

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE ROLE OF ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM IN
PROPAGATING CONFLICT IN AFRICA: A CASE OF BOKO HARAM IN NIGERIA**

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Abstract

The study was to investigate the role of Islamic fundamentalism in propagating conflicts in Africa by using Boko Haram as a case. The study objectives were to identify the role of Islamic fundamentalism in the rise of Boko Haram, to understand how Boko Haram has influenced conflict in developing countries such as Kenya and in Nigeria, to identify the relationship between Islamic Fundamentalism and conflicts in Africa, to identify the relationship between Islamic Fundamentalism and conflict in Africa. The study used quantitative research methods and descriptive research design. The target populations were the residents of Kano in Northern Nigeria. Sampling methods were purposive and survey. Data was collected by use of questionnaires and interviews. Data was analyzed using Annova and content analysis. The results were presented in reports and tables. Conflict in Africa has become a ubiquitous phenomenon. Much more ominous is the fact that it has taken a new twist from the traditional conflict over resources to conflict shaped by other social factors, in this case religion. This paper contends that conflict in Africa has been propagated by religious fundamentalism from the west to the east to the Northern parts of the continent. Islam is at the heart of most if not all conflicts in these regions. It is therefore imperative that solving these conflicts take a religious approach. Religious reformation is critical in order to tackle this civilizational challenge.