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CHRISTIANS: WHY THIS MUSLIM VIOLENCE?



JAN H. BOER

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Christians: Why This Muslim Violence?

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This book is my contribution to the healing of Nigeria's religious relationships. I am sharing with you the thoughts of Christians on these relationships. Anyone who has similar goals may freely use any of this material, provided credit is given to both the original author and myself, and provided the quotation is accurate. For anyone with other goals, no part of this book may be reproduced in any shape or form without written permission from the author, the usual exception being brief quotes for review purposes.

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Some years ago I published *The Prophet Moses for Today: 366 Social Biblical Meditations*. Many of these meditations contained stories from Nigerian life gleaned from Nigerian newspapers. Frequently Nigerian readers would ask me, “How did you get such deep and accurate understanding of our culture?”

The public is generally cynical about the truthfulness of the media, including the press. However, my readers’ common reaction told me that, in the long run, Nigerian newspapers do give an accurate reflection of the nation’s culture. This series of *Studies in Christian–Muslim Relations* is based to a high degree on these same newspapers and magazines.

This noble breed of harassed Nigerian journalists perform their tasks under the most trying circumstances with poor equipment, dangerous means of travel and grossly inadequate compensation.

THEREFORE

I dedicate this volume to and salute

All Nigerian reporters, journalists, as well as the publishers
of news magazines and newspapers

Especially

Obed B. Minchakpu

and

Today’s Challenge

Under great stress they have courageously covered some of the ugliest chapters of Nigeria’s recent history. The pages of these studies are a testimony to their tenacity.



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ABBREVIATIONS

ABU	Ahmadu Bello University
ACF	Arewa Consultative Forum
ASUU	Academic Staff Union of Universities
BUK	Bayero University of Kano
CAN	Christian Association of Nigeria (Christian umbrella organization)
CCN	Christian Council of Nigeria
COCIN	Church of Christ in Nigeria (denomination)
CRK	Christian Religious Knowledge
ECWA	Evangelical Churches of West Africa (denomination)
EEC	European Economic Community
FMG	Federal Military Government
IHT	<i>International Herald Tribune</i>
ILM	Islamic Liberation Movement
IRK	Islamic Religious Knowledge
JETS	Jos ECWA Theological Seminary
JNI	Jama'atul Nasril Islam (Muslim umbrella organization)
LCCN	Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria
LGA	Local Government Area

LGC	Local Government Council
MSS	Muslim Student Society
NACOMYO	National Council of Muslim Youth Organisations
NANS	National Association of Nigerian Students
NC	<i>National Concord</i> (newspaper)
NCD	<i>Nigerian Christian Digest</i>
NIPSS	National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies
NIREC	Nigeria Inter-Religious Council
NN	<i>New Nigerian</i> (newspaper)
NSO	National Security Organisation
NT	<i>Nigerian Tribune</i> (newspaper)
NTA	Nigerian Television Authority
NYSC	National Youth Service Corps
OIC	Organisation of Islamic Conference
RCM	Roman Catholic Mission
REC	Reformed Ecumenical Council
RK	Religious Knowledge
TC	<i>Today's Challenge</i> (ECWA magazine)
TCNN	Theological College of Northern Nigeria (Bukuru, Plateau State)
TD	<i>ThisDay</i> (newspaper)
TEKAN	Tarayyar Ekklesiyoyin Kristi a Nijeriya (Fellowship of the Churches of Christ in Nigeria)
TSM	<i>The Sunday Magazine</i>
UNI JOS	University of Jos
UPCF	Uniformed People's Christian Fellowship