

Agents of Empire: Fostering Extremist Islam in Nigeria and Beyond

Global Research News Hour Episode 67

By [Michael Welch](#), [Abayomi Azikiwe](#), and [Mahdi Darius Nazemroaya](#)

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Region: [sub-Saharan Africa](#)

Theme: [GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR](#)

“Boko Haram’s strategy, contrary to all civilization, is to destabilize Nigeria and to destroy the fundamental principles of human dignity,...More than 200 young girls threatened with slavery is the proof.” French President François Hollande, [1]

Founded in 2002, Boko Haram is identified as a militant ‘Islamist’ organization that rejects Western cultural values including western education. It promotes embracing Sharia Law based on strict interpretation of Islamic teachings from the Qu’ran. [2]

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In recent years, it has intensified its efforts in the northern parts of Nigeria, Camaroon, as well as in Chan and Southern Niger.

It has engaged in numerous bomb blasts and attacks on schools, churches, mosques and police stations.

Now in the wake of the high profile kidnappings of over 200 schoolgirls in the community of Chibok, the world’s attention seems to have been engaged. [3]

Public demonstrations against the group have erupted all over the world, many of them appealing for a military intervention to free the girls and stop this militant organization. There has even been a social networking campaign which goes by the label ‘#bringbackoursisters.’

As regular listeners to the Global Research News Hour, and consumers of independent media generally have come to realize, whenever mainstream agenda-setting media ramp up and amplify messaging around the Middle East or Africa, it is likely that some kind of propaganda campaign is in the works.

So, the question arises, are the kidnappings from last April being used as a humanitarian cover for a pre-planned military invasion? This week's Global Research News Hour examines the Boko Haram kidnappings in the context of wider geo-political manoeuvring.ers to the Global Research News Hour, and consumers of independent media generally have come to realize, whenever mainstream agenda-setting media ramp up and amplify messaging around the Middle East or Africa, it is likely that some kind of propaganda campaign is in the works.

Geo-political analyst Mahdi Darius Nazemroaya opens up the discussion in the first half hour by examining the history of the US using 'deviant' Islam as part of its strategy of imperial conquest which is in evidence from Yugoslavia to Libya to Syria and beyond.

In the second half hour, Abayomi Azikiwe, Editor of PanAfrica Newswire examines in depth the history of Boko Haram, the cultural and political characteristics of this West African country, and ulterior motives for a possible foreign military intervention.

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Notes:

1)

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/news/African+leaders+Paris+coordinate+strategy+with+West+against/9850405/story.html>

2)<http://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/resources/SR308.pdf>

3)Perkins, Anne (23 April 2014). ["200 girls are missing in Nigeria - so why doesn't anybody care?"](#). The Guardian.

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