



THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA (ACK)

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PRESS STATEMENT ON THE STATE OF THE NATION BY THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA HOUSE OF BISHOPS

Wednesday 27th September 2017

All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi

Psalm 11:3 'If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?'

PREAMBLE

We, the Anglican Church of Kenya House of Bishops, meeting at All Saints Cathedral, in Nairobi, recall the words of our National Anthem, which recognize God as creator and therefore worthy of all respect and our worship; and the preamble of our constitution, which acknowledges the supremacy of the Almighty God of all creation. We therefore urge all Kenyan people to respect and put God first.

We pray that God will bless this land and Nation; make justice our shield and defender; aid us to dwell in unity, peace and liberty; provide plenty within our borders. May we in one accord, and in common bond united, build this nation together for the glory of God.

MATTERS OF NATIONAL CONCERN

We wish to address Kenyans regarding the following matters of National concern.

NATIONAL DIALOGUE CONFERENCE

Given that our Nation is on the brink of disaster, unless our political leaders change course and begin embracing dialogue to solve our immediate challenges, we call for an urgent national dialogue conference to discuss the current state of the Nation and agree on ways of resolving the current political and social crisis including the long running nurses and clinical strike that has paralysed the health sector. We can better address issues of concern through dialogue other than through running battles in the streets. We, in the Anglican Church are willing to lead this effort in collaboration with other religious leaders.

We urge the Presidential candidates for Jubilee and NASA to embrace dialogue in order to save our nation from the impending disaster.

FRESH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

We acknowledge the Supreme Court ruling directing the IEBC to conduct a fresh presidential election within 60 days. We praise Kenyans for turning up to vote in large numbers on August 8, 2017. We now urge them to turn up again in large numbers for the fresh presidential elections so they can vote for their desired presidential candidate.

We encourage all presidential candidates and their political vehicles to support IEBC to deliver on its constitutional obligation, not through demands but through dialogue. We urge the candidates to be civil in their language as they campaign and to avoid inflammatory and offensive language that incites the general public.

We also urge IEBC to effectively plan to provide a free, fair and credible election. In view of these they should objectively listen and address all legitimate concerns raised by the presidential competitors. IEBC has to work to regain public confidence by being transparent and in constant consultation and communication with the general public.

In order to avoid the possibility of another bungled election, IEBC must do everything within its power to cleanse itself and take corrective action including exclusion of those who failed in their duties during the last elections.

PEACE AND NOT CHAOS

We are alarmed by the NASA threats to boycott the fresh presidential election and the various other threats by the Jubilee party.

We urge all political parties to engage in peaceful and respectful campaigns; and to promote our national values to ensure the election is held in a peaceful manner.

RESPECT FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS

We call on all Kenyans to defend the independence, dignity and honor of all public institutions especially the Supreme Court, IEBC and EACC even when they do not agree with their judgments and operational decisions.

We recognize that every citizen has the right to disapprove of any institution but that right does not include personal attacks on individuals who run those institutions. Such vilifying attacks

weaken the independence, dignity and honour of those institutions and demoralize individuals who head them.

We call for an immediate end to widespread bullying and threats directed at the Supreme Court, IEBC and EACC and particularly the individuals who head these institutions.

PROPOSED CONSITITUTION AMENDMENTS

We note with deep concern the proposal to amend the constitution as a way of responding to independent decisions made by certain arms of the government and institutions. This is an unacceptable path since it will lead to mutilation of the constitution and weakening of those institutions.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we call upon all Kenyans to continue praying for peace as well as a credible, free and fair election.

We remain available to pray and work for truth, justice and peace.

God bless you, God bless Kenya.

Signed on 27th of September 2017
at All Saints' Cathedral, Nairobi.



The Most Rev. Dr. Jackson Ole Sapit,
ARCHBISHOP OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA,
BISHOP OF ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL DIOCESE,
BISHOP-IN-ORDINARY TO THE KENYA DEFENCE FORCES

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| 2. Rt. Rev. Julius Kalu | Mombasa |
| 3. Rt. Rev. Dr. Francis M. Abiero | Maseno South |
| 4. Rt. Rev. Simon Oketch | Maseno North |
| 5. Rt. Rev. Josephat Mule | Kitui |
| 6. Rt. Rev. Charles Mwendwa Ndiga | Meru |
| 7. Rt. Rev. Dr. Moses Masamba Nthukah | Mbeere |

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| 9. Rt. Rev. Joel Waweru | Nairobi |
| 10. Rt. Rev. Dr. Christopher Rutto | Eldoret |
| 11. Rt. Rev. Joseph Muchai | Nakuru |
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| 13. Rt. Rev. Joseph Kibucwa | Kirinyaga |
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| 25. Rt. Rev. John Okude Omuse | Katakwa |
| 26. Rt. Rev. Francis Matui | Makueni |
| 27. Rt. Rev. Ernest Ng'eno | Kericho |
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| 29. Rt. Rev. Timothy Gichere | Mt. Kenya Central |
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| 33. Rt. Rev. Dr. David N. Mutisya | Garissa Mission |
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