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Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 5 - Jama'atu Ansarul Muslima Fi Biladis-Sudan (Ansaru)

Aka Ansaru; Ansarul Muslimina Fi Biladis Sudan; Vanguard for the Protection of Muslims in Black Africa; JAMBS; Jama'atu Ansarul Muslimina Fi Biladis Sudan.

Description: Jama'atu Ansarul Muslimina Fi Biladis-Sudan (Ansaru) was designated as an FTO on November 14, 2013. Ansaru publicly splintered from Boko Haram (BH) in 2012. Since its inception, Ansaru has targeted civilians, including westerners, and Nigerian government and security officials. Ansaru purportedly aims to defend Muslims throughout Africa by fighting against the Nigerian government and international interests. Ansaru claims to identify with BH's objectives and struggle, but it has criticized the group for killing fellow Muslims.

Activities: Since splintering from BH, Ansaru has kidnapped several civilians including a French engineer allegedly in response to French involvement in Mali in 2012 and seven international construction workers who were subsequently killed in 2013. In 2020, Ansaru claimed responsibility for attacking the convoy of the Emir of Potiskum in northern Nigeria, killing at least 30 Nigerian soldiers.

In January, Ansaru reconfirmed its allegiance to AQIM in a statement released online. Ansaru is suspected of having participated in an attack on a Nigerian passenger train in March from which more than 60 passengers were taken hostage. Ansaru also is suspected to have been behind an attack on a military base in Nigeria in April, which killed 17 soldiers and wounded 40 others. In July, Ansaru participated in an attack on the Kuje prison in Nigeria, killing at least one guard and freeing more than 800 inmates, including Ansaru leader Khalid al-Barnawi, and six of

his close lieutenants. Al-Barnawi was originally captured by the Nigerian Army in 2016.

Strength: Precise numbers are unknown; however, given its narrower scope of operations, Ansaru's membership is estimated to be much smaller than that of Boko Haram.

Location/Area of Operation: Nigeria.

Funding and External Aid: Sources of funding are unknown.

Associated documents

Document ID 2101633 Chapter

30 November 2023 | [USDOS – US Department of State](#) (Author)

Nigeria

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

[Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 1 - Nigeria](#) (Periodical Report, English)

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ecoi.net description:

Brief description of the Jama'atu Ansarul Muslima Fi Biladis-Sudan (Ansaru) (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2022)

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