

Deborah Samuel: Riots in Sokoto as Muslims reportedly destroy Catholic, ECWA churches

From the [Daily Post](#) of Nigeria and [Sahara Reporters](#)

There was pandemonium in some parts of Sokoto State on Saturday as some residents, believed to be Muslims, stormed the streets protesting the arrest of the suspected [killers of Deborah](#) Samuel, who was lynched on Thursday for allegedly insulting Prophet Mohammed.

According to SaharaReporters, the protesters attacked some churches along Ahmadu Bello Way in the state capital, while demanding the release of the suspects.

A Catholic church and a building of the Evangelical Church Winning All, ECWA, were reportedly destroyed by the protesters.

The protesters had earlier in their numbers stormed the Sultan of Sokoto's palace, setting up a bonfire near the building and demanding the release of the two suspects

"The Catholic church was attacked and scattered while the First ECWA church beside it has been burnt. Some Christians were injured. These youths also attacked some Igbo traders, destroyed their cars. Heard they are burning shops and stealing goods currently in city centres as well. Sadly, no intervention from the armed forces," a Sokoto resident told SaharaReporters.



a leaflet obtained by [SaharaReporters](#) on Saturday, written in Hausa, asked Muslims to come out en mass to protest against the arrest.

“We’re inviting Muslims in Sokoto to come and help them rescue our brothers that were arrested because they were defending Islam and uplifting prophet Muhammad S.A.W,” the leaflet read. “Gawon Mama Roundabout is where they’ll meet; Time: 9am. For more details call those numbers.”

Efforts by DAILY POST to reach the Sokoto State Police Command failed as the Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Sanusi did not take calls and repeatedly shunned text messages forwarded to him.