Niger protests over Charlie Hebdo Prophet Mohammed cartoon leaves four dead and 45 injured

From AFP via the <u>French edition of the Local</u>

Four people were killed and 45 injured in a day of violent protests in Niger's second city against French magazine Charlie HebdoExPatica

Thousands took to the streets of the Malian capital Banako on Friday to protest the publication of a cartoon of the Prophet Mohammed in the latest edition of the French satirical weekly, Charlie Hebdo.

After Friday prayer's, protesters left mosques and converged on a main road in the centre of the capital of the country where 90 percent of the population is Muslim. Police and reporters estimated that many thousand of demonstrators heeded Muslim leaders' protest calls.

Speaking of an "affront to Islam," the protest leaders criticised Charlie Hebdo, which published its latest issue on Wednesday a week after Islamist gunmen killed 12 people in an attack on its Paris headquarters.

North of the capital in the town of Tenenkou there was violence from armed jihadists, part of the fighting that has beenongoing for more than two years