

Ugandans to the rescue



3/7/2011

PRESS STATEMENT

Buganda Community in the Diaspora

130 Upton Lane

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London E7 9LW

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RE: When is it time for intervention by the International Community?

President Museveni and his supporters take the view that by electing them, Ugandans have surrendered their every right to the president to do as he pleases. On the other hand, the point of elections is to serve the interests of those who elect you and not to decide for them what they want. The idea of dreaming up legislation that serves the political interest of the president and his supporters is something Ugandans have objected about for 25 years in vain and it is time we appealed for intervention from those who can put pressure on President Museveni to mend his ways.

In the distorted world of President Museveni's Uganda, the Kabaka of Buganda can be seen but not heard unless he is singing President Museveni's praises. It is now proposed that if the Kabaka pronounces himself on any issue without prior permission of President Museveni or his agents, the Kabaka could face imprisonment for expressing himself on behalf of his people. This is absurdity in the extreme. The Baganda as a nation of 800 years standing are portrayed as an affront to Uganda's ambitions and the NRM is quick to use decrees, intimidation and economic thuggery complimented by threats of genocide i.e. threats of a repeat of 1966 to silence Buganda's legitimate demands.

For the voiceless Baganda, we say that there is a way and we are putting our case before President Museveni's principals. We have written to the Secretary General of the United Nations, copying our petition to the British Prime Minister, the President of the European Union, The United States Secretary of State and the British Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary to make clear that failure by the international community to act could lead to untold suffering and loss of life if President Museveni is allowed to continue on the path to

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destroying our heritage. Enough is enough, we say.

In brief, we have told the Secretary General of the UN that:
The current and past civil turbulence in most of Africa is indicative of the failure of state structures formed by colonial regimes. The incoherence of the boundaries of Uganda makes the so-called democratic elections a mockery and has led to persecutions of most nations in Uganda, particularly Buganda.

Buganda is an unwilling participant in a Uganda formed by the British. Ever since the colonial era, Buganda with now a population of 8.5 million people in an area, which is 19,000 square miles with the requisite resources has sought for self-determination to sustain itself with the possible compromise of creating a bigger economic political federation with other nations.

Just like the colonial governments, the post independence regimes lording it over the so-called independent Uganda have made it their duty to subject Buganda to ridicule and genocide. The Kabaka of Buganda in an effort to stand for his subjects and the Baganda culture has become the target of relentless abuse and contempt.

Examples of the desecration of Buganda since the first regime of Obote are infinite, and include, recently, the 9th September 2009 massacres when the government blocked Kabaka the freedom of movement within Buganda; the burning of a Buganda heritage burial grounds for Buganda Kings at Kasubi; the partition of Buganda into tiny districts and Museveni-made kingdoms; the taking of Buganda land and giving it to immigrants that has left Baganda landless; the killings of Baganda; etc.

Our wish is to bring to the attention of the international community and request its urgent intervention to prevent further deterioration of the relationship between Buganda and Uganda with a firm belief albeit based upon reliable evidence that Buganda is increasingly being held captive and is posed to suffer genocide and persecution that will be more severe than that witnessed in Rwanda.

Buganda urgently seeks international intervention towards self determination to renegotiate her co-existence with neighboring nations. The perpetuation of the colonial legacy is intolerable and has to be dismantled if we are to see peace in our time.

Organising Secretary

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