

“A kingdom can endure with unbelief, but it cannot endure with injustice.”

—Shehu Usman Dan Fodio in *Bayan Wujub Al-Hijira*, 1806.

“My mission is informed by the dictates of my all-encompassing religion Islam. It is my foremost religious duty to end evil, indolence and injustice by fighting, denouncing or merely repulsing them...”

—Hassan Sani Kontagora in *Hotline*, 24 Feb/2003.

“Religion is not to bewilder man but to guide him. It is not to debase him but to elevate his moral nature. It is not to deprive him of anything useful, or to burden him, or to oppress his qualities, but to open for him inexhaustible treasures of sound thinking and right action. It is not to confine him to narrow limits, but to launch him into wide horizons of truth and goodness. In short, true religion is to acquaint man with God as well as with himself and the rest of the universe.”

—Hammudah Abdalati in *Islam in Focus*. Salimiah, Kuwait:
The International Islamic Federation
of Student Organizations, 1978, pp. 33-34.

“It will not do any good to pretend that the religious problem does not exist in Nigeria and it will amount to both intellectual dishonesty and political irresponsibility not to confront the problem frankly and realistically.”

—*Religious Disturbances in Nigeria*. The National Institute
for Policy and Strategic Studies, Kuru, p. 6.

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MUSLIMS:
WHY WE
REJECT
SECULARISM



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Muslims: Why We Reject Secularism

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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 Muslims 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 publication 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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For more information, please contact the author at:

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Web site: www.SocialTheology.com

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This book is dedicated to all Nigerian Muslims who have
participated in the struggle against
colonialism and *secularism*.

I salute these writers for having exposed these two
forces for what they are.
Muslims have identified them better than have most
Christians.

As a Calvinist Christian I am one with you
in the struggle
against secularism
and
for justice based on wholistic religion.

I invite Secularists to open their eyes to their
intolerance and pride.
These Muslims have clearly exposed secularism's
Achilles heel.

I invite Christians to read this book with an open mind.
I will ask Muslims to do the same for the next volume!

I encourage Muslims to be both less offensive and less
defensive.
This book emphasizes some of your strong points;
it does not address your weaknesses.
Be open to them also.

My advice to Nigerian Muslims:
Hucewa Dai!



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ABBREVIATIONS

ABU	Ahmadu Bello University
<i>AM</i>	<i>Abuja Mirror</i>
ATR	African Traditional Religion
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
CA	Constituent Assembly
CAN	Christian Association of Nigeria, the Christian equivalent to JNI
<i>DT</i>	<i>Daily Trust</i>
<i>G&M</i>	<i>Globe & Mail</i>
JNI	Jama'atul Nasril Islam, the Muslim equivalent to CAN
MSS	Muslim Student Society
NEPU	Northern Elements Peoples Union
NIPSS	National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies
NIREC	Nigeria Inter-Religious Council
<i>NN</i>	<i>New Nigerian</i>
<i>NRC</i>	<i>NRC Handelsblad</i>

NTA	National Television Authority
NYSC	National Youth Service Corps
OIC	Organisation of Islamic Conference
REC	Reformed Ecumenical Council
<i>REC</i>	<i>REC News Exchange</i>
<i>SSN</i>	<i>Sunday New Nigerian</i>
<i>VS</i>	<i>Vancouver Sun</i>
<i>WT</i>	<i>Weekly Trust</i>