjected to life-threatening situations as they are not sufficiently compensated following the killings of their love ones.
7. Unchecked corrupt practices at the nation’s borders have promoted free movement of illegal arms and ammunition by insurgents.
8. The poor, women, children and disables remain the vulnerable groups suffering from the consequences of various attacks; and communities in the affected places that responded to the government’s call on civilian JTF were exposed to massive killings without adequate compensation.
9. The significance loss of lives and property occasioned by the insurgents’ activities across the North, have continued to sabotage the region socio-economic development.
Therefore CISLAC:

1. Is compelled by the gravity of the ongoing attacks on innocent souls and appeals to both national and international machineries to put an end to carnages and spare innocent lives, who suffer the consequences of the attacks.
2. Calls for prompt investigation into the allegedly withdrawal of soldiers guarding a checkpoint near the Federal Government College Buni Yadi, hours before the massacre.
3. Urges consciousness in statements and reactions by Federal Government and security agencies on matters pertaining national security.
4. Demands well-funded and adequate-fortified security agencies to protect the lives and property of the innocent citizens.
5. Reiterates prompt and genuine efforts by the federal government to engage in meaningful dialogue to resolve the ongoing attacks and bombardments.
6. Urges all well-meaning Nigerians to unite and promote national integrity and disapprove dirty politics and all efforts to promote weakness in any region in the country.
7. Calls for sincere and concerted efforts to compensate, reintegrate and rehabilitate the victims of various attacks back to their communities.
8. Urges both federal and state governments to be wary of implicative statements that could jeopardize or threaten the peace and security of the citizens.
9. Calls for adequate security and concerted efforts to safeguard the nations’ borders and address unchecked corrupt practices in the borders.

Signed

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