

BOKO HARAM, ISLAMIC PROTEST, AND NATIONAL SECURITY.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

OCT 27TH - 30TH
2018

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
OF NIGERIA



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Report on Boko Haram Research Project

American University of Nigeria

Yola, Nigeria

27-30 October 2018

Bruno V´eras and Paul E. Lovejoy

The first meeting of the SSHRC Project, “Boko Haram, Islamic Protest and National Security,” was held at American University of Nigeria (AUN) on 27-30 October 2018. On the first day of the workshop, the principal investigator for the Project, Professor Paul Lovejoy provided an introduction outlining the main goals, key concepts and expected outcomes for the next year. He thanked the local organizing committee composed by Professor William Hansen, Jennifer Lofkrantz, Feisal Farah and Mohammadou Kah at AUN and the York University organizing committee consisting of the project coordinator, Bruno V´eras, Bruna Tin´e, Fernanda Suarez and Ian Hood. The morning session introduced the participants and partners. Each participant reported his/her involvement and research on Boko Haram and terrorism in Africa. Participants discussed specializations in communication and media studies, history, anthropology, political science, sociology, law, Islamic law, health science, and computer science, each report was followed by questions and brief discussion.

The American University of Nigeria participants gave their reports as briefly described:

a) Jacob U-U Jacob, professor at AUN, reported about his previous research and projects achievements in International level. He new research aims to explore, using advanced data mining technics, twitter and media coverage on the Boko Haram coming from Nigerian and International media; b) Feisal Farah is a lecturer at AUN. He gave a brief description of the ideological and political connections between the Al-Shabbab in East Africa, the Al-Qaeda and the Boko Haram in Nigeria. His brief explanation showed the importance of studying parallel Islamic movements in Africa and abroad to understand the Boko Haram; c) Jennifer Lofkrantz is an associate professor at AUN and is involved in research and publications about historical ideologies of jihadist movements in Nigeria and the local response to the Boko Haram insurgency; d) William Hansen is a professor at AUN and a specialist in post-colonial studies in political science. He gave a brief description of the three articles he published on the subject and

outlined his forthcoming book on Boko Haram and violent protest in Nigeria.; e) Mohammadou Kah, Provost at AUN and professor in computing science and digital technologies who also writes on literature and Nigerian history. He highlighted the importance of using digital platforms as a way to analyze and showcase the research on conflict and post-conflict in Africa. He has particular interests in contributing to the project on the level of knowledge mobilization, big data analyzes and the use of drone technologies.

Babajo Sani is a professor at the Department of History and Security at Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina. He is currently Deputy Vice Chancellor and his long-time research involves the study of sectorial movements in Nigeria pre-Boko Haram; b) Ibrahim Kankara is the Coordinator of Graduate Studies, Department of History and Security Studies at Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina. His main research areas are in peace, conflict studies, cultural anthropology, political sociology and history of industrialization. His recent research focuses on the security efforts of local vigilante groups against Boko Haram; c)

Bruno Véras, who is also a research assistant and coordinator for undergraduate student training for the Conjugal Slavery in War Project, CSiW made a brief presentation about this project under the direction of Professor Annie Bunting, York University. He presents the main aims, outcomes and connections to this major project with the Boko Haram research Project. After discussion about methods of managing the project and comparing issues and internal/ external problems the next discussion and presentation was conducted by the dRPC team. Umar Ahmad Umar and Balama Mustafa gave a joint presentation about the relationship of dRPC, the CSiW project and other international initiatives. They stated that they are one of the few Nigerian based projects applying for grants internationally, with partnerships with the Netherlands embassy, Oxford and Cambridge connections for data collection and research. They outlined publications edited by Elisabeth Hausi related to sufi orders in Northern Nigeria and Shi'a minorities.

Umar Ahmad Umar is a senior programme officer for Development and Research and Projects Center, dRPC, Kano. He has experience in development programming and research with particular emphasis on socio-legal research. He outlined his experience working in several projects related to the Boko Haram with dRPC since 2013. d) Balama Mustafa is a representative for Development and Research and Projects Center, Maiduguri. He highlighted the connections

between dRPC and several other international initiatives and explained in detail his previous experiences with interviews and data collection in Northeastern Nigeria.

François Wassouni is lecturer in the Department of History in the Faculty of Humanities and Letters at the University of Maroua. He is producing and editing important research on the Boko Haram in Northern Cameroun. He outlined some of his key publications in the topic and forthcoming materials, such as the a special issue on the Canadian Journal of African Studies, for 2019 in collaboration with Melchisedek Chétima (Post Doctoral Fellow at the Université d'Ottawa); b) Ahmadou Séhou is Director of the Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches pluridisciplinaires sur l'Esclavage et la Traite en Afrique, one of the partners of the Project.

Seni Moumouni is professor of History and Philology in the Department of Arabic and Ajami Manuscripts and director for the Institute of Research in the Human Sciences (I.R.S.H.), University of Niamey. He current research is on Islam, Islamism and power cultures in the Sahel, being the Boko Haram one of its the subjects. He already conducted research interviews with more than 100 prisoners from Boko Haram. He also mentions the need on doing more research about the “Isahnan”, a new terrorism branch created after the fragmentation of Boko Haram in Níger.

John Edward Philips is a retired professor from Hirosaki University, Hirosaky city, Japan. He is also a researcher member of the Arewa House in Kaduna. He gave a presentation about his teaching experience about the Boko Haram and outline his plans for a new book under progress about the Boko Haram.

The following draft ideas for the establishment of Research Clusters were discussed:

1. Emerging technologies, communications and discourses in war context
2. Health and development in international conflict situation
3. Displacement, Traditional institutions and Restorative Justice
4. Education, Youth, Gender and Human Rights
5. History, Jihad and the Economics of war

Forthcoming activities of the Project include the following:

1. Population of Mendeley with publications, reports and documents on Boko Haram, under the supervision of Bruno Véras and Feisal Farah.
2. Expansion of website, www.terrorisminafricaresearch.org, under direction of Research team at the Tubman Institute
3. Panels on Boko Haram at the Canadian Association of African Studies Annual Meeting, Montreal, May 16-19, 2019. Prof. Meredith Terratta, President
4. Conference at the University of Toronto, fall 2019, organized by Abdoulaye Gueye and Alexie Tcheuyap
5. Special issue of Canadian Journal of African Studies, edited by Melchisedek Chétima
6. Special Issue of *African Economic History* on the economics of terrorism
7. Banting Fellowship (SSHRC) application, Melchisedek Chétima
8. Publication of William Hansen, *Parasites, Predators and Terrorists: Boko Haram and the Nigerian State*, Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press (Harriet Tubman Series on the African Diaspora)
9. Edited volume on Boko Haram, Harriet Tubman Series on the African Diaspora, Africa World Press
10. Workshop of Project Team, Université de Maroua, date to be arranged
11. Conference on Pastoralism and Terrorism, Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina, 2019, date to be arranged

Appendix A – Program

Appendix B – Profiles of Participants

Appendix C – Contact details

**Boko Haram, Islamic Protest and National Security
Programme**

**American University of Nigeria
October 27-30**

Saturday, October 27

6:00 PM Opening Session

Sunday, October 28

9:30 AM Morning Session

Mohammadou Kah, American University of Nigeria, Chair

Paul E. Lovejoy, York University, Introduction: “The Boko Haram Research Project”

Reports from Participants

1:15 PM – Lunch Break

2:30 PM Afternoon Session

Reginald Braggs, Meeting with New Foundations School

Monday, October 29

9:30 AM Morning Session

Babajo Sani, Musa Umaru Yar’adua University, Chair

Reports from Participants

1:15 PM – Lunch Break

3:00 PM – Discussion: Planning the Research Agenda

Dinner

Tuesday, October 30

9:30 AM – Tour of Yola

*Supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
and the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and Its Diasporas*

Participants

**SSHRC Project on Boko Haram
American University of Nigeria
Yola Meeting, October 27-31, 2018**

Feisal Farah, Lecturer, Department of History, American University of Nigeria (AUN) and is affiliated with the Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation (WISE), University of Hull.

Abdoulaye Gueye, Professor in Sociology at Université d'Ottawa and a specialist on the formation of black identity in France, race studies and the sociology of knowledge. His work on slavery and West Africa brings to the project an understanding of historical context and the ongoing social and cultural tensions between Muslims and non-Muslims, and especially Christians.

William Hansen, Assistant Professor and Chair of the Department of International and Comparative Politics, American University of Nigeria and has written extensively on Boko Haram.

Jacob Udo-Udo Jacob, Visiting International Scholar, Dickinson College; Assistant Professor of Journalism and former Chair of Communications & Multimedia Design Program and former Interim Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences, AUN, is interested in the intersection between communication technologies and violent conflicts in developing societies, with a focus on Boko Haram, ISIS, weapons movement in West Africa, communication infrastructures and technologies and displacement in Northeast Nigeria and surrounding regions.

Muhammadou Kah, Provost and Vice-President of Academic Affairs, American University of Nigeria. He is professor in computing science and digital technologies.

Ibrahim Kankara, Coordinator of Graduate Studies, Department of History & Security Studies, Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina. His main research areas are in peace & conflict studies, cultural anthropology, political sociology and history of industrialization.

Jennifer Lofkrantz, Associate Professor of History and the Program Coordinator of the History Minor at the American University of Nigeria. She specializes in the history of precolonial West Africa and the contemporary history of northern Nigeria. Her research is focused on Muslim West African intellectual debates on enslavement and remedies for "illegal" enslavement, especially the ransoming of captives, and on historical and contemporary jihadism

Paul Lovejoy, Distinguished Research Professor, York University and holds the Canada Research Chair in African Diaspora History. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, former Director of the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and Its Diasporas. He was formerly a member of the UNESCO "Slave Route" Project (Section du dialogue interculturel). He is Editor of the Harriet Tubman Series on the African Diaspora for Africa

Appendix B

World Press and has published over 30 books and 100 articles and chapters in books on African history and African diaspora history.

Seyni Muomuni, professor of History and Philology in the Department of Arabic and Ajami Manuscripts and director for the Institute of Research in the Human Sciences (I.R.S.H.), University of Niamey.

Ballama Mustafa, development Research and Projects Center, Kano and Maiduguri.

John Edward Philips, Professor emeritus, Hirosaki University, Japan, and visiting scholar at Arewa House, Kaduna.

Abubakar Babajo Sani, a member of the Department of History and Security at Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina. He is currently Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration). He is also a member of the International Scientific Committee of the UNESCO Slave Route Project - Resistance, Liberty, Heritage.

Ahmadou Séhou, Lecturer and Researcher at Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches pluridisciplinaires sur l'Esclavage et la Traite en Afrique, Université de Maroua and a historian who specializes in the history of slavery, the slave trade and memory in Africa.

Umar Ahmad Umar, Senior Programme Officer, development Research and Projects Center, Kano.

Bruno Véras, Ph.D. candidate, Department of History, York University, and a member of the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on Africa and Its Diasporas. He is coordinator for "Boko Haram - Islamic Protest and National Security" and a research assistant for "Conjugal Slavery in War - Partnership for the study of Enslavement, Marriage and Masculinities."

François Wassouni, Lecturer in the Department of History in the Faculty of Humanities and Letters at the Université de Maroua. He has conducted extensive research in northern Cameroon and has written on local responses to Boko Haram.

Appendix C

**BOKO HARAM, ISLAMIC PROTEST AND NATIONAL SECURITY
OCTOBER 27-30, 2018
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, YOLA**

S/N	Name	Email-Address	Phone Contact	Skype Address	Institution Affiliation	Current Position	Main Research Interest
1	William Hansen	billhansen@aun.edu.ng	+2348054400073		AUN	Prof	Boko Haram
2	Feisal Farah	feisal.farah@aun.edu.ng		passy103	AUN	Lecturer	Al-shaabaab
3	Umar Ahmad Umar	umarumar1983@yahoo.com	+2347032509985		DRPC Kano	S.P.O	Boko Haram/Social Conflict
4	Sehou Ahmadou	asehou@yahoo.fr	+237656965853	Ahmadou.sehou	University of Marwa	Lecturer	Boko Haram/Slavery
5	I.S. Kankara Ph.D	ibskankara@gmail.com	+2348065055431		UMYU Katsina	Lecturer	Boko Haram/Vigilante
6	Jennifer Lofkrantz	Jennifer.lofkrantz@aun.edu.ng			AUN	Assoc. Prof	Jihadism
7	Ballama Mustafa	ballamasm@gmail.com	8034758787	Bashems	DRPC, Kano	S.P.O	Community Development and Boko Haram
8	Ababakar Babajo Sani	saniibabajo@yahoo.co.uk	8036146905		UMYU, Katsina	Professor	Doctrinal disposition of Boko Haram Vis-avis other sects
9	Seyni Moumouni	mseyni@gmail.com	+27796093193		University of Nianey	Professor	Boko Haram
10	Abdoulaye Gueye	agueye@uottawa	61356258001321		University of Uottawa	Professor	Identity Formation
11	Francois Wassouni	Wassounifrancois@gmail.com	237697687993		University of Marwa	Lecturer	Boko Haram
12	John Edward Philips	philips@gol.com	09057164630		Arewa House	Retired Research	Boko Haram
13	Jacob Udo-Udo Jacob	Jacob.jacob@aun.edu.ng	+17189024949	Jakes4real	AUN/NYU	Visiting Prof	Communication/Identity
14	Bruno R. Veras	brunorv@yorku.ca	+16479369134	Brunorveras	York University	PhD Stud/Coordinator	Project Management
15	Paul Lovejoy	plovejoy@yorku.ca	+16479610740	Plovejoy	York University	Professor	Economic and Social History
16	Muhammadou M.O Kah	mkah@aun.edu.ng		Prof.kah	AUN	VPAA and Provost	