AN OPEN LETTER TO ILHAN OMAR

From The Ad Hoc Committee to Free the Slaves of Nigeria

As Vice Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa and Human Rights

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brothers and sisters currently enslaved and trafficked in Nigeria. Many, like the schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram — which inspired Michelle Obama's "#BringBack-OurGirls" hashtag — are Christians, but some are also Muslim. A large percentage are young women and girls taken and trafficked as slave concubines, like 17-year-old Leah Sharibu (pictured), kidnapped from her school in Dapchi. They endure horrendous abuse and physical mistreatment. The Christian girls are forced to convert to a religion not their own; Leah, for example, is still a slave because she chooses to remain a Christian.

We appeal to your commitment to fight for human rights for all peoples. We appeal to you because *all* black lives truly do matter.

We believe that adding your voice to ours can help free those of our people who are in bondage and in fear for their lives.

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Pictured above: Leah Sharibu, kidnapped and enslaved by Boko Haram terrorists February 19, 2018. (Photo Credit: Sharibu Family)

We therefore ask you to:

- Issue a public statement decrying the capture and enslavement of black Africans, whether Muslim or Christian, by jihadists in Nigeria.
- 2 Discuss with us plans to employ the power of the United States by force or diplomacy to emancipate these slaves.
- Help us educate the American public about the plight of blacks in Nigeria, both Muslim and Christian, who are being slaughtered, enslaved, and trafficked by religious supremacists.

Pastor Ayo Adedoyin

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