

Gbola Adewunmi



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The Rt Hon Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP
Speaker of the House of Commons
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CC:
Prime Minister
Deputy Prime Minister
Leader of His Majesty's Opposition Government
Leader of the Liberal Democratic Party
Leader of the Reform Party
MP for Sheffield Central

17/05/2025

Subject: Renewed Appeal on Yoruba Self-Determination and UK Government Response to Nigeria Crisis

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I am writing once again to follow up on my earlier correspondence, in which I raised serious concerns regarding the Yoruba people's quest for self-determination and the UK's historical and current engagement with Nigeria as a Yoruba-British citizen. I regret to note that my previous letter has received no acknowledgement, leaving the impression that my contribution was considered too inconsequential to merit a response.

His Majesty the King has had an audience with the President of Nigeria following receipt of our (Yoruba National Youth) first letter to him on 22 June 2024, copies of which were also sent to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister himself has since held a conversation with the Nigerian President, as reported on the official Gov.uk platform. Yet despite these high-level engagements, there remains a conspicuous absence of any outreach or recourse to the leadership of the Yoruba Self-Determination Movement (YSDM).

Let me be unequivocal: the situation in Nigeria today is not merely an environmental issue, such as the greenhouse effect. What we are witnessing is a systematic and brutal campaign. Armed Fulani herders enter farms to destroy crops and provoke indigenous farmers, followed by

heavily armed Fulani terrorists who attack, kill, and forcibly displace entire communities. The objective is simple and chilling: to seize land and erase ancestral claims. These acts are not random; they form part of a sustained and orchestrated pattern, and it is not restricted to the North anymore, but also the terror is in our Yoruba land. According to unofficial reports, there are over seventy (70) terror cells in and around the Yoruba forest. Military bases are being overrun by the terrorists, or should we say handed over. The current president suspended an elected governor of a state in deference to a serving minister in his cabinet, who presents himself (Minister) as the godfather of the said state. The current political class are as bad as the Boko Haram/Fulani terrorists.

Nigeria is a failed country on the verge of implosion. No amount of benefits derived from its natural and human resources will compensate for the unmitigated disaster that a spill over into the entire Western African region would cause to the U.K. and the world at large, if the nations currently trapped in the nightmare are not allowed to self-determine peacefully.

I find it deeply troubling that former President Muhammadu Buhari continues to enter the United Kingdom freely, despite clear documentation of human rights violations and his covert and overt actions to empower the terrorists and the well corroborated reports that he was involved in the genesis of the problem. During the #EndSARS protests, his first public statement insinuated that young protesters intended to overthrow him, a claim that immediately preceded the military's use of lethal force. Under his regime, individuals labelled as "repentant terrorists" were not only released back into the communities they terrorised but, alarmingly, some were absorbed into the country's security services. Many of them later rejoined terrorist cells. **The head of the DSS, Nigeria's intelligence agency, even issued a public statement effectively telling communities to "help themselves," acknowledging the state's inability, or unwillingness, to protect its citizens.**

Meanwhile, I argued in favour of a strong, independent government during the last UK election, and I discouraged those who believed that foreign issues or crises should unduly influence our democratic processes. I have always maintained that UK elections must be decided on internal, national considerations. However, the tepid response of the current government to matters like these has left me questioning whether the government's inaction has undermined my position.

I respectfully urge you, Mr. Speaker, and the entire House, to request a detailed and up-to-date intelligence briefing from the relevant security services on the Nigerian situation. The UK Government's own Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) currently advises against travel to large parts of Nigeria, designating the majority of the country as unsafe. This alone should prompt a more profound reassessment of our policy approach.

Furthermore, I must inform you that the Yoruba people, both at home and in the diaspora, will be coming out to rally peacefully in support of our right to a Self-Determined and Independent Yoruba Nation. We call upon the UK Government and this House to use their diplomatic influence to urge the Nigerian Government and its security agencies, who are still operating with colonial-era impunity and now dangerously infiltrated by extremists/terrorists, not to harm our

people. Peaceful protest is not a crime; it is a right, one acknowledged even by Nigeria's deeply flawed constitution and legal system.

Finally, we reiterate our demand that:

1. **HM Government and Parliament should use their influence to encourage the Nigerian Government to engage in dialogue with the leadership of the Yoruba Self-Determination Movement, led by Prof. Banji Akintoye.**
2. **All non-essential diplomatic and family-related visas for Nigerian government officials and their relatives are to be suspended. The cancellation of visas for all present and past political office holders and their family members is proposed as an incentive to participate in the dialogue to find a pathway to the dissolution of an unfruitful and abusive union.**
3. **The immediate cessation of all UK military and police aid to Nigeria, as these institutions have been compromised.**

We remain committed to peaceful, legal advocacy and implore the House of Commons to address these urgent matters with the seriousness they deserve. The United Kingdom must not be seen, either in action or in silence, as enabling terror or ignoring justice.

NB: This letter has also been sent to a select group of notable individuals in society to serve as witnesses to the overtures made to the constituted authority, aimed at averting an impending disaster.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of myself and the Yoruba National Youth, U.K. Chapter

Gbola Adewunmi

Yoruba National Youth UK Chapter Coordinator