

REPORT ON THE PRESENTATION OF SIX (6) MOTORCYCLES AND PHYSICAL CONFIRMATION OF DESTRUCTIONS IN MAIDUGURI, BORNO STATE BY THE CHRISTIAN AWARENESS INITIATIVE OF NIGERIA (CHAIN)

As the chilling bloodbath and mindless blood letting ogre of the “BOKO HARAM” mayhem which started on the 25th of July 2009 in Bauchi state and moved to Maiduguri, Borno state in full scale are already well known and publicized, the “CHAIN” in line with its set out aims and objectives went to Maiduguri on the 10th through to the 12th of August, 2009 to see and assess things for themselves and to present relief items donated to it in form of six (6) motorcycles to some victims of the mayhem. The visit turned out to be a real eye opener to the magnitude of destruction unleashed on the Christians in Maiduguri. The world as it were by newspaper reports, have seen, read or heard nothing compared to the physical, colossal and monumental persecution visited on the Christians. It will take the grace of the living God and his loving kindness and providence, for these wounds meted out on Christian to heal. Even though the wounds heal, the scars left will always remain as permanent reminders of the cruelty and inhumanity of man to fellow man. For the feeble and faint hearted man, the sights and sounds of the pogrom may create a very deep, terrifying and life long nightmares.

The share quantum of destruction we saw in Maiduguri involving over 26 burnt church buildings and hundreds of lost lives is best described as despicable and a thorough letdown and the abdication of responsibilities by the government. The sorrows and pains left on the trails of these unprovoked but premeditated attacks are enormous, troubling and mind boggling.

The visit of the **CHAIN** was co-ordinate by the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) Borno state officials and facilitated by the members of the **CHAIN** board of trustees and management led by Rev J. J. Hayab. Though the first leg of the aids presented to some victims of these monumental losses could be described as widows mite, there actually is the overwhelming need to do more so as to alleviate the present conditions of affected Christians in Maiduguri. Church buildings, homes and schools must be rebuilt, burnt vehicles, equipments and furniture replaced. Widows and orphans left behind by killed parents and spouses must be resettled and counseled both spiritually and psychologically. Lives and businesses must be rebuilt and helped to move forward. Proactive solutions must be proffered to forestall future occurrences and commensurate sanctions must be meted out on the propagators of those evil acts, because there can be no peace without justice. Means of livelihood of victims must be restored and Christians must be protected from the evil machinations of people that live by the swords. Government must come in with a helping hand to cushion the immense sufferings of these victims which we strongly doubt, if they will. The universal church of Christ also has a great task towards its brethren in the northern part of Nigeria as been that of brothers' keepers.

The six (6) beneficiaries cutting across the blocks that make up the Christian association of Nigeria (CAN) are;

1. Ibrahim Nagiya – COCIN Church
2. Rev. J. H. Freeson – PFN
3. Rev. M.b. Gelu – Baptist Church

4. Pastor I. Z. Kwaghe - EJN
5. J.K. Apagu – Catholic
6. Evg. Kayode Abe – Celestial Church.

Finally, we call on Christian brethren worldwide to put the Christians in Nigeria, especially those in the north into ceaseless prayers and to extend material and financial help to the victims of these regrettable but avoidable losses.

Attached herewith are the list and some pictures of burnt down church buildings from Maiduguri.

LIST OF CHURCHES BURNT DOWN

1. COCIN Jajeri
2. COCIN Gamboru Maiduguri properties
3. COCIN Old Maiduguri
4. COCIN Railway
5. Catholic Church St. Michael Railway
6. E.Y.N Jajeri
7. E.Y.N Centre Wulari

8. National Evangelical Mission Wulari
9. Celestial Church of Christ (CCC) Wulari
10. Elijah Apostolic Church Wulari
11. Deeper Life Bible Church Wulari
12. The Lord Chosen Charismatic Church Wulari
13. Deeper Life Bible Church railway
14. Assemblies of God Church Railway
15. Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG) Railway
16. Christ for all Nations Railway
17. Baptist Church Railway
18. COCIN Gamboru Ngala L.G
19. Catholic Church Gamboru Ngala L.G
20. The Apostolic Church Gamboru Ngala L.G
21. National Evangelical Jajeri
22. Established Pentecostal Church of Christ Railway
23. Triumphant Church Galadima

24. Divine restoration Church Galadima

25. Total Gospel Church Galadima

26. Revived Evangelical Mission Galadima

PEOPLE KILLED WITHIN CHURCH COMPOUNDS

- Rev. Sabo Yakubu of COCIN Jajeri

- Security man of the Church COCIN Jajeri

- The Cook of the St. Michael catholic Church

- E.Y.N Church Jajeri 5 peoples killed

- Rev. Sylvester O. akpan of National Evangelical Mission Wulari & 2 members burnt

- Pastor George Ojih of Goodnews Church Wulari

27 Christians, Hundreds others, houses and vehicles were burnt down.