



Bund gegen Anpassung

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Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje OFR
Kano State Government
Ministry of Information, Youth and Culture
Audu Baco Secretariat, Kano
Nigeria

Freiburg, 7 October 2020

Subject: Death sentence against Mr. Yahaya Sharif Aminu – Demand for acquittal and immediate release

Mr. President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mr. Governor of the State Kano,

with indignation we learned that the Sharia court in the state of Kano, Nigeria, has sentenced Mr. Yahaya Sharif Aminu to death by hanging for alleged blasphemy on August 10. Mr. Sharif Aminu has meanwhile filed appeal against this outrageous ruling which clearly contradicts Human Rights and violates Nigeria's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights which guarantees freedom of religion (art. 8) and freedom of information and expression (art. 9).

These essential rights are the basis and condition of a democratic state and must be guaranteed for all citizens. The fact that Sharia law has been reintroduced in your country in 1999 while Nigeria is said to be along the path to democratization since 1998 is a huge step back to Middle Ages and the religious terror of the Inquisition.

We denounce firmly the death sentence against Mr. Sharif Aminu and urge you to immediately exonerate and release him and to introduce democratic rights for all your citizens.

Be assured that we are following the case very closely and will do everything within our power to spread information about these infamous proceedings in Germany and Europe.

Yours sincerely

C. Müller
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