

CONCERNED BIRIFOR YOUTH OF GHANA

(Community Advocacy for Peace, Justice and Security)

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Date: 20th July, 2026

Ref: CBYG/PRES/WW/2026/001 0550036695

His Excellency

John Dramani Mahama

President of the Republic of Ghana

The Office of the President

Jubilee House, Accra

Ghana

**RE: PETITION TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA
— URGENT REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL INTERVENTION IN THE MATTER OF THE
BRUTAL MURDER OF GAA JOHN KWAME AND DARI DODOMO MOSES; THE
UNLAWFUL ARMED BANISHMENT OF MR. GARIGU; AND THE MILITARISATION OF
CHILDREN IN WA WEST DISTRICT, UPPER WEST REGION**

PREAMBLE

Your Excellency, we write to you as citizens of the Republic you are constitutionally sworn to protect — with the full weight of our grief, our righteous indignation and our unshaken belief that the Office of the President of Ghana must not remain silent while justice is denied, while widows are left untouchable, and while armed militias terrorise indigenous communities within the borders of this Republic.

We, the Concerned Birifor Youth of Ghana, together with the bereaved fathers Gaa Sormin and Yiribea Kuuri, address this petition to Your Excellency with deep frustration, righteous anger and an unwavering commitment to justice — as guaranteed by Article 17 of the 1992 Constitution of Ghana, which affirms that all persons shall be equal before the law.

We speak not only for two murdered men. We speak for three widows whose lives have been suspended indefinitely by State inaction. We speak for children who cannot be touched when they fall ill. We speak for a law-abiding resident expelled from his home at gunpoint. We speak for a community that has been attacked, killed and systematically abandoned by the very institutions mandated by the Constitution to protect it.

Your Excellency, the Birifor people are indigenous Ghanaians. We have no other country. We appeal to your office because every other institution has failed us. We appeal with faith that the President of this Republic will not.

1. FACTS OF THE CASE

1. On 23rd November 2025, Gaa John Kwame and Dari Dodomo Moses, both of Lassia Tuolu, Wa West District, were travelling to Wechiau Market when approximately twenty (20) armed men stopped and surrounded them at Kandeu Community.
2. The armed men demanded money for a chief's funeral, assaulted the victims and three other travellers, fired weapons in the air and brutally murdered both men. Property seized included two (2) motorcycles, three (3) mobile phones and GHS 350.00 cash — conclusively confirming that robbery, kidnapping and murder occurred simultaneously.
3. Survivor Ebenezer Nyortaa reported the crime to the Wa West District Police the same day. Eleven (11) suspects were arrested with five (5) firearms. Four (4) additional suspects were later apprehended.
4. Suspect Fuseni Musah confessed to police that he, together with Bukari Bashiru, Dabila Daudi and Ibrahim Gafaru, committed the murders. Three named accomplices remain at large and are reportedly moving freely in Kandeu Community to this day.
5. Suspects were arraigned before the Wa District Court on charges including: Possession of Unlawful Firearms, Conspiracy to Rob, Robbery, Conspiracy to Kidnap, Kidnapping, Conspiracy to Murder and Murder.

Your Excellency, this crime did not occur in isolation. In June 2024, three Birifor lives were lost in a communal dispute between Lassia Tuolu and Kandeu. In October 2025, Lassia Tuolu was attacked again — one more Birifor life lost. The murders of 23rd November 2025 constitute the third serious violent incident against the Birifor community in eighteen months. This is an organised pattern of targeted violence, not a series of isolated incidents.

2. THE DELIBERATE COLLAPSE OF PROSECUTION

□ Your Excellency, the charges against the suspects were not dropped because the evidence failed. They were dropped despite the evidence. That distinction is not a legal technicality — it is the definition of corruption at the highest institutional level.

6. During proceedings at the Wa District Court, the Principal State Attorney for the Upper West Region advised that charges of Conspiracy to Rob, Robbery, Conspiracy to Kidnap and Kidnapping be dropped — retaining only Possession of Unlawful Firearms and Conspiracy to Murder / Murder.
7. Based on this advice, eight (8) of eleven (11) suspects were discharged. The facts on record unambiguously established that robbery occurred — property was seized at gunpoint. Kidnapping occurred — the victims' freedom of movement was violently restrained. There is no legal justification for dropping these charges. No explanation has been provided to the families despite repeated requests.
8. At a formal police identification parade, the principal surviving victim and eyewitness identified individuals present at the murder scene who had seized the victims' motorcycles and phones. Those same identified individuals were subsequently

acquitted and discharged — directly contravening Article 19(1) of the Constitution, which guarantees a fair hearing and a fair prosecution.

9. A suspect confessed on record that two prominent chiefs in the Wa West District ordered the murders of Gaa John Kwame and Dari Dodomo Moses. Those chiefs have not been arrested. They have not been questioned. They continue to move freely. Your Excellency, this is not an oversight. This is a deliberate and calculated decision.
10. The Regional Commander of Police is credibly alleged to have personally obstructed an attempt to arrest the accused chiefs — on the grounds that they are his personal associates. If accurate, this constitutes a criminal abuse of public office and a direct violation of Article 125(3) of the Constitution, which demands that justice be administered impartially and without fear or favour.
11. The bereaved families were told the case was being transferred to the High Court — implying investigations are complete. Yet the bodies have not been recovered. The accomplices are free. The accused chiefs are free. Your Excellency, we ask: how does a complete investigation produce no bodies, no convictions and no justice?

□ We hold the Principal State Attorney, Upper West Region, and the Regional Commander of Police directly responsible for the current state of this case. We call on Your Excellency to direct an immediate independent investigation into their individual conduct.

3. THE UNLAWFUL ARMED BANISHMENT OF MR. GARIGU AND THE MILITARISATION OF CHILDREN

3.1 The Unlawful Banishment of Mr. Garigu

Your Excellency, a grave and deeply unconstitutional injustice has been perpetrated against a law-abiding Ghanaian citizen in Wechiau, Wa West District. Mr. Garigu, a Birifor resident, lawfully acquired land, built a home upon it and settled there peacefully with his family over a period of years. He had every legal right to be there.

In a shocking act of extrajudicial tyranny that has no place in a constitutional democracy, a group of radicalized armed young men marched to Mr. Garigu's lawful residence, brandishing sophisticated firearms, and violently ordered him to vacate his home under threat of death. He was given no legal notice, no warning and no opportunity to seek redress. He was physically expelled from his lawfully acquired property and forcibly driven into exile in Burkina Faso.

□ Your Excellency, this is not a community dispute. A Ghanaian citizen has been deported from his own district into a foreign country by an armed mob operating with apparent impunity. This is a direct violation of Articles 14(1), 17, 18(1) and 21(1)(g) of the 1992 Constitution of Ghana — which guarantee personal liberty, equality before the law, the right to own property and the right of every Ghanaian to reside freely in any part of this Republic.

The following individuals are identified as having participated in or are connected to the armed banishment of Mr. Garigu and related acts of violent intimidation against the Birifor community in Wa West District:

NO.	NAME / ALIAS	KNOWN IDENTIFIER / TITLE
1	Yaya Captain	—
2	Master One	Youth Chairman
3	Jaako	Ajululu
4	Waasiu	Cement Seller (Roundabout)
5	Alhassan Nabaabile	—
6	Daud Latif	—
7	Daud Wahabu	Gana
8	Yussif Jaber	—
9	Mohammed	Last Killer
10	Daud Ali	Sisco
11	Nuhu Latif	—
12	Manache Seidu	Bigi
13	Mantani Anuwar Kwabena	—
14	Osman Inusah	—
15	Alhassan Malik	—
16	DABO	—
17	Moon Die	—
18	Siita Dapaa	—
19	Abass	—
20	Abdulai	—
21	Hafiz Mumuni	—
22	Daud Aziz	—
23	Dorimona Daudi	—

□ Your Excellency, we respectfully urge that the Ghana Police Service use these names and identifiers to effect immediate arrests and prosecute all persons responsible for the unlawful armed banishment of Mr. Garigu and related acts of violent intimidation.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE — ARMED INDIVIDUALS AND RELATED INCIDENTS IN
WA WEST DISTRICT:**

PHOTO 1



Armed youth at Mr. Garigu's residence — Wechiau

PHOTO 2



Armed individuals during banishment — Wechiau

PHOTO 3



Armed group — additional evidence

PHOTO 4



Further photographic evidence — armed individuals

3.2 The Armed Militarisation of Children — A National Security Emergency

Your Excellency, of equal gravity and perhaps greater long-term danger to the peace and sovereignty of the Republic is credible intelligence received by the Concerned Birifor Youth of Ghana indicating that children within the Wa West District are being systematically recruited and trained — in concealed bush locations — in the use of sophisticated firearms and weapons.

The methods described by credible community sources bear disturbing resemblance to the radicalisation and child soldier recruitment strategies employed by Islamist jihadist movements across the West African Sahel. The deliberate arming and militarisation of children — who are constitutionally and internationally recognised as requiring special protection — is not merely a criminal act. It is a direct threat to national security and to the long-term peace of the Upper West Region.

□ Your Excellency, we urge the immediate deployment of National Security, Ghana Police and Ghana Armed Forces Intelligence to investigate these reports and dismantle this threat before it escalates beyond the capacity of district-level authorities to contain it. This is a national security emergency dressed in a local conflict.

4. THE UNSPEAKABLE SUFFERING OF THE WIDOWS AND CHILDREN

□ Your Excellency, the State's failure to recover the bodies of the deceased is not a procedural delay. It is an active, daily and compounding violation of the fundamental human rights of three living women and their children.

12. Under Birifor customary law and tradition, a befitting burial is the sacred act that formally releases a widow from the bond of marriage and restores her full standing within the community. Until a husband is buried, a widow remains bound in every sense — spiritually, socially and legally under our customary law.
13. Our tradition strictly and absolutely forbids a widow from having any intimate relations with any man while her husband remains unburied. The gods of our land hold that death will befall any man who has relations with such a widow. Three (3) widows of the deceased are living under this prohibition — not by choice, but because the State has failed to recover the bodies of their murdered husbands over a period of eight months. They cannot remarry. They cannot rebuild their lives. They are held in perpetual grief and legal limbo by State inaction.
14. The suffering extends into immediate physical danger. Under our tradition, no person — including medical personnel and community members — is permitted to physically touch a widow or her children in any sickness or medical emergency while the husband remains unburied. Our custom holds that any person who physically touches such a widow or her child will die. When a widow is ill, no one can carry her or treat her. When a child of the deceased is sick, no neighbour or relative can assist. Critically, even the widow herself is prohibited from touching or nursing her own sick child — as tradition holds that a child will die if handled by the widow of an unburied man. These women and their children are therefore medically isolated, physically unassisted and socially abandoned — with no protection and no end in sight.

15. Three widows and their orphaned children are without the financial and social support of a husband and father. They cannot remarry. They cannot receive physical assistance when ill. They are living in poverty, isolation and fear. Every single day of State inaction deepens and compounds their suffering.
16. Your Excellency, this constitutes a direct, ongoing and measurable violation of these women's constitutional rights to dignity, to found a family and to determine matters of their private and family life, as protected under Articles 15(1) and 22 of the 1992 Constitution. The State is not merely failing to help these women — the State is the direct reason they cannot be helped.

Your Excellency, we ask you personally to look beyond the legal arguments and to see three women who cannot bury their husbands, cannot hold their children when they are sick at night, cannot remarry, cannot be touched when unwell, and cannot rebuild — because the State has not done its job. Only Presidential intervention can end their suffering now.

5. OUR DEMANDS — NON-NEGOTIABLE AND ADDRESSED TO YOUR EXCELLENCY

We humbly yet firmly request that Your Excellency, as President of the Republic of Ghana and Custodian of the Constitution, direct the following actions to be taken with immediate effect:

17. **Direct the Attorney-General to immediately review and set aside the advice of the Principal State Attorney, Upper West Region, to drop charges of Conspiracy to Rob, Robbery, Conspiracy to Kidnap and Kidnapping — and reinstate all charges supported by the evidence.**
18. **Direct the Attorney-General to assign a Senior State Attorney from Accra to take over the full prosecution of this case, or transfer the case to the High Court in Accra — thereby removing it from the jurisdiction where corruption has compromised the process.**
19. **Issue a Presidential directive for the immediate recovery of the mortal remains of Gaa John Kwame and Dari Dodomo Moses — to enable autopsy, lawful prosecution and a befitting burial that will release the three widows and their children from their ongoing customary suffering.**
20. **Direct the Inspector-General of Police to immediately arrest all suspects identified in the murder confession, the three named accomplices currently at large, and initiate proceedings against the two prominent chiefs alleged to have ordered the murders.**
21. **Direct the Inspector-General of Police to investigate and prosecute all individuals named in this petition for the armed, unlawful banishment of Mr. Garigu — and ensure his safe, protected and unconditional right of return to his lawful home in Wechiau.**
22. **Direct the National Security Secretariat and relevant intelligence agencies to immediately investigate credible reports of the armed militarisation of children in bush locations within the Wa West District, and take all necessary action to dismantle this threat.**
23. **Direct an immediate, independent and transparent investigation into the personal conduct of the Principal State Attorney, Upper West Region, and the Regional Commander of Police, for alleged conflict of interest and obstruction of justice.**

24. **Direct an immediate production of the full case docket and investigation diary from Wa Police for independent review by the Attorney-General's Department in Accra.**
25. **Direct the Department of Social Welfare to immediately provide victim support and welfare assistance to the three widows and all orphaned children — under the Victims of Crime Fund Act, 2020 (Act 1047) — with immediate effect.**
26. **Direct a full National Security assessment of the Wa West District and ensure enhanced, sustained and visible security protection for all Birifor communities therein.**

□ Your Excellency, we respectfully request that visible and measurable presidential action be taken within SEVEN (7) DAYS of the receipt of this petition. If no action is forthcoming, we shall be compelled to escalate to international human rights bodies, including the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and Amnesty International.

CONCLUSION

Your Excellency, the Birifor people are indigenous Ghanaians. This land is our home of origin. We have nowhere else to go, and we refuse to be driven from it by violence, armed mobs or the deliberate failure of the institutions of this State.

Two men were murdered on a public road in broad daylight. Chiefs allegedly ordered those murders. A police commander allegedly shielded those chiefs. A State Attorney allegedly dismantled the prosecution. Eight suspects were discharged despite a formal witness identification. The bodies remain hidden after eight months. Three widows cannot be touched when they are ill. Their children cannot be nursed. A Birifor resident has been expelled from his home at gunpoint. Children are being armed in the bush.

Your Excellency, this is not a failure of the system. This is the system being deliberately and selectively weaponised against one indigenous community. We name it for precisely what it is: corruption, organised ethnic marginalisation and a fundamental betrayal of every constitutional guarantee upon which this Republic was founded.

We seek justice — not anarchy. We seek protection — not war. We seek the President of our Republic to be the President of all Ghanaians, including the Birifor people of the Wa West District. The eyes of Ghana, and of the international community, are watching this moment with careful attention.

We thank Your Excellency for your time, your attention and your commitment to the Constitution you are sworn to uphold.

Yours faithfully,

On behalf of the Bereaved Families:

GAA SORMIN

Father of Gaa John Kwame

Date: _____

YIRIBEA KUURI

Father of Dari Dodomo Moses

Date: _____

On behalf of the Concerned Birifor Youth of Ghana:

Lassia Tuolu and Allied Communities, Wa West District, Upper West Region, Ghana

1. _____ MOHAMMED ABDUL RAHMAN | 0550036695
2. _____ SAMUEL JONORTEY SOJONTEY | 0555471311
3. _____ DOORBAAR STEPHEN | 0246173173
4. _____ NAAGMENBOM YAKUBU GYUKOTEY SIMON 0240461669

CC:

1. The Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Accra
2. The Inspector-General of Police (IGP), Ghana Police Service, Accra
3. The Director of Public Prosecutions, Attorney-General's Department, Accra
4. The Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament
5. The Hon. Minister for the Interior
6. The National Peace Council, Accra and Wa
7. The Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), Accra and Wa
8. Amnesty International Ghana
9. Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, the Asantehene
10. The Wa Traditional Council (The Wa Naa)
11. The Regional Minister, Upper West Region, Wa
12. The Member of Parliament, Wa West Constituency
13. The District Chief Executive, Wa West District Assembly