



OFFICE OF PARLIAMENT

Hon. Francis-Xavier Kojo Sosu (Esq)
MP, Madina Constituency



Office of Parliament
Parliament House
Room No. F2T 02E 019
Osu, Accra, Ghana

Your Ref.....

My Ref.....

11th October 2023

H.E. NANA AKUFO ADDO
PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF GHANA
JUBILEE HOUSE - ACCRA

Your Excellency,

**PETITION TO COMMUTE ALL PERSONS ON DEATH SENTENCE TO LIFE
IMPRISONMENT UNDER YOUR PREROGATIVE OF MERCY PURSUANT
TO ARTICLE 72(1)(C)**

I write for and on behalf of all 181 persons currently on death row in respect of the above subject.

I wish to respectfully appeal to your High Office to exercise your prerogative of mercy to commute all persons currently on death sentence to life imprisonment pursuant to the authority granted you under Article 72(1)(c) of the 1992 Constitution of Ghana.

Your Excellency, Article 72 (1) (c) of the Constitution of Ghana, 1992 provides as follows: "The President may, acting in consultation with the Council of State-
(c) Substitute a less severe form of punishment for a punishment imposed on a person for an offence;..."

This appeal follows initiation, passage and assent of Private Member's Bills to amend the Criminal and Other Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29) and Armed Forces Act, 1962 (Act 105) to substitute life imprisonment for the death penalty.

In view of the above, it will be phenomenal if under your leadership and tenure as President, Ghana appears to be seen and is consistent with recent changes in our laws and related vote at the United Nations in favour of the 9th Resolution for a Moratorium on the use of the death penalty.

Sir, this will also go a long way to entrench your legacy for the consequential role played and commitment demonstrated towards the advancement and realization of a more free, open, progressive, inclusive, and secure society.

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I also kindly urge you to consider ratification of the Second Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), aimed at the abolition of the death penalty, as it is an alternative way and approach to address the challenges associated with constitutional amendment of the entrenched provision which require a referendum as stated in Article 3 of the 1992 Constitution.


Your Excellency, this action will go a long way to reinforce particularly to the international community, Ghana's democratic tenets and credentials, especially during Universal Peer Review (UPR) sessions, and our unwavering commitment and zeal towards preservation of the rule of law and respect for individual rights and liberties.

World Day Against Death Penalty

Your Excellency, on Tuesday, October 10 2023, the World Coalition Against Death Penalty, CSOs, and the international community celebrated the 21st World Day Against the Death Penalty. Reflecting on the milestone achieved by Ghana this year by way of abolition of the death penalty from the Criminal Offences Act and the Armed Forces Act, I respectfully pray that you will grant this request to commute the sentences of death to life sentences for all persons on death row.

I wish to express my gratitude to you for the support and commitment, thus far, and count on your continued co-operation in the spirit of bipartisan collaboration for the benefit of the Ghanaian people.

Yours sincerely,



Hon. Francis Xavier Sosu (Esq)
MP, Madina Constituency

CC:

1. The Rt. Hon. Speaker
Parliament of the Republic of Ghana
Accra
2. The Chairman
Council of State
Accra.