**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
FACTS & FIGURES**

**Facts & Figures for the report *‘We dried our tears’: Addressing the toll on children of Northeast Nigeria’s conflict***

**About Boko Haram abuses**

* Boko Haram has been **attacking civilians in Northeast Nigeria for much of the last decade**
* Their **reach extends over parts of three states** – Borno, Adamawa and Yobe – commonly referred to as Northeast Nigeria, but Borno has been the most impacted
* Boko Haram factions have **abducted thousands of children, with many boys forcibly recruited as child soldiers and many girls forced to “marry”** their captors
* The most high-profile abduction was of **276 schoolgirls in Chibok in 2014**, but the total number has been **under-reported and is certainly in the thousands**.
* **Children have been** **subjected to torture** including floggings and other beatings, as well as being **forced to watch public executions** and other brutal punishments. **Those who attempt to flee are frequently murdered**.
* More than **2 million people are internally displaced** as a result of the conflict in the Northeast.
* **More than 1,670,000 of those displaced internally are from Borno State alone and around 55% are children**, with a slightly higher proportion of girls than boys, according to statistics from the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

**About military detention**

* Amnesty International believes that **at least 10,000 people, including many children, have died in military detention** facilities in the context of the conflict in Northeast Nigeria
* The UN told Amnesty International it has **verified the release of 2,879 children from military detention since 2015**, although it previously cited a higher figure of children detained between 2013 and 2019. **These statistics are likely to be a vast underestimate**, and the UN has said its access to military detention is restricted so it cannot provide the actual number of children detained in the context of the conflict.
* Former detainees in the children’s cell at Giwa Barracks **described severe overcrowding: 200 to 275 boys held in an area roughly half the size of a tennis court (10m by 13m)**
* Every former detainee interviewed offered consistent, highly specific descriptions of the inhumane conditions: **extreme overcrowding; a lack of ventilation amid stifling heat; parasites everywhere; and urine and faeces on the floor**, because of the lack of toilets.
* The conditions are so bad they amount to the **war crime of torture**, and the mass arbitrary detention **could amount to a crime against humanity**.

**About Operation Safe Corridor**

* Operation Safe Corridor, outside the town of Gombe, is a **military-run detention centre** **set up in 2016** with the aim of de-radicalizing and rehabilitating alleged Boko Haram fighters or supporters.
* Both children and adults have been detained there, and **it has seen around 270 “graduates”** in several batches.
* The **EU, UK, USA**, and other partners have **provided** **millions of dollars’ worth of support** to the programme.
* Conditions are better than in other military detention sites, but detainees are still **held against their will for as long as 19 months, without ever being charged, much less convicted, of a crime** and unable to challenge their detention.
* **At least seven detainees died at Safe Corridor**, many, if not all, after receiving inadequate medical care.

**About education**

* UNICEF reports that, in December 2019, **nearly 75% of children in Borno State – just over 1.4 million – were out of school**
* In Borno State at the end of 2019, **824 out of 1,359 government schools (more than 60%) remained closed** due to the ongoing conflict
* Despite having more than 11,000 people, including at least **3,700 school-age children**, the Dalori 2 IDP Camp outside Maiduguri has no school, leaving those children with virtually **no access to education**. State authorities dismantled the school and removed teachers from Dalori 2 in 2018, when trying to push people to return to their home government area; almost no one felt safe to do so, and no school has re-opened since.

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