

## Charlie Hebdo sells 1.9 million copies

PARIS, FRANCE: French satirical magazine *Charlie Hebdo* has sold 1.9 million copies of its latest issue, which has provoked protests by Muslims around the globe over a new cartoon of the Prophet Mohammed...



Distribution has however been hit by printing problems, with only 230,000 copies ready against the one million that had been expected to ship this weekend, its distributor MLP said.

The technical problem had been resolved and "distribution will resume normally today", MLP said.

The issue was the first since two Islamist gunmen stormed *Charlie Hebdo's* Paris office on January 7 and massacred 12 people, saying they were taking revenge for previous publications of Mohammed cartoons, considered deeply offensive to many Muslims.

The no-holds-barred publication defiantly published what it called the "survivors' issue" on Wednesday, featuring Mohammed in a white turban and holding a sign that reads "Je suis Charlie" under the words: "All is forgiven."

Newsagents on Friday received another million copies of the issue, which "is still selling well" but not in the frenzy seen the previous two days after the issue came out, according to the French printing union UNDP.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the 27,000 news outlets in France sold out within hours, with newspaper vendors selling a total of 1.2 million copies.

In addition, hundreds of thousands of copies have been bought by companies, institutions and communities.

Parisian theatres bought 25,000 copies to distribute to patrons and Air France took tens of thousands for its passengers, said MLP.

A further 150,000 are being shipped abroad. Germany is the largest buyer, with MLP to deliver 55,000 copies by Monday.

A total of five million copies of the issue will be printed, with deliveries continuing next week. Prior to the attacks, the magazine sold around 60,000 copies a week.

*Charlie Hebdo* has also launched an app that lets readers download the magazine. Editor-in-chief Stephane Charbonnier, alias cartoonist Charb, was buried on Friday.

Funerals were held Wednesday and Thursday for Georges Wolinski and Bernard Verlhac, two of France's best-loved cartoonists, columnist Elsa Cayat, policeman Franck Brinsolaro, who died guarding Charbonnier, economist Bernard Maris and Mustapha Ourrad, the weekly's Algerian-born proof-reader.

Source: AFP, via I-Net Bridge

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>