

## **#BRING BACK OUR GIRLS**

### **COMMUNIQUE - ANNID SOUTH AFRICA**

#### **Prayer Session Solidarity Gathering**

**DATE: 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

#### **ALL NIGERIAN NATIONALS IN DIASPORA SOUTH AFRICAN CHAPTER (ANNID) TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**

Fellow Nigerians and friends of the Nigerian community in South Africa, it is with hearts heavily stricken with grief, that we, the leadership of the Nigerian community in South Africa, decided to convene this solidarity gathering, in condemnation of the Boko Haram barbaric act against Nigerians, and the kidnapping of more than 200 school girls at the Girls Secondary School Chibok in Borno State, North East of Nigeria. This crime against humanity and violation must not be allowed to stand.

In the past decade or more, we have experienced the rise of Islamic extremism which threatens our values and our ways of life, and more so, attempt to revise our hard fought for independence and belief system. Surely, these extremists cannot be allowed to topple our common civilization and rightful place in the committee of nations.

ANNID South African chapter would like the Federal Government of Nigeria to know that we are not part of any political propaganda going on in the international mass media, to discredit the competence of the government of Nigeria. Our sole aim is to join the global community in expressing our sorrow over the killing of innocent Nigerians and the kidnap of more than 200 school girls by the Boko Haram Islamic extremists.

Regardless of the fact that we are aware of the quiet political economic power tussle between the global Islamic extremist organization and the Western Community hegemony over the Nigerian economy, which happens to be influencing the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria, we will like to use this medium to appeal to the government of Nigeria to take decisive action in bridging the gap between the economy and security of the sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, with the support of the international community.

The government must continue to strive to create a better economy and a better life for all Nigerians irrespective of religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or background. The government must also ensure that the security of life and property of all Nigerians is paramount

We would also like to use this medium to appeal to the international mass media and Amnesty International to play down their political propaganda against the Federal Government of Nigeria, because this could lead to further distractions, which could escalate the insurgency to regional crises that will get out of control.

Finally, the government must ensure that the rule of law and justice must be applied in every case and at all times. As Nigerians, we are confident that no aggression by any group, no matter how powerful, will break our spirit.

It is an imperative at this point for the African Union (AU) to start taking precise action against Islamic extremist organizations all over the continent, because the terrorist attack challenge is not peculiar to Nigeria alone, it is a battle for the whole continent and international community at large.

At this point we would like to thank the international community for extending their hands of support to the government of Nigeria:

1. In recovering the over 200 abducted school girls; and
2. In finding a lasting solution to the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria.

May the good LORD help Nigeria to overcome this situation.

Thank you very much.

Yours in Service  
Owolabi Salako  
Secretary ANNID South African chapter  
+27 83 525 7518