



**UPCOMING: Jubilee Campaign Parallel Event to the UNGA Third Committee: *On Stemming the Role of Criminal Groups in Contemporary Slavery Within Nigeria, With a Focus on Women and Children***

Jubilee Campaign will be hosting a **virtual parallel event** to the United Nations General Assembly Third Committee on Friday, 29 October (**9AM - 11AM EST; 2PM - 4PM BST**). The topic will be Stemming the Role of Criminal Groups in Contemporary Slavery Within Nigeria, with a focus on women and children.

*Click on the event flyer below to view the flyer and clickable registration link*



Jubilee Campaign  
VIRTUAL EVENT



## ON STEMMING THE ROLE OF CRIMINAL GROUPS IN CONTEMPORARY SLAVERY WITHIN NIGERIA, WITH A FOCUS ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN

VIRTUAL SIDE-EVENT DURING THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIRD COMMITTEE 2021

Co-sponsored by the Sovereign Order of Malta

**29 OCTOBER 2021**

**9 AM - 11 AM**  
Eastern Standard Time (EST)

**2 PM - 4 PM**  
British Summer Time (BST)

Register:  
<https://bit.ly/2YZuKJy>

*You may also register for the event by clicking the button below:*

Register Here!

**UNICEF reports** that criminal gangs have abducted 1,436 Nigerian children, with 16 children dead in 2021 alone and more than 200 still missing. **International Committee on Nigeria (ICON)** has, as of June 2021, reported over 2,557 individuals abducted and 2,197 killed by Boko Haram, Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), radical Fulani militants, and other criminal groups. A large portion of those abducted are women and girls who are subjected to domestic servitude, sexual slavery, forced marriage, and coerced religious conversions. Among them is Leah Sharibu, who was abducted by Boko Haram in 2018 along with over 100 other schoolgirls from her school in Dapchi, Yobe State; Sharibu has spent nearly four years in captivity as she has refused to abandon Christianity and convert to Islam upon her captors' demands. She is now forcibly married to a Boko Haram commander.

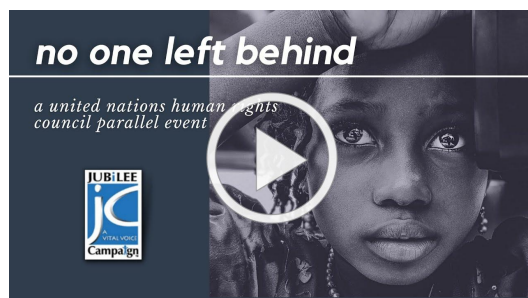
As the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery including its causes and consequences, Mr. Tomoya Obokata will present his report specifically on the role of organized criminal groups with regard to contemporary forms of slavery, it is only fitting to address the situation in Nigeria.

In March 2021, the Special Rapporteur on slavery, including several UN experts, released a statement raising concern about the recurrence of abductions of children and the lack of preventive measures and rehabilitation and funds provided to the victims in Nigeria. As noted by the experts and civil society, "the abductions are not isolated cases." Indeed, there has been no shortage of mass kidnappings of schoolchildren, especially over the past two years\*:

- On **17 February 2021**, a group of armed men ambushed the Government Science Secondary School in Kagara State, abducting 27 students and 15 others; one student was killed during the incident. After 9 days, the kidnapped students and individuals were released on 27 February.
- On **26 February 2021**, over 100 armed bandits stormed the Government Girls Secondary School in Jangebe, Zamfara State, kidnapping 279 schoolgirls (ages 10-17) before escaping in pick-up trucks and motorbikes. The captors released all students on 2 March. During the reunion celebrating the return of the children to their parents that took place on 4 March, Nigerian armed forces allegedly opened fire after parents became disgruntled at the length of the ceremony and expressed their urgency to leave before the roads became dark and unsafe.
- On **11 March 2021**, gunmen ambushed the Federal College of Forestry Mechanization in Kaduna State by boring a hole into the school's perimeter wall, kidnapping 39 students. Another 180 students were rescued by Nigerian military forces before they were abducted. Captors released five of the students on April 5, another five on April 8, and the remaining 29 on May 5.
- On **20 April 2021**, armed men violently entered Greenfield University in Kaduna State and kidnapped "an unspecified number" of individuals, though later estimates revealed that now fewer than 20 students and 3 staff were abducted. In the days following the incident the captors killed a total of 6 students, before releasing the remaining 14 in late May.
- On **17 June 2021**, gunmen killed a police officer and abducted some 80 students and five teachers from a school in Kebbi State. Three of the **kidnapped students** have died and their bodies were found with multiple gunshot wounds on their legs.
- On **5 July 2021**, armed militants kidnapped 120 Christians students from Bethel Baptist High School; approximately 80 have since been released.
- On **1 September 2021**, gunmen abducted 73 students from Government Day Secondary School in remote Kaya, Zamfara State.

\* This is not an exhaustive list of all school kidnappings in Nigeria in 2021

Jubilee Campaign has held two previous side-events during the UN Human Rights Council session in March 2021 focusing on Nigeria: *No One Left Behind - Stemming child, early and forced marriages and conversions of religious minorities*, and *Justice and Accountability in Nigeria - Calling for an impartial investigation into crimes committed by all sides in Nigeria*:



To learn more about Jubilee Campaign's projects, advocacy, and initiatives, please visit our website by clicking the button below:

[jubileecampaign.org](http://jubileecampaign.org)

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