

ws and Current Events :: Nigeria (CSW) Thousands of women march through Jos in protest against viole

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Thousands of Nigerian women marched to the state governor's residence in Jos Tuesday to protest the ongoing violence and discrimination against Christians in northern Nigeria.

More than 200 people have been killed in the conflict between Muslims and Christians in the predominately Islamic north since bomb explosions killed approximately 80 people in Christian communities December 24, the Human Rights Watch reported. Over the years, thousands of Nigerians have died in religiously motivated violence.

"Women are killed and children are killed. Pregnant women are killed and the babies cut out of their wombs," the protestors' spokesperson, Rhoda Awang, said. "We have local chiefs in all the 17 Local Government Councils. Where are they and what are they doing? We have former governors, where are they? Where is Yakubu Gowon? If the people are killed in the state who will they rule over?Â"

The women dressed in the black of mourning and protested for, among other things, the replacement of military forces in Jos by mobile police who are considered less biased.

The governor responded that they had already begun to gradually withdraw troops and "pleaded for restraint and unders tanding," according to CSW.

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Pray that the governor would listen to the womenÂ's protests and that God would give him wisdom about what changes should be made.

Pray God would give Christians strength to withstand persecution and peace in GodÂ's promises.

Pray that many Muslims in Nigeria would come to know Christ.