

OBAATANPA, AMA EDUWA I

The Paramount Queen Mother

Gomoa Akyempim Traditional Council,

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Ministry of Chieftaincy
and Religious Affairs

URGENT PRESS RELEASE

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REIGN OF TERROR AND LANDGUARD ACTIVITIES IN GOMOA EAST DISTRICT

In light of the escalating reign of terror and incessant security threats by landguards in the Gomoa East District of the Gomoa Akyempim Traditional Area, I, Obaatanpa Ama Eduwa I, Paramount Queenmother, urgently issue this statement.

The recent tragic incident involving the shooting death of Lance Corporal Michael Danso by an individual identified as Benlord Ababio, allegedly over a land dispute at Millennium City in Gomoa Fetteh, Central Region, is a stark reminder of the dire situation we face.

Preliminary police investigations reveal that the suspect, Benlord Ababio, shot the soldier at Millennium City Kasoa on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at about 4:20 p.m. The victim sustained fatal gunshot wounds and was pronounced dead upon arrival at the Mother and Child Hospital at Kasoa.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family of the victim and the Ghana Armed Forces during this difficult time. It is imperative to clarify that the suspect, reportedly a Chief in the area, is not recognized in the register of Chiefs in our Traditional Area. Rather, he is identified as a ranking member of a syndicate of landguards, which contravenes the Land Act, 2020 (Act 1036), criminalizing "landguardism" in Ghana.

Moreover, the ongoing challenge of landguards in the Gomoa East District, particularly the Twafo Division under the Gomoa Fetteh Stool of our Traditional Area, is exacerbated by the indiscriminate conferment of Chieftaincy titles and offices by the customarily destooled Omanhen, Obrifo Ahunako Ahor Ankobia II, at his private residence. This undermines our sacred customs and practices, leading to destoolment petitions filed at the Central Regional House of Chiefs and Cape Coast High Court in Cape Coast.

We urgently call upon National Security Agencies to address these threats and restore peace to the area. Additionally, we urge the media to investigate and expose all wrongdoing, shedding light on this critical issue.

In consultation with the Principal Kingmakers of the Nsona Royal Family of the Traditional Area and Principal Divisional Chiefs, I issue a resolute disclaimer. The Gomoa Akyempim Traditional Council in Gomoa Assin remains the recognized and ancestral headquarters. Any ceremonial actions conducted beyond the Akyempim Palace in Gomoa Assin are declared irregular, null, and without effect.

Let us stand together in solidarity to preserve our cultural heritage and restore peace to our community..

END.



OBAATANPA AMA EDUWA I,
PARAMOUNT QUEEN MOTHER, GOMOA AKYEMPIM TRADITIONAL AREA

Attention Editors:

Kindly consider for publication.

cc: All Media Outlets