

# MAMPRUGU TRADITIONAL COUNCIL

P.O BOX, 12. NALERGU-GAMBAGA. N/E REGION. GHANA

OUR REF. NO: MIC/P27/15/520  
YOUR REF. NO.....



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FEBRUARY 21, 2023

All Media Houses,

## **PRESS RELEASE BY MEMBERS OF THE MAMPRUGU TRADITIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ENSKINMENT OF BAWKU NABA ALHAJI SEIDU ABAGRE (NAA SHERIGA)**

We the undersigned/Thumb printed Paramount Chiefs of the Mamprugu Kingdom and also Sons and Daughters of the Nayiri, the Overlord of Mamprugu Kingdom, His Royal Majesty the, Naa Bohagu Mahami Abdulai Sheriga has taken note of the government's statement dated February 15th, 2023, and signed by the Minister for Information Hon. Kojo Opong Nkrumah on the matter regarding the Nayiri's enskinment of the 15th Bawku Naaba, Naa Alhaji Seidu Abagre (Naa Sheriga) on the same date of 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

We wish to state that, the Bawku skin has been an integral part and parcel of the Mamprugu Kingdom. The authority of the Nayiri to select and enskin chiefs for the Bawku skin predates the colonial era and the founding of modern Ghana. This authority of HRM, the Nayiri, to select and enskin a chief for the good people of Bawku is not shared with any government or group of individuals.

We have observed with concern, some political meddling in the Bawku chieftaincy matters over the years. Chieftaincy matters are the preserve of Traditional Authorities. Government and state institutions are only required to mediate in times of disputes with recourse to history, traditions, and culture in accordance with the laws of Ghana. (See Article 270 (2) (a) of the 1992 Constitution)

We wish to further state that all citizens of Bawku are Nayiri's children. We assure the government and all well-meaning Ghanaians that the Nayiri is a law-abiding citizen. His Majesty the Nayiri will exercise his rightful duty as the sole Traditional Authority over Bawku and treat all manner of persons fairly in his quest to find a lasting solution to Bawku. The doors of the Overlord remain open to the government and any institution interested in working with His Majesty in ensuring lasting peace returns to Bawku.

Notice is also taken of the bizarre events of the night of Sunday February 19, 2023 to Monday February 20, 2023. Four military armored cars led by a pick-up truck, entered the North-East regional Capital of Nalerigu to carry out directives in a purported warrant issued in Bolgatanga for the arrest of the Nayiri and the Bawku Naaba.

It is unbelievable, that such a Rambo style activity could be initiated against no mean a person than the King of the Mamprugu Kingdom. We take exception to this and want this to be the last time that this government ever disrespects our king in this manner.

We further call for an unconditional apology and a public withdrawal of the statement issued by the Minister of Information.

Article 277 of the 1992 constitution clearly states that "a chief is a person, who, hailing from the appropriate family and lineage, has been validly nominated, elected or selected and enstooled, enskinned or installed as a chief or queenmother in accordance with the relevant customary law and usage." Nowhere in this article is it stated that being gazzetted and being a member of a Regional or National House of Chiefs makes one a chief. Government is free to give recognition to whosoever it pleases, what matters to us is who our enskinning authority recognizes.

For the record, any attempt to arrest the Nayiri will be fiercely resisted using every legal avenue available to us. Also, the call for the arrest of the Bawku Naaba is a direct challenge of the authority of the Nayiri and we take strong exception to that. Anything done against the rightfully enskinned Bawku Naba will be deemed a direct attack on the Nayiri and his traditional authority.

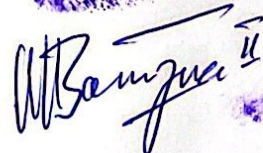
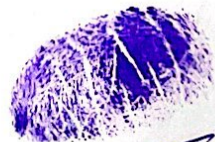
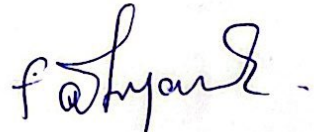
We wish to also call on all citizens of the Mamprugu Kingdom to remain calm and avoid provocative comments on this matter as His Majesty and his Council of Elders work towards attaining lasting peace in Bawku.

We commend the security agencies for their sacrifices in protecting lives and properties in Bawku and charge them to remain professional in their conduct during their deployment in Bawku.

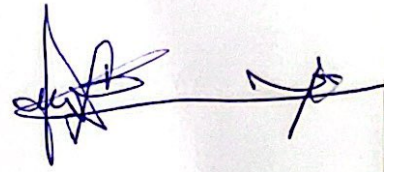
Long live HRM the Nayiri, Long Live Mamprugu Kingdom, Long Live Ghana.

#### **NAMES AND SIGNATURES OF PARAMOUNT CHIEFS**

1. WULUGU-NABA-PROF. J.S.NABILA  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF WULUGU TRADITIONAL AREA  
KPASENKPE
2. SOO-NABA-NAA MALIGU SEIDU NANTOMAH  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF SOO TRADITIONAL AREA  
JANGA
3. WUN-NABA-ALHAJI SAAKA SULEMANA  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF WUNGU TRADITIONAL AREA  
WUNGU
4. PIB-RANA- M.K. BANZUAI II  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF BINDE TRADITIONAL AREA  
BINDE



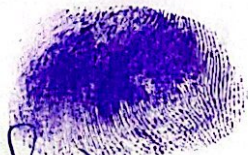
5. YUNYOO-RANA-DAUDA YAMYIA TOOKA II  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF YUNYOO TRADITIONAL AREA  
YUNYOO
6. GBANKONI-NABA- LAAR HARUNA NASIMONG II  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF GBANKONI TRADITIONAL AREA  
GBANKONI
7. BUNKPURUGU-NABA-ALHAJI ABUBA NASIMONG  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF BUNKPURUGU TRADITIONAL AREA  
BUNKPURUGU
8. KUL-NABA REGENT- ADAM SULEMANABAYINSI  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF KURUGU TRADITIONAL AREA  
KURUGU
9. GBAN-DANA- ADAM MUSA BADIMSUGRU  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF GBANI TRADITIONAL AREA  
GBANI
10. MOZUU-RANA-ABDULAI SCOTT MAHAMI  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF MOZUU TRADITIONAL AREA  
NASIA
11. KPANABA-MAHAMI SUGRI  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF KPARIGU TRADITIONAL AREA  
KPARIGU
12. KOSADANA-ABDULAI MAHAMADU  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF SAKOGU TRADITIONAL AREA  
SAKOGU
13. ZAARANA-MAHAMADU WUNI GAMNI  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF ZARANTIGA TRADITIONAL AREA  
ZARANTINGA
14. BUKPE-NABA- WAARI FRANCIS YISSAH  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF BUKPERI TRADITIONAL AREA  
BUKPERI
15. JAARIGBAN-DANA-ABDULAI SULEMANA  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF JAARIGBANI TRADITIONAL AREA  
JAARIGBANI
16. TARANA-JOHN WUNI GRUMAH  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF














17. SAKPANABA-YIDANA SEIDU  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF



18. SAKPARI – ALHAJI ALHASSAN INUSAH  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Inusah', located to the right of the second name.

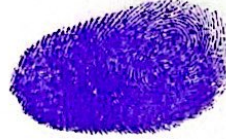
19. KPANA MAASU- ISSIFU ABUBAKARI TAMPURI  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Issifu', located to the right of the third name.

20. WUDANA-ALHAJI GUMAH CHIMSI  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF



21. AKARA- ALHAJI NANTOMAH ZAKARI  
PARAMOUNT CHIEF



Thank you.