

The Mutual Union of the Tiv in America (MUTA), Inc.



Corporate Headquarters

96 Monroe Center St. NW, Suite 100
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2905
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Phone: (267) 467 - 8501
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MUTA PRESS RELEASE
March 24, 2014

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

A PRESS STATEMENT BY THE MUTUAL UNION OF THE TIV IN AMERICA (MUTA) Inc.

1. It is with a deep sense of grief and total disgust that we, the Mutual Union of the Tiv in America (MUTA), a registered association of the sons and daughters of Tiv in the Americas (United States, Canada, Mexico), a tax-exempt, non-profit, non-partisan charitable organization committed to promoting and supporting Tiv communities and others both in Nigeria and around the world, strongly condemn the orchestrated attacks and killings of our people in parts of Benue, Nasarawa, and Taraba States by Fulani herdsmen and mercenaries. It is disturbing that what started as a local dispute along the Benue-Nasarawa axis, a few years ago, has now manifested as a well-orchestrated agenda to overrun Tivland. This is evident both from the expanded scope of the attacks and the sophistication with which they are executed. The most recent, well-coordinated attacks and devastation of Tiv communities in Makurdi, Guma, Gwer, Gwer-West, Kwande, Logo, and Katsina-Ala local government councils of Benue State are suggestive of a deeper plan than meets the eye, and we warn the perpetrators and their sponsors to think twice-it won't be that easy. Indeed, as Tiv sons and daughters in the Diaspora, we cannot fold our arms and remain mute as our communities at home are being ravaged and our people being killed, maimed, and rendered homeless by the Fulani and their cohorts.
2. Enough is enough! The attacks and killings of innocent Tiv people and other Nigerians must stop. MUTA calls on the Federal Government of Nigeria to live up to its responsibility of protecting innocent citizens from rampaging mercenaries. It is simply unacceptable that our people should become refugees (internally displaced persons) in their own land.
3. We condemn the attacks on innocent Nigerians and the wanton destruction of lives and property by marauding terrorists and mercenaries in any guise. We express our solidarity with the good people of Benue State and other communities across Nigeria that are suffering these violent attacks.

www.muta.org

2012 – 2014 Officers: *Joseph Unongo (President); Joseph Zume (Vice President); David Agum (Secretary); O'Shea Diwa (Treasurer); Doofan Tor-Agbidye (Assistant Secretary)*

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4. MUTA warns that if the Federal Government of Nigeria cannot defend the Tiv people from the marauding herdsmen we will be forced to mobilize the people to defend themselves.
5. MUTA salutes the courage of public spirited individuals, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and international organizations that are striving to provide succor to the victims through the provision of temporary shelters and relief materials.
6. Long Live Benue State; Long Live the Federal Republic of Nigeria!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Unongo'.

Mr. Joseph Unongo
MUTA President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'David Agum'.

David Agum, PhD
MUTA Secretary

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