

MOVEMENT FOR NEW NIGERIA (MNN) *BULLETIN No. 4*

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AN OPEN LETTER, AN IMPEACHMENT PLOT AND A RECEEDING 2015: THE FURY AGAINST RECONSTRUCTING THE FALLEN HOUSE OF NIGERIA.

As the entire global Community stood still in awe, united in a mixed grill of grief and celebration of the glorious ascent of the world's most beloved statesman, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, and as world leaders besieged South Africa in an unprecedented show of genuine affection, a vainglorious megalomaniac, in Nigeria's contingent to South Africa, former President Olusegun Obasanjo, chose to pollute the blissful week for humanity by releasing to the global audience an open letter he had addressed to the sitting President of Nigeria, Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, who was also in South Africa at the head of the Nigerian Contingent to the farewell fiesta.

The open letter titled "BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE" pointedly accused President Jonathan of running the ship of the Nigerian State aground, of being grossly incompetent in managing the affairs state, of promoting massive corruption and of raising a sniper squad to eliminate political opponents, reminiscent of the Abacha days. He warns President Jonathan against contesting in 2015 and proclaimed that security can only return the moment he opts out of the 2015 electoral round, warning also that the 2014 National Conference is fraught with the danger of chaos, thus dismissing it.

Expectedly, torrents of reactions have flowed freely for and against the unsolicited "messianic" intervention of Obasanjo. Taking a closer look at these categories, those who support the vicious vituperations of Obasanjo, obviously aware of his moral deficit, were quick to urge all of us to concentrate on the message and not look at the messenger. To them, it was the most patriotic service to the fatherland while the vast majority of those against the rude intervention poured unprintable invectives at the man whom they believed has done more than many to wreck the Nigerian state.

However, of outstanding significance in these two categories; (i) on the support side were the swift reactions of the rambunctious opposition party, the APC, which called for the immediate impeachment of President Jonathan for the offences elicited as if on cue and (ii) on the other side an eleven page epistle titled "Open Letter to My Father", Obasanjo's daughter, Iyabo, thoroughly deconstructing and severely demystifying Olusegun Obasanjo "enigma", which is masked, in her words, in a "narcissistic megalomaniac personality". She thus lifted the thick veil of the dark, real world of Olusegun Obasanjo.

MNN's READING OF (i) OBASANJO'S OPEN LETTER TO MR PRESIDENT,(ii) THE REACTIONS TO IT INCLUDING APC'S CALL FOR IMPEACHMENT (iii) THE QUESTION OF 2015 AND (iv) VIS-À-VIS THE PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL RECONSTRUCTION OF NIGERIA (NATIONAL CONFERENCE)

Let it be recalled that, by its Bulletin numbers 1, 2, & 3 (published in Guardian 24/09/2013, 12/10/2013, 12/11/2013 and Vanguard 21/09/2013, 14/10/2013, 07/11/2013), MNN presented a fresh comprehensive diagnosis of the debilitating ailments of Nigeria together with a treatment plan; the congenital structural deformities deliberately inflicted by Frederick Lugard at her (Nigeria's) conception and birth in 1914 creation resulting in an apartheid-like master-servant constitutional setting; the reinforcements of same through the years culminating in the current unitary 1999 Constitution firmly anchored on the October 1960 Mission Statement/Battle Script of Ahmadu Bello, where he declared that: ***"The new Nation called Nigeria should be an estate of our Great Grandfather Uthman Dan Fodio; we use the minorities of the North as willing tools and the South as conquered territory and never allow them to rule over us and never allow them to have control of their future"***, Parrot Newspaper, October 12, 1960.

The Bulletins dwelt on the many constitutional grievances fueling violent agitation across the land, (OPC, MEND, MASSOB, BOKO HARAM, OMBATSE ETC) and Bulletin 3 established the locus of sovereignty between the peoples and the National Assembly. The issues around the dialogue initiative by President Goodluck Jonathan were amply ventilated. It is, therefore, against this background of a robust engagement with the multifarious issues of the Nigerian polity that MNN beams its interpretative searchlight on the open letter of Obasanjo to Jonathan, the APC impeachment gambit, the question of 2015 and the presidential dialogue initiative for the Constitutional Reconstruction of Nigeria as well as the fast developing, gyrating fallouts.

OBASANJO'S OPEN LETTER

For the untrained eye, the letter may pass off as the patriotic intervention of a concerned former President but for those schooled in the deeper intrigues of the Nigerian fraud, MNN invites all to its X-ray of the issues.

(1) THE MESSAGE: The charge by Obasanjo that the President is promoting corruption, insecurity and generally leading the country to the brink needs no response from any quarters because the records of how corruption, official deceit, insecurity and the other vices that he now laments, including sniper trainings, came to take deep roots in Nigeria are there for all to see. The centrality of Obasanjo's role in introducing and nurturing these vices to full-grown monsters span from 1976 through 2007.

- (i)** It was under his watch that the unitarism that has brought Nigeria to the present sorry state got formally imposed in the so called 1979 Constitution when the Constituent Assembly's clean Draft was totally upturned by 17 Amendments. In doing that, Obasanjo as head slave, did the bidding of his Northern masters to impose a unitary-styled constitution to formally enslave Southern Nigeria.
- (ii)** It was under his watch that the infamous Ita-Okoko camp, offshore Lagos, was maintained to dehumanize perceived political opponents into death. This is a truism.

- (iii) The brutal destruction of the “Kalakuta Republic’s” palace of one of Africa’s most talented musicians and philosopher, Fela Anikulapo Kuti, in which his 78 years mother, Madam Funmilayo Ransome Kuti, got thrown out from a two-storey building, fracturing her leg and later dying from the injuries, by Obasanjo’s unknown soldiers.
- (iv) In Obasanjo’s second coming, there was Odi, there was Zaki Biam where the Federal High Courts pronounced his massacre of innocent people as genocide.
- (v) His wartime and even post-war legendary cruelty of locking up the living with the dead such that the living died from the stench of decomposing bodies in Ikot Ekpene area.
- (vi) It was the PDP he led as President that Prof Wole Soyinka described as hosting a “Nest of Killers”, following the gruesome murder in rapid succession of Marshal Harry, Dikibo, and later Bola Ige and many more less known names. Now, Obasanjo charges President Jonathan with training of snipers to take on political opponents?
- (vii) On the matter of corruption;
 - Under Obasanjo’s watch, the Land Use Act was used to massively dispossess many citizens of their ancestral lands. The title documents of Otta Farm and many more expanses of land assets across the country have their roots in this grand property larceny.
 - Under his watch, Haliburton, Siemens, Petroleum Trust Development Fund (PTDF) and the \$16billion Power Project scams all happened.
 - Electoral heists of unprecedented proportions were perfected under Obasanjo’s tenure and there can be no greater corruption than stealing of electoral mandates to preside over the people and the treasury.
 - EFCC became an attack dog for perceived political opponents while corruption grew to new heights under the Obasanjo watchful eyes.
- (viii) Deceit as an act of Statecraft.
As Nigeria gasped desperately for salvation, Obasanjo’s 2005 National Political Reform Conference was foisted to pretend as dialogue while he pursued self-perpetuation in office.
- (ix) Obasanjo’s desperate search for international relevance by way of the Nobel Prize, saw him trade off the Bakassi people and their land under one dubious green-tree shenanigan. The list is endless, yet he comes pointing fingers.

(2) **THE MESSENGER:** MNN wholly adopts the God-inspired open letter of Iyabo Obasanjo to her father as a true assessment of the “narcissistic megalomaniac” (her exact words) we all refer to as Olusegun Obasanjo. The only thing MNN will add to that is that, for every virtue celebrated in Nelson Mandela, Obasanjo possesses a damning vice such that while Nelson Mandela is the world’s most loved individual, **Obasanjo is arguably the world’s most despised Individual.**

(3) THE MOTIVE: The timing of the release of Obasanjo's open letter to President Jonathan to coincide with a gathering of world leaders, just like he chose to do in the time of Abiola's incarceration when he declared that Abiola was not the messiah Nigeria was waiting for, suggests a sinister intention to make a case and generally prepare before world leaders for whatever he (Obasanjo) and his named confederates will do next to President Jonathan.

Again, the obviously choreographed spontaneous call by the APC for President Jonathan's impeachment would also suggest a premeditated plan in which the "revered elder statesman" Obasanjo's grave charges against President Jonathan became more or less the Articles of impeachment, listing an array of alleged constitutional gross misconducts.

Any doubt about collaboration between Obasanjo, the APC (by extension, the defecting PDP Governors/legislators) is removed by Iyabo's open letter to her father at the point where she wrote about being offered an APC Senatorial ticket by her father. It is public knowledge that Obasanjo could not have offered such a ticket to her if he (Obasanjo) had not secured a firm commitment from the proprietors of APC particularly the Emperor of Bourdilon.

Still on the question of motive, a few other pointers stick out like red flags in the open letter, sufficient to lead any inquiry to the wider intentions of the APC/OBJ, collaboration. Those pointers include:

- (i) The trenchant demand that President Jonathan steps back from contesting the 2015 elections as condition for his (GEJ) redemption.
- (ii) The dismissal of the National Conference initiative as being fraught with danger.
- (iii) In offering to lay down his life in pursuit of the indivisibility mantra and conversely the veiled threat to liquidate any person whose acts or omission may threaten the imposed oneness of the fraudulent Nigeria, including President Jonathan as happened to Ironsi. It be would be recalled that Jeremiah Useni in a recently well publicized interview, gloated in gory details of how they, the Northern Officers in the military at the time after the first coup in January 1966 when the North lost power decided to eliminate General Ironsi, who though not at all involved in that coup of January 1966, was a Southerner upon whom the leadership fell just as it is now, where the North lost power at the death of President Yar'Adua and is now charging ferociously and menacingly at an innocent President Jonathan upon whom power constitutionally devolved. MNN is watching closely.
- (iv) In mentioning his confederates, Ibrahim Babangida, Abdulsalami Abubakar, Theophilus Yakubu Danjuma in the obdurate and unfinishable task of "keeping the fraudulent Nigeria One". Obasanjo obviously aims at intimidating Jonathan to submission, considering the history of their joint roles at violently keeping Nigeria one.

A closer review of (i) - (iv) above manifestly shows that common strategic interest bringing together Obasanjo, the APC, the decamping NewPDP/PDP elements, the ungodly trio of Ibrahim Babangida, Theophilus Yakubu Danjuma and Abdulsalami Abubakar mortally pitching them against President Jonathan and other protagonists of Nigeria's constitutional reconfiguration, is their avowed commitment "*to ruthlessly prevent a change of power*", thereby retaining inherited estate, Nigeria.

Most significantly, there is a distinct geographical coloration to the contending camps. Planning elements of the two sides in an imaginary map of Nigeria, you find what bears a striking semblance to the map of Nigeria in August 1967 on the side of OBJ/IBB/APC/nPDP while the balance, on the other, looked like the map of the breakaway Eastern Nigeria.

MNN, therefore, posits that what is at issue in the entire gang-up saga is a ferocious battle to either keep the status quo of an imposed unitary Nigeria or to change it to a true federal union derived through consent.

(4) THE QUESTION OF 2015:

The mention of 2015 in Nigeria's political discourse instantly elicits two ominous conjectures. One is the haunt of the US intelligence prediction that Nigeria will disintegrate before 2015. The other, the very bloody prospect swirls around the 2015 electoral round in which Alhaji Mohammadu Buhari assumes that blood will flow should power again elude him while known armed agitators from Jonathan's home region also assured the country of calamity should their son be hounded out of the 2015 election. On both counts, 2015 seems to be receding from Nigeria.

MNN, having devoted substantial time and energy at researching, dissecting and engaging the causative factors behind these two notorious reputations of 2015, is in a position to share its prescriptions with all stakeholders, including government and concerned international interests, since prompt action, great skill and dexterity are required to safely navigate through it all.

In the same vein, MNN looks back in history to situate Nigeria's present pass within the praxis of events of 1962, 1964/65, 1966, 1967-70 in which elections were loaded on an unresolved constitutional crisis, resulting in a political explosion that consumed the country, leaving in its trail more than 3 million dead bodies in the battlefields of Biafra.

(5) PRESIDENTIAL DIALOGUE INITIATIVE AS THE PANACEA:

As beneficiaries of the rotten and warped but dying edifice of the old order plot evil, throw tantrums and engage in their macabre dance, MNN, on behalf of the entrapped ethnic nationalities of Nigeria, asks President Jonathan to expeditiously proceed with the historical task thrust upon him by providence in order to help the people to reset the compromised foundations of the fallen house of Nigeria, since like the president jocularly remarked a few days ago, "the national Conference will reduce or eliminate the incidents of open letters". In engaging the issues raised, that are rocking the polity,

MNN is persuaded that getting down to the business of the 2014 National Conference will provide the panacea to the multifarious issues plaguing Nigeria.

MNN posits that, to get the Conference process on a proper footing, we must admit the following:

- (1) That the constitutional arrangement imposed on the peoples of Nigeria, first by Fredrick Lugard in 1914 and currently by the junta of Abdulsalmi Abubakar, is the source of most of the misery of the people as well as hemorrhaging of the Nigerian state.
- (2) That the business of the National Conference is to distil a consent-based constitutional arrangement that will be the basis of our association in a union.
- (3) That a federation presupposes a Union of Constitutions such as Nigeria was up to 1966 and therefore, cannot have only one Constitution like we have had since 1979 to date and still be called a "Federal Republic".
- (4) That Nigeria fell into the pit of retrogression when it lost its federalism in 1966 upon the sacking of the 5 federating constitutions that determined our union.
- (5) Proceeding from 4 above; that since the whole country now agrees that a return to federalism is the way out of the present quagmire, it follows that the first order of business would be to first distill the constitutions that would federate in the new Nigerian union.
- (6) That since we cannot build a house from the roof, the Conference will, of necessity, be, at least, in 2 stages in which the federating constitutions are first generated exclusively by willing Regional/Contiguous formations and then, proceed to federate at the second stage; each stage taking no less than 6 months to assure inclusivity and to allow the multi-ethnic blocks sufficient time to work out their various regional charters (Constitutions). This sequence was the irreducible minimum demand in three-quarters of locations visited by the Presidential Advisory Committee in course of their public hearing failing which they will not invest their energies in a journey to nowhere. MNN can authoritatively report that the ethnic nationalities will reject any suggestion of using the current imposed structures of Nigeria including Local Governments, states, geo-political zones, federal constituencies, senatorial zones or even ethnic nationalities being summoned directly to any central meeting.
- (7) That the transitional model that best commends itself to our situational requirement, is the South African model in which an apartheid constitution imposed by a minority, expropriating and enslaving the majority, had to be replaced wholly via a Conference of the Sovereign Peoples (CODESA) while the apparatus of governance remained in a transitional capacity.
- (8) That sovereignty belongs to the people and therefore, the Constituent powers to make or enact a national constitution exclusively rest in the people. On this point, President Jonathan declares, in his inaugural speech to the Presidential Advisory committee thus, "The concept of participatory democracy is such that, even after

the people have given their representatives the mandate to make laws and act on their behalf, there is also a space for the governed to make further input into the political processes, without undermining the authority of the statutory bodies. Sovereignty continues to be with the people even as the people evolve strategies and tactics to strengthen its foundation for the benefit of successor generations”.

To the “Owners of the fraudulent Nigeria” who are willing to lay down their lives to block change and to retain the master-slave Status quo, MNN joins Iyabo in telling you that “YOU DON’T OWN NIGERIA”, knowing fully well we do not have a democracy (since no democracy can be built on a master-servant Constitution such as we have now). You went into an unholy alliance sure to seize the Political throne in 2015, but the will of the people as expressed in (6) above has pushed the National Conference to the centre stage and further elections that would be based on this imposed 1999 Constitution would have to wait for the outcome of the 2014 National Conference. The desperate gang up to work towards impeachment is a hare-brained scheme since the broken map of Nigeria already awaits such eventuality; same goes for the veiled threat of Obasanjo for the Ironsi-style treatment of President Goodluck Jonathan.

Let all be reminded that the United States Army War College, Pennsylvania, in a report titled “**NIGERIA UNITY IN THE BALANCE**” dated June 13th 2013, asserted that the peoples of Nigeria who want the kind of changes President Jonathan envisaged in initiating the National Conference are now much stronger than the diminishing clan of the status quo defenders like Obasanjo/Babangida/Danjuma/APC/nPDP conspiratorial alliance. In his inauguration address to the Presidential Advisory Committee on 7th October, 2013, President Jonathan emphasized that the proposed National Conference ***“is a sincere and fundamental undertaking aimed at realistically examining and genuinely resolving longstanding impediments to our cohesion and harmonious development as a truly united Nation”***.

MNN can certify that President Jonathan thus, aptly captures the true essence of the aspirations and expectations of the Peoples of Nigeria who constitute that new majority consensus reflected by the US Army War College Report.

It would be a monumental disaster should President Jonathan, in deference to the status quo bandwagon, betrays the longsuffering peoples of Nigeria whose ultimate aspirations he has stepped forward to champion via the National Conference initiative.

SIGNED:

1. LOWER NIGER CONGRESS:

Alfred Ilenre, Chijioke Asogwa, Tony Nyiam, Joejim Alaboso, Imoh Okoko, OTKD Amachree, Kalada Jene, Welman Warri, Idongesit Ambrose, Golden Tamuno, Mmuen Kpagani.

2. FEDERATION OF O’DUA PEOPLE:

Tokunbo Ajasin, Kunle Olaiya, Wole Aina, Shade Olukoya, Leye Akinmodiro, Shenge Rhaman.

3. **MIDDLE BELT CONGRESS:**

Andrew Butswat, Abuka Onalo Omababa, Abass Mafeng Chioji, Abdullahi Banire.

4. **OPOROZA HOUSE:**

T.K. Ogoriba, Dan Ekpebide, Hilda Dokubo, Ambah Binaebi, Marshal Kunoun, Engozu Kime, Oyeinfie Jonjon, Wilson Ajuwa, Opaks Harry, Bosin Ebikeme.

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