

# **IHRC NIGERIA DONOR'S REPORT AND PLEA FOR FURTHER SUPPORT**



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## Executive Summary:

This report provides the accounts of the distribution of the funds that IHRC has raised to support the persecuted members and those perceived to be members of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria. The state violence is directed towards civilians. The aid is distributed to the families of those who have been unlawfully killed by the security forces, victims of state violence who are being treated in hospitals or recovering at home, prisoners of faith and students. The aid is distributed in the form of food, Qurbani, surgery costs, medicine and student bursaries. The figures mentioned in this report cover annual spending up to 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The IHRC Nigeria fundraising campaign has made significant progress in terms of providing critical support to avoid a humanitarian crisis among the supporters of Sheikh Zakzaky. However, much more needs to be done to respond to the ongoing crisis.

## Required action:

So far, IHRC has raised approximately **£93,000** in the last financial year to look after Nigeria's neediest. However, many people are still waiting for urgent support, and IHRC is aiming to increase its fundraising target to **£200,000 annually**. The new funds will expand the existing programme to reach more families of unlawfully killed civilians in Nigeria. The list of documented unlawfully killed civilians stretches to at least **1,300** victims, with about **3,000-4,000** individual family members who desperately need support. A further **5,000** orphans belonging to **650 families** also need urgent assistance. Therefore, IHRC urges donors to contribute to the Nigeria fundraising campaign regularly.

## The Background:

It is almost four decades since Sheikh Zakzaky started his peaceful call for social justice and adaptation of religious values in Nigeria and Africa in general. His movement has now grown into over 20 million followers in Nigeria and other neighbouring countries. He is currently a global phenomenon, especially after the 2015 Massacre in Zaria against his supporters. His call for social justice and removal of widespread political corruption has led to vicious campaigns against him and his mainly Shi'ci followers. In July 2014, the Nigerian army opened fire on a peaceful pro-Palestinian procession in Zaria, where they killed 34 followers of the Sheikh, including three of his biological sons, Ahmad, Hameed and Mahmud.

In December 2015, President Buhari's administration attacked the Sheikh in his residence, killing three more of his children (Hammad, Haidar and Humaid) and over a thousand of his followers. He was severely injured after being shot and captured along with his wife Zeenah, and taken into illegal detention where the pair have languished for more than four years. Since then, hundreds of his followers have been killed in the numerous protests calling for his release.

Throughout his life, Sheikh Zakzaky has been jailed in various prisons across the country. During the military dictatorship of Olusegun Obasanjo, he was detained behind cells for weeks in Zaria. Shehu Shagari detained the Sheikh in Enugu prison. Buhari previously detained the Sheikh in Kirikiri prison in Lagos during his military dictatorship. Babangida put him in Port Harcourt prison, Abacha in Port Harcourt and Kaduna prisons. Under the current president, Buhari, the sheikh has been incarcerated in Abuja and Kaduna prisons along with his innocent and still wounded wife. Aside from campaigning for his immediate release, IHRC has raised funds for alleviating the humanitarian cost of the vicious campaign levelled against Sheikh Zakzaky and his followers.

## Aid in numbers:

IHRC aid is primarily distributed to the affected civilians and families residing in northern Nigeria, consisting of 19 States and the Federal Capital Territory. Lesser amounts of aid are distributed in some parts of the six South-western States of Nigeria.

### The number of beneficiaries:

In total, **1,848** beneficiaries are supported on a monthly basis. Further, up to **710** beneficiaries received a share of Qurbani from IHRC Qurbani 2020 project. These individuals may or may not be beneficiaries of the aid mentioned below. Here are the figures and allocated categories:

1. Family members of the unlawfully killed civilians: **1000**
2. Wounded civilians: **80**
3. Prisoners of faith: **263**
4. Student bursaries: **505**

IHRC raised around **£93,000** in the last year and transferred the funds to Nigeria regularly to respond to the beneficiaries' ongoing needs. Here is the percentage breakdown of the funds' distributed:

Wounded and ill civilians 40%  
Families of unlawfully killed civilians 30%  
Prisoners of faith 5%  
Student bursaries 25%.

# Types of Aid:

## 1. Medical aid:

From 2015 to date: over **1000** victims were treated directly or indirectly through IHRC medical aid/funds. Currently, there are around **80** patients/wounded victims being treated, and they continue to receive funds for medical aid. The total spent on medical aid is approximately **£24,000** annually.

## 2. Food aid

- The families of unlawfully killed activists currently receive food aid which has a total value of **£16,800** annually.
- Around 80 wounded victims received food aid totalling around **£8,400** annually.
- Around 263 prisoners (between 2015-2019) were given food aid. Currently, 63 of them are still prisoners and receive food aid monthly. This comes to an annual total of **£3,000**.

## 3. Scholarship/bursary for education:

- There are currently about 500 students in Nigeria and five students outside Nigeria whom IHRC is sponsoring at a cost of **£15,000** annually.

## 4. Orphaned children:

- The number of orphans currently being supported monthly is 1000 and the amount spent on them on an annual basis is **£18,000**.
- There are currently a total of around **1,300** unlawfully killed civilians in Nigeria. Of this number, about **800** were married and left behind an estimated **6,000** orphaned children.
- Every month, out of the **6000** orphaned children, IHRC supports around **1000** belonging to **150** families out of the **800**.
- There is a need to support the remaining **5,000** orphans belonging to other **650 families**.

## 5. Qurbani:

In 2020, IHRC provided **101** Qurbanis, which supported **74** families of unlawfully killed civilians, comprising **710** individuals: **57** were parents, **110** wives, and **543** children. The total amount raised and spent was **£8080**.

## CASE STUDIES

For the security and safety of the participants, IHRC will only mention the names of the individuals who have been given their consent and are not under risk of further persecution.

- a. 13-year-old Syed Hussain Mustapha (supported by IHRC in 2018) lost his father and three brothers during the Zaria massacre in 2015. He was also shot by Nigerian security forces during the Ashura Procession in Kaduna in 2018. He sustained a permanent spinal injury, affecting both lower limbs, and still needs IHRC's long-term help and assistance on his healthcare and parapodium walking aid as well as educational support.
- b. Haji M Ali Gashua is another victim of permanent spinal injury damage which is still affecting both lower limbs. He lost his businesses and entire savings following the Zaria Massacre in 2015. Given his health and financial condition, he needs constant medical and financial support to survive. So far, he has been receiving irregular help from his family and individuals in his hometown. IHRC has been providing support for Haji M Ali Gashua since 2018, which makes it possible for him to get the vital support he needs.
- c. Br Musa Muhammad Mahmoud is a victim of major wounds from multiple gunshots to both lower limbs, during both the Quds Day Massacre in 2014 and the Zaria Massacre in 2015. He is currently in need of additional IHRC support to carry on his daily activities and **urgently needs 3.5 million Nigerian nairas (the equivalent of £6,600)** for knee replacement surgeries to both knees and related expenses. He has lost his business and entire savings.
- d. There are two cases of very successful IHRC assistance involving two wounded supporters of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria. Both students are currently in their 3rd-year study sessions of B.Sc Nursing, at Tehran, Iran, with the assistance of the IHRC.
- e. Abubakar Haliru (Lado) in Kaduna is another victim of the brutality of Nigerian forces in Kaduna. Since 2016 he has been supported by IHRC for a 4<sup>th</sup> surgery procedure session on both his lower and upper limbs. He too has lost his local business and entire savings.



# NIGERIA

## *Emergency Appeal*

**Supporting the victims of Nigerian state violence as a result of Zaria massacre**

Your donations will support those injured as well as the families of those killed by providing medical aid, food packages and educational sponsorship

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To donate please call +44(0)208 904 4222 or visit  
<https://donations.ihrc.org/Nigeria>

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