



Boko Haram

[Source: TOI](#)

Nigeria is witnessing a **renewed insurgency** led by **Boko Haram**, threatening its national security.

Boko Haram:

- **Boko Haram** is an Islamic sectarian movement that emerged in **northeastern Nigeria in 2002, founded by Mohammed Yusuf**.
 - They mainly inhabit areas in the northern states of Nigeria, specifically **Yobe, Kano, Bauchi, Borno and Kaduna**.
- **Boko Haram** meaning '**Western education is forbidden**' opposes **Western-style education and secular governance** and aims to establish an **Islamic state**.
- It emerged in Nigeria in the **mid-1990s** as a **moderate Islamic group**, influenced by **post-Biafran War** grievances (**1967-70**), which saw over **2 million deaths** amid government suppression backed by **Western powers and oil interests**.
- They operate across borders in **Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon**, and remain one of the **deadliest terrorist groups in Africa** despite efforts to suppress it.

Nigeria:

- Nigeria (also known as **Giant of Africa**) is a country in **West Africa** shares borders with **Niger, Chad, Cameroon, Benin**, and the **Gulf of Guinea**.
- It has the **largest population in Africa** and the **6th largest in the world**, in addition to being the **4th largest economy in Africa**.
- It gained **independence from Britain in 1960**, with **Abuja** as its capital.
- The country features the **Cameroonian Highlands** and is **rich in natural resources**, especially **petroleum and natural gas**.



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