



Boko Haram

- Boko Haram is the **militant group in northern Nigeria** that has killed tens of thousands of people and displaced more than 3 million people. [//](#)



- Boko Haram militants mainly inhabit areas in the northern states of Nigeria, specifically Yobe, Kano, Bauchi, Borno and Kaduna.
- Boko Haram means "**Western education is forbidden.**" The group was **founded in 2002.**
- The group also refers to itself as Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad, meaning "People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad."
- The group's initial proclaimed intent was to uproot the corruption and injustice in Nigeria, which it blamed on Western influences, and to impose Shari'ah, or Islamic law.
- In 2015, the **group pledged allegiance to the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)** and took the name Islamic State (or State's) West African Province (ISWAP; also known as Islamic State in West Africa, or ISWA).