



A SCAR IN OUR HISTORY The Situation in Kenya

Dear Friends,



It with a very deep sorrows and sadness that I write to you all trying as much as I can to bring you to understand the real situation in our beloved Country. I know that most of you have very fond memories of your visit to Kenya and East AFRICA and that some of you have retained some constant contact with me and the country even as you had left.

Images coming to you from here do not and will never depict a humane society but of seeming savage reactions to a very sober activity, that of electing leaderships and seeking increased democracies and freedoms. It is incomprehensible that such an activity can enlist such a turn about of event to lead to deaths and destructions as witnessed and experienced by the Kenyan

people and the East Africans in General.

I am personally at pains mostly because I have had occasions to work with some of the areas affected by the riots and destruction and also happen to have immediate family members living in the slums and directly affected by the may-hems although each is accounted for. Some of the families that we work with at Afrika Awake have been rendered homeless and destitute and although most are physically safe, the emotional and Psychological injuries suffered will take time to heal.

I am trying to establish a home for my wife and kids, building a house where we are currently living. Our house partially completed is in an area known as Woodley along Ngong Road. If you can recall driving to Karen Blixen, it is just 15 minutes from the down town Nairobi. We are separated from the Kibera Slums dwellings by the NAIROBI -Kisumu railway lines so you all can understand our current situation. We watch from our windows as the smoke billows into the skies as human settlements go up in smoke. Most of the people who have been working for my family during the constructions of our home are from Kibera. One of our feeding centers was razed to the ground.

My 10 year old son has been commenting that he can not understand why there should be such violence just because of an election. As we watch on television youths clobbering each other and police tear gassing demonstrators. We like many families are being held hostage as gun shots echo in the valley next to us with the police battling the demonstrators and looters. Most of the stores have been vandalized and those that survived are closed so families are left without food. We are left with no other choice but to turn to God as always. Most of the suffering is as a result of no food stores and labourers with no income as a result of the looting.

Why Am I saddened? It is because despite the sufferings experienced by my family, I have friends out there who are not as fortunate as I am and the little they had has been destroyed without any hopes of redress. I might be stranded in my house but with hopes that should the situation improve, I might have some money to go and buy provisions for my family but those out there have none and have no food and shelter. KENYA IS BLEEDING AND WE ARE ALL INJURED.

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED? WE ASK

Since 1990, Kenyans have been pushing for change in various arenas of human endeavors, Political and social economics. We had a government that had subjugated its citizen for many years. Kenya had been a one party political system since 1967. 1991 saw the change of section 2a of our constitution introducing multi-party politics in the

country.

Political parties were formed but being off shoots of the Kenya African National Union. MOST of the new parties were lead but KANU OLD guards and the young people were never given a chance. Nothing changed. 1992 saw the first ethnically inclined violence in the Country as we went for the first Multi Party polls. Peoples from Central Province were being ejected from parts of the Rift Valley and People from the Mainland were being ejected from the Coastal Region. The idea was to ensure that President Moi and KANU did not get voted out and thus the distabilization of voters. Moi won(rigged) but this created a general resentments and uncertainty among the Kenyan People.

The following general Election in 1997 saw a continued evictions of the Kikuyu people from the Rift Valley mostly by goons financed by Moi's government. It was during this period that the Constitution was amended to stipulate a two 5 year terms for presidency thus aiming at ensuring that the likes of PRESIDENT MOI would never again rule Kenya indefinitely. It was evident then that Moi would be leaving office after his term expired in 2002.

The current situation is a political mechanization that started after the 1997 General Elections. Mr. Moi won followed by Mr. Kibaki (current president) and Mr. Odinga was third. Mr. Kibaki was running on a Democratic PARTY ticket (which he formed in 1992 after resigning as a Government Minister), Mr. Odinga had a Political party National Democratic PARTY which he formed in 1995 after his father's death and a having lost the intended control of his late father's Political PARTY then known as FORD-KENYA. Mr. Odinga felt that he should have inherited his father's party but his father had been wise and entrusted his party to one Mr. Wamalwa (Mr. Wamalwa went on to become a Vice- President when Mr. Kibaki come to office in 2003). When Mr. Odinga lost his quest for control of Ford-K, he left the Party with all the people from Nyanza (Luos) and established NDP.

Having established that Mr. Moi would not be running for office in 2002, Mr. Odinga designed a scheme to invade KANU by befriending Mr. Moi and thus created a semblance of a working relationship between his PARTY NDP and KANU. He came into these arrangements with all the MP from Nyanza. As we moved toward the middle of 2002, Mr. Odinga dissolved his NDP party, all its members being incorporated into KANU. Mr. Moi set in motion a programme that would create comfort in his party by having some sort of elections where they created positions of Vice-Chairmen for the Provinces and elected Mr. Odinga as the secretary General of KANU. As Moi was approaching the end of his term, he needed to appoint a successor (notice here that he intentionally created 7 regional Vice-Chairmen with him as Chairman) thus non- of the 7 could make it without him (Moi). He named Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta as his successor who was to go a run for the Presidency on a KANU ticket. Mr. Moi had to side-step his Vice-President who would have automatically taken over.

Mr. Odinga and his group who had thought that they would take over KANU and go ahead and run for Presidency on a KANU ticket were incensed by MOI's action of anointing Mr. Kenyatta that they resigned from MOI's Government and formed a new Political movement. The RAINBOW MOVEMENT.

Having lost the last election to Mr. Moi, Mr. Kibaki and some other political heavy weights had designed a scheme aimed at beating any agenda by MOI to hang on to power by proxy. They formed a coalition of 3 political parties DP, NPK, and FORD-K; they called it NATIONAL ALLIANCE PARTY of KENYA (NAK). This scheme would see Mr. Kibaki run for Presidency, on a NAK ticket against Mr. Kenyatta. Should he win, Mr. Wamalwa leader of Ford-Kenya would become vice-president with the Leader of NPK becoming Prime Minister

With the elections 2002 just around the corner, Mr. Odinga and his group felt that they could not fight Mr. Moi and his prodigy on their own. He sought the help of NAK seeking to form a grand coalition with NAK to ensure Mr. Kenyatta and Moi were beaten at the 2002 polls. Mr. Odinga came with demands. Since NAK had already SORTED itself out, he needed to be accommodated; they signed an MOU which was to ensure that should they win, he would be PRIME-minister. This was agreed on and Mr. Odinga's RAINBOW MOVEMENT joined NAK to form the NATIONAL Rainbow Coalition (NARC) and the ticket was to go to Mr. Kibaki.

I need to point out here that Kenya's Constitution does not cater for post of Prime minister, but Mr. Odinga, through KANU had been involved in the creation of a Constitution Review Commission that would see an overhaul of the constitution that would create post of Prime Minister and others. He and Mr. Moi had hand picked the delegates and Commissioner.

Mr. Kibaki and the NARC party won the 2002 elections. One of the articles of the MOU was a 50-50 sharing of ministerial post between the RAINBOW Movement and NAK, and that this would be done on a Consultative way. After being sworn in, Mr. Kibaki went ahead and created an advisory Council of elders whom he had worked with in business and politics. They undertook to create ministries and appointed minister not regarding the MOU. Mr. Odinga and his Nyanza people were not happy.

Although they served in his government, Mr. Odinga and the group from Rainbow did not respect Mr. Kibaki and constantly undermined his authority. They started fighting the government from within. Pushing for change of constitution. They wanted a constitution that would create a post of Prime Minister with executive powers apart from creating a federal system of Government.

Federal System of Government

This was a scheme that had been created by the likes of Mr. Odinga and Moi during their KANU days to ensure the control of the economic power of the Kikuyu people. So Mr. Odinga tried to sell the new constitutional movement that would ensure a quick enactment to offer him room to pounce for a Prime Minister's position in the MOU. After 2 years of in fighting. Mr. Kibaki forced a collapse of the Constitutional Constituency Assembly and went ahead to reconstitute a new committee head by the Attorney General. They drafted a carefully worded Constitution which they would send to the Public to vote in a referendum.

One of the issues the new draft was to cater for is the issue of land ownership. It also checked the issue of the Prime Minister, ensuring that it was a non-executive post. This was thrown to the Public, for a Yes or No vote. What was the game-plan? Mr. Moi and his prodigy Mr. Kenyatta's had amassed a lot of land illegally as well as Mr. MOI's cronies. Most of the current crops of Kenyan Whites who are descendant of the white Settlers had a lot of land which would be retaken should this draft go through. Mr. Odinga quest for a Prime Minister's post had been checked by this draft. Having forced the collapse of the Odinga appointed Commission, Mr. Kibaki had declared a quiet war on Mr. Odinga.

So the referendum was intended to see and create an opportunity for Mr. Kibaki to cleanse his government of any dissidents. When the campaigns hit the trails. It was a bruising battle between Mr. Kibaki and Mr. Odinga. The symbols were a ripe Banana for Yes and an Orange for No.

Moi, former settlers and KANU joined hands with Mr. Odinga to convince the people to vote No. Little did they know that the government just wanted the vote to go Orange to avoid the plunging of this country into chaos through an imbalance of power with a presidency sharing power with an executive Prime Minister and creation of Federal System of Government.

The Referendum vote went to Orange. Mr. Odinga and his friends being government ministers in Kabuki's government had campaigned against the government side, thus showing open contempt. They were fired from government. Mr. Odinga formed the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) riding on the euphoria of the referendum wave; ODM went ahead and departed from a government they had helped put in power. They joined KANU and Moi to form the Opposition.

ODM intended to be the vehicle to take Mr. Odinga and KANU to form the next government after the 2007 elections. The Kibaki administration was left with an imbalance in Parliament. He went ahead and poached people from KANU who would work with him.

ETHNICITY

During the colonization of Kenya, the colonial government ensured that communities were divided and lived in separated districts and provinces. Each of the Kenyan Tribe was to find itself either living in a district and Province. We have therefore a volatile and fragile situation in a country like ours, if we were to have a federal system of government because it would be tribal based. Mr. Odinga in forming the ODM was seeking a vehicle that would obliterate Kibaki and the Kikuyu in an election victory come 2007. As fate would have it, Mr. Odinga did not want to hear of anybody in ODM dreaming of running for president in his party. Although he did not make this dictatorial arm twisting public, it becomes clear to KANU and Mr. Kenyatta that for any party to be part of ODM, they had to dissolve their political parties and come as individuals. Mr. Kenyatta and KANU under Moi's guidance decided to depart from ODM. Mr. Odinga sponsored 4 other of his cronies to vie for ODM presidential ticket from Rift Valley, Western, Coast and Central Provinces, Mr. Odinga would represent Nyanza. One Mr. Kalonzo although adamant was to represent Eastern Provinces. So one can see here that Mr. Odinga had every intentions of creating a regional system of government. Along the way, the government tried to derail Mr. Odinga's political programmes by checking the registrations of ODM. It was discovered that another party had already been registered bearing the same name. They forced Mr. ODINGA to have another party registered. To Mr. Odinga's surprise, Mr. Kalonzo Musyoka had his friends register an ODM-K so they fished out the certificate and went on with their business. Mr. Kalonzo Musyoka (Current Kenya's 10 Vice-President) saw ODINGA'S ARM TWISTING and realized that staying in LDP with Raila Odinga would be difficult for him. He resigned from LDP and Joined LPK. He insisted that he was in the race for ODM-K Ticket. Finally, he and Mr. Odinga parted Company when Mr. Odinga insisted he was the main candidate and would not go for less than Presidency of Kenya. Mr. Odinga went around the country telling his supporters that the final race would be a tow horse race between him and the then incumbent.

Mr. Kalonzo called on his friend who had registered ODM-K to refuse to endorse any new officials of the party. Mr. Odinga had tried to force the registered official of ODM-K to surrender the office and document to Odinga's cronies. With fears being stranded during party nominations, Raila Odinga and his Nyanza, Rift Valley, Coast and Central Province cronies left ODM-K and purchased the Certificate of ODM from the government sponsored officials. The government under Kibaki saw an opportunity to divide the Orange Movement.

Mr. Odinga took to the campaign trail. Notice here that the 4 other contenders for ODM ticket had been sponsored by Mr. ODINGA to upstage Mr. Kalonzo for the Party Nominations. Now without Kalonzo, Mr. Raila went ahead and was nominated to take the ODM's ticket to fight with Kibaki.

With 5 regions already taken by Mr. Odinga, Mr. Kibaki saw no chance of ever coming back. He had to choose a party to on . He had been elected on a NARC ticket which had been formed out of NAK and LDP (Rainbow). When Mr. ODINGA WAS FIRED FROM Government he left with LDP and later into 2007, Mr. Ngilu the chairperson of NARC declared that her party would support ODM. Mr. Kibaki who had been leader of DP could not declare his candidature on a DP ticket as it was largely a Central Province Party. Mr. Kibaki came up with a PARTY OF NATIONAL UNITY (PNU) which invited KANU, FORD-K and other parties to support his candidature for re-elections 2007.

Mr. Odinga and his regional cronies went around the country campaigning for an establishment of regional government or federal system of government to ensure that people in various regions would be the stake holders to resources available. They would occupy the land own business and run their own affairs Aided by his soon to be formed Central government. Having taken leaders from 5 regions largest being the Rift Valley, Mr. Odinga was self convicted of Victory hoping to still ride on the Referendum Wave of 2005.

He had the control of Nyanza, Coast, Western, Rift Valley and Nairobi. He and his cronies had already planted seeds of hate amongst the peasants that the economy holders in their regions would go once his government came to power. His Political Vision read like any Communist East Germany or Russia would read. Selling a social welfare programme that would be supported by a devolved Central Government. Mr. ODINGA was only interested in winning the election; he did not care how his vision would be worked out.

GEO-POLITICS AND DONOR IMPACT

For a long time, Kenya had been pursued by the western countries to offer solutions for regional political instabilities, in Somalia, Uganda, Rwanda, the Sudan and Ethiopia. Terrorism was becoming a major political and security issues to the western countries and Africa, especially Eastern Africa with its proximity to Middle-East and Afghanistan would be an ideal area to establish checks for Islamic Fundamentalism. The US and EU wanted Kenya to establish a Military base for their Country on our Soil.

Mr. Kibaki took power from Moi when the Country's Economy had stagnated and was recording a negative growth rate. Donor funding was propping the country's budgetary programmes. Corruption was ripe in the country. The IMF and The World Bank had withheld Aid to Kenya for a decade. Nothing was working. Mr. Kibaki was able to steer the country to a stable economy recording a positive growth and as we went to the election, we only needed 7% aid assistance from donors to support our budget. Many of the traditional donor partners were feeling closed out of business opportunities as Mr. Kibaki looked to China for support on infra-structural Development. Britain who had been our biggest traditional Military and social programme supporter felt cheated. They had to look for another way.

Mr. Odinga offered them an opportunity to step in. They all supported his candidature. He offered contract MOU to Germany for contraction of Rail line from Kenya to the Sudan. The United State Companies were to be offered Oil Exploration deals for Northern Kenya. He signed MOU with Dubai based business as well as the Muslims in Kenya. His political campaigns were being supported by the likes of Barrack Obama who incidentally, is related by descent.

Corruption charges were brought for Mr. Kibaki's friends and members of his government, to prepare the way to a return to donor supremacy in Kenya. Raila had taken the battle for take over into all spheres.

LOCAL POLITICS AND DEMOGRAPHY

Mr. Odinga had bargained on obtaining votes in 5 regions closing Mr. Kibaki to settle for his Central Province and some parts of Eastern Province. But he did not read the mood of the Mount Kenya regions. Having read Odinga's mood and intentions should he win, the Kikuyu who number 10% of the Kenyan Population decided to vote for Mr. Kibaki to ensure their survival? If Mr. Raila were to win, there would be evictions and loss of livelihoods. The constitution of KENYA STIPULATES that for any presidential candidate to be declared a winner, he or she must garner 25% of vote cast in 5 provinces of the 8 provinces. He or she must also be returned with a majority of votes cast in the whole country.

Mr. ODINGA knew that Mr. Kibaki had no chance. Mr. Kibaki worked on the premise that getting 25% was not a problem for him having been president. His problem was how to get more Universal votes. He was counting on his Mt. Kenya region. The Kikuyus voted to a man.

ELECTION DAY AND TALLYING

Mr. Kibaki lost 20 of his cabinet members of parliament in just 12hrs of vote counting. The Electoral Commission was releasing result of both parliamentary and Presidential votes from Mr. ODINGA'S STRONG HOLDS. This created a sense of defeat among the Kibaki supporters and Raila and his supporter had already assumed Victory. Then the results from Kibaki's Strong hold started coming in and anxiety started engulfing Raila and his supporters. On the 29th Dec riots had already started in some parts of Raila's stronghold as results showed Kibaki closing in. on the 30th Dec, the delay in releasing results from Central Province, caused the chaos witnessed in the Country.

TECHNICALITY and CHAOS

The European Union, foreign Embassies and ODM wanted result announcements to be delayed while they sorted anomalies in order to catch Mr. Kibaki on a technicality that would have rendered him out of office on 30th Mid-night. Mr. Kibaki had to be sworn in if he was the winner. They tried to influence the delay while Kibaki's people wanted the results announced.

With shouting matches in the Press briefing hall, Mr. Kivuitu had to seek other alternative ways to announce the results. He went to a room and called Kenya Broadcasting Corporations and announced Mr. Kibaki the winner. Hell broke loose.

With 15 minutes of the announcements, we had been watching this on TV, we heard shouts and gun shots near our home. Burnings and looting had started.

PREMEDITATED

It is very hard to convince anyone in Kenya that the violence was not pre-calculated since it all took place within a space of 5 hours. We are all convinced that the quest for Majimbo (Swahili for Regional or Federal Systems) is the core cause for the chaos. Only the people who voted for Mr. Kibaki were being targeted. These are the Kikuyus and some people from Nyanza. Business that too years to build had been reduced to ashes or looted empty.

WERE THE ELECTIONS STOLEN????

The answers to this question will never be known and the election results have nothing to do with the violence. People had already been psyched to violate certain community. The people were doing exactly what had been planned save for areas like Kibera where the anger is from the loss of their preferred candidate. The continued MASS ACTION calls by Mr. Odinga and ODM is scheme by donors to bring Mr. Kibaki and his government into the earlier situation of begging for donor Aid. The idea is to ensure that the Economy is brought to a halt and finally collapse and the seek donor Aid.

NEGOTIATIONS AND SETTLEMENTS

If the elections were stolen as the Foreign Governments and the Opposition believes, the only option open is to seek legal redress. It is evident that Mr. Odinga's main interest is possibilities of sharing power with Mr. Kibaki as an executive Prime Minister. There were the demands offered to Mr. Kufuor Ghana's president and said mediator. We have all the legal provisions in our Constitution to deal with election anomalies but ODM and the International Community will not hear of this, they would rather seek to have these matter drag on so as to inflict injuries to the country. Any mediations will leave this country in the same situation as Ivory Coast. God will not agree.

OBSERVATIONS

The Rift Valley has always been a thorn in the flesh of many communities. Kikuyu moved in during the Kenyatta era having been the most affected by the colonial machinery. Once the white settlers left, Kenyatta had most of the Kikuyu people join land buying companies that bought land left behind.

Mr. Moi came in and hived off forest to give to his people. Unfortunately, once they got the land, Moi's people sold the land to other people. The Kikuyus being economically endowed had been key in establishing businesses in many parts of the country. Those in Raila's strongholds had influenced votes by campaigning for Kibaki. Once Kibaki was named president, the Kikuyu and other business supporters of Kibaki had to be punished. Thus the burnings, looting and killings.

DISAPPOINTMENT

ODM and its foreign backers are disappointed. It would not work well for them. All their planning and promises going down the drain. The calls for dialogue are aimed at directing the issue at hand to spotlight the Country in the international arena. By calling for dialogue, we would involve outside countries thus ensuring that to amicable solution will ever be arrived at. This way we shall need foreigner to seek to help us sort the problems. ODM has refused to go to court which is the Country's legal option to challenge Mr. Kibaki's election opting for violence to keep KENYA BURNING to convince his backers that they can help him.

Kenyan went to the polls; elected Mr. Raila with over 4m votes but at the same time elected Mr. Kibaki with 4m votes plus 200,000plus more than Raila. ODM can now as a party fight out with Mr. Kibaki without his supporters blaming those who elected Mr. Kibaki.

The Irony here is that Mr. Odinga is asking his supporters to break the LAW to force Mr. Kibaki to relinquish his seat for him and to do so with violence and loss of life. Should he Raila get the presidency, what becomes of the loss of human life and destruction of property experienced? With a promise of MARSHAL PLAN by donor countries, Raila has no squirm to seek for his ambitions at any cost.

KENYANS HAVE NO PROBLEMS WITH EACH OTHER JUST POLITICIANS INSTIGATING GENOCIDE. THEY WILL DEFINITELY ANSWER FOR IT AT SOME POINT

God Bless Kenya! God Bless Africa