

# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CAMEROON

Office of the MODERATOR



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27<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**The Nation of Cameroon,  
Human Rights Groups,  
The International Community.**

## COMMUNIQUÉ

It is with the deepest sadness and pain in my heart that I write at this moment to draw your attention to, and possible action on the perpetrators of gruesome acts of inhumanity on the Messaga Ekol people of Akwaya Subdivision, Manyu Division, South West Region of Cameroon on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at a funeral ceremony at Bakinjaw village. The attacks continued on Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

It all began as a land dispute between the Oliti people and the Messaga Ekol people of Akwaya. The Oliti people attacked and killed some Messaga Ekol people on their farms on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 and the Messaga Ekol people retaliated. The Oliti people then mobilized and got the backup of hired armed men and launched a very violent, inhuman and destructive attacks on the Messaga Ekol people. The attacks led to the burning down of houses during which some people were burnt in their houses. Over 30 (thirty) people were killed including children, girls, men, women and old people. Some were beheaded. About 5 (five) Nigerians were killed in this attack.

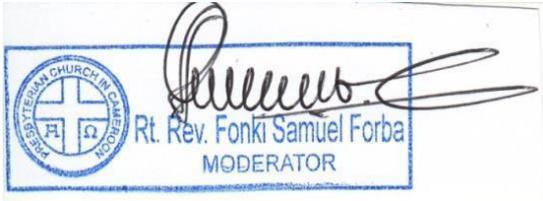
It is so terrible, wicked, disheartening and the highest manifestation of evil, that children of the same community should carry out such acts of gruesome murder, men-slaughter and destruction on their own brothers and sisters without any scruple of their consciences. The tension between these two communities is boiling.

The perpetrators of this evil and wickedness should be urgently brought to justice to preempt any further escalation.

This has brought shame upon us as a people of the same community. I vehemently condemn the perpetrators of these shameful and inhuman acts upon God's children and pray that such evil and inhumanity never occur again in our community. I am calling on both the political and traditional fathers of Akwaya to meet at the fastest possible time to address this unfortunate situation that has exposed us as unfit to manage our differences. Let justice, peace, brotherly and sisterly love reign.

May the Lord God wipe the tears of the deceased families, give rest to the souls of the murdered, heal the wounded, strengthen the survivals and restore the affected that they may move on with life and hope for a better future. May Akwaya be restored.

**Yours for the Sake of the Faith,**



**APPENDIX:**

**1.) Background story:**

On the 25 June 2022 a group of hired killers from Egbekaw and Mbilishie brought in by the Olitis of Mavas attacked and killed 30 Messaga people, 6 Enjawbaw people and a couple of Nigerians some from Utanga in Obanliku Local Government, Cross River State Nigeria.

The attack was carried out during a funeral in Bakinjaw village a chieftdom in Messaga Ekol Akwaya Sub. Division.

Their main reason of attacking and killing the people is that they want to occupy a rich farmland at Ufambe belonging to Messaga Ekol and at the same time do not want Messaga Ekol people to farm on the said land. On Sunday the 26th of June 2022, the same hired killers continued their attack in the village of Ballin.

**2.) Gruesome images of the attack: (Viewer's discretion: sensitive content)**





