

Jihadists Behead More Than 50 People for Their Faith in Mozambique

Islamic militants turned a village soccer field in northern Mozambique into an execution ground when they beheaded more than 50 people during three days of savage violence between Friday and Sunday, Nov. 6-8.

Villagers who tried to flee were caught and taken to the field in Muatide village, where they were murdered in a series of ferocious attacks in Muslim-majority Cabo Delgado province, according to Barnabas Aid, an organization which funds projects on behalf of suffering Christians in Mozambique.

In one attack, gunmen shouting "*Allahu Akbar*" ("God is great," also known as the Islamic battle cry) stormed into Nanjaba village on Nov. 6, firing weapons and setting homes on fire. Two villagers were beheaded and several women abducted.

Barnabas Aid's contacts in the area report that anyone who refuses to support the jihadists and embrace their beliefs is attacked, and their property set on fire. Christians who refuse to deny Christ are among the victims. The attacks are some of the worst seen in recent years in the brutal campaign by militant Islamists to establish an Islamist caliphate in the oil and gas-rich Cabo Delgado province.

Desperate people are flooding into the Christian mission stations for protection.

In an upsurge of violence in April, Islamic fundamentalists murdered at least 57 people and smashed their way into a church in Cabo Delgado. At least 52 people were massacred in Xitaxi village when they refused to join the Islamic terrorist group.

More than 2,000 people have been killed and about 430,000 left homeless in the region since 2017. The militant Islamist organization Ahlu Sunnah Wa-Jama, known locally as Al Shabaab (not the Somali-based group), is linked to Islamic State and has effectively gained control of an area of Cabo Delgado.

{eoa}