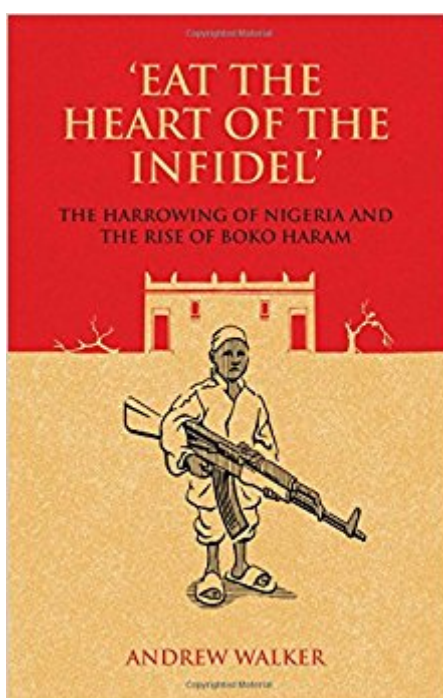


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# "Eat The Heart Of The Infidel": The Harrowing Of Nigeria And The Rise Of Boko Haram



## Synopsis

Boko Haram's appetite for violence and kidnapping women has thrust them to the top of the global news agenda. In a few years they all but severed parts of Nigeria-Africa's most populous state and largest economy-from the hands of the government. When Boko Haram speaks, the world sees a grimacing ranting demagogue who taunts viewers claiming he will 'eat the heart of the infidels' and calling on Nigerians to reject their corrupt democracy and return to a 'pure' form of Islam.

Thousands have been slaughtered in their campaign of purification which has evolved through a five-year bloody civil war. Civilians are trapped between the militants and the military and feel preyed upon by both. Boko Haram did not emerge fully formed. In Northern Nigeria, which has witnessed many caliphates in the past, radical ideas flourish and strange sects are common. For decades, Nigeria's politicians and oligarchs fed on the resources of a state buoyed by oil and turned public institutions into spoons for the pot. When the going was good it didn't matter. But now a new ravenous force threatens Nigeria.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A fascinating and disturbing read. Eat the Heart of the Infidel is vital for anyone interested in understanding the origins of Boko Haram." -- Jon Lee Anderson, New Yorker staff writer, and author of Guerrillas: Journeys in the Insurgent World"Boko Haram have often appeared as nothing more than a Nigerian offshoot of Al Qaeda. Andrew Walker's wide-ranging, solidly-researched and grippingly-told story shows a more complex and troubling picture of a group whose historical precedents go back centuries, and whose recent rise owes as much to local social injustice, political

instability and local rivalries as to religious fanaticism. The conflict as Walker presents it is over nothing less than Nigeria's identity." -- Anthony Sattin, author of *The Gates of Africa*"Global responses to modern day terrorism have been marked by a crisis of imagination and an inability to look back in search of the solutions that would enable us to move forward. Andrew Walker's book provides us with a rare insight into the historical and cultural factors that drive insurgencies, a veritable road map into this complex world." -- Dr Fatima Akilu, expert on countering violent extremism and Director, Neem Institute" In a sea of shabby work on Boko Haram, from the excessively sensational to the simplistic, Andrew Walker's stands out by going many extra miles, reaching the heart of several matters either unexplored or inadequately dealt with by most previous commentators. Whatever one makes of the connections he teases out between contemporary events and historical figures in northern Nigeria, one thing is evident: *Eat the Heart of the Infidel* is well-researched, deeply contemplated, and beautifully written." -- Elnathan John, Nigerian novelist, satirist and writer

Andrew Walker has been writing about Nigeria since 2006. He worked in Abuja for The Daily Trust and reported from there for the BBC.

This is one of the more comprehensive accounts of the Nigerian jihadist group Boko Haram, which pledged allegiance to Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi, the Caliph of the Islamic State. By far one of the more ruthless groups, slaughtering thousands of people in Nigeria, and surrounding nations. If you want to understand what this group is about, their history, and how to deal with them, this is the book.

An excellent overview of the Boko Haram group, based on historical perspectives and the latest evolutions and the new waves of terror. It is an useful book for understanding as well Nigeria's complicated political and economic context and the new faces of terrorism in Africa. Disclaimer: Book offered by the publisher in exchange for an honest review

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