

**REJOINDER TO PRESS RELEASE BY THE KONKOMBA YOUTH ASSOCIATION (KOYA) ON “KONKOMBAS  
DEMAND FOR THE PERPETRATORS OF COMBINED MILITARY AND POLICE BRUTALITY ON CHIEF AND  
PEOPLE OF KUNJULI IN THE SABOBA DISTRICT BROUGHT TO BOOK”**

Fellow citizens of Chereponi, distinguished members of the press, ladies and gentlemen. It has come to the notice of Chereponi Youth for Peace (CYP) a press release by Konkomba Youth Association (KOYA) relating to the conflict between Anufors and Kombas (Konkomba tribe) settlements at Naduni community in the Chereponi district. We are astonished by inciting allegations by KOYA against the Chereponi DCE and the President of the Republic of Ghana.

We see this as a calculated attempt to tarnish the hard won reputation of Hon Razak Tahidu and to make the government of H.E Nana Addo-Dankwa Akuffo Addo unpopular. The DCE since assumption of office has been working hard to improve and maintain peaceful coexistence between all tribes and people of the Chereponi district. We have taken keen notice of the constant negative reportage about Chereponi anytime in the media and are not happy. These we observe retards development of the area and scares away investors who could help develop and improve the livelihoods of the people.

Naduni community has had a long awaiting land dispute before assumption of office by Hon Razak. He has been working tirelessly as DISEC Chairman with chiefs, security agencies and other stakeholders to bring lasting peace in the area. He led the formation of a peace and mediation committee comprising chiefs from all major tribes in the Chereponi district including religious leaders and youth groups. We are grateful to say we are satisfied with how far the DISEC and the Committee have worked. They got the understanding of both parties in the Naduni community land dispute to have injunction on the said parcel of land.

It is very unfortunate and sad for the sudden turn out of events leading to the loss of lives. It is further regrettable to note that as we and chiefs are working to calm nerves of involving parties, others seem to spill out unfounded allegations here and there. The DCE and the district assembly of Chereponi are working through the NADMO department to bring relief to affected families in Naduni and its environs. We are very surprised of the issues raised by KOYA from the blind side of happenings in Naduni community and calling for the head of Hon Razak; the DCE of Chereponi.

We stand for and preach peace to redeem the name of Chereponi from the usual negative reportage in the media and support the government of H.E Nana Addo-Dankwa Akuffo Addo and leadership of Hon Razak Tahidu for development in the area. We have peacefully coexisted with Konkombas for several centuries and consider this as misunderstanding at a community level that should be quickly settled and avoid inflaming passions for ethnic conflicts.

We are therefore calling on KOYA to impress on her people to join the peace crusade and stay away from comments that would muddy the efforts made by our eminent chiefs so far. The Chereponi

Youth for Peace (CYP) stands for peace and invite any entity that would work to ensure we have a lasting peace in the district in particular and Ghana at large.

We are hereby appealing to the Ministries of Defence and Interior for the immediate release of the 18 Anufors still in police custody in Yendi for the past 2weeks as they released 19 Konkombas arrested at Kunjuli by the military. Chereponi Youth for Peace (CYP) wish to assure the President of the Republic of Ghana and Commander in Chief of the Ghana Armed Forces of our confidence in the security agencies to restore lasting peace in the area.

Thank you all for your attention.

Long live Chereponi, Long live Ghana

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