

BRING CHARLES TAYLOR AND THE RUF TO THIER KNEES

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The only language that the RUF and Charles Taylor understand is the language of violence. Experience from World War II suggests that aggressors understand only the language of violence and are willing to negotiate peace only after they have been crippled militarily. Also, a sick person requires an appropriate medicine and not just any kind of medicine. Medicine that is appropriate for a swelling on the knee is not intended to cure a mental patient or to exorcise the devil out of a demoniac. I am of the contention that the British and the United Nations are doing the opposite and have tarnished their good names. However, it is not too late to speak to the RUF and Charles Taylor in their appropriate lingua franca - violence.

Recent history of the West African sub-region shows that the common disease of Taylor and the RUF is mental derangement with devilish roots. The devil inside them can speak and understand only the language of violence. Their very despicable behaviour including amputations bears testimony. That is why their own record shows beyond reasonable doubt that when they talk about peace it means they are preparing for war. When they talk gently, it is because they have daggers in hand ready to strike into the hearts of those who are so stupid and naïve to trust them.

Charles Taylor and the RUF cannot just be trusted. Indeed, had Babangida not trusted Charles Taylor and had given Dogo Yaro the free hand to conduct the appropriate military operations, both Sierra Leone and Liberia might have been some of the best places in Africa for one to live. I hope my good brother Babangida has remorsefully regretted the most horrible mistake he ever made. However, his genuine remorse makes no difference since the late Abacha did not learn any lesson from that and there is no sign yet that Obasanjo has learnt any lesson.

The political leaders of ECOWAS have also displayed clearly that with the exception of the President of Guinea, they are nothing but clowns in the political arena of the world. Only clowns can tolerate Charles Taylor - the man who never honours his promises - in their company. As an empty barrel, Charles Taylor is very good at making a lot of noise. He uses his devilish tongue to manipulate anybody who is naïve enough to listen to him.

Contrary to the recent accusations from the manipulative tongue of Charles Taylor, the British and the UN did not go to Sierra Leone this time to loot diamonds or to colonize that country. They went there with the blessing of Mother Africa and all well-wishers of Sierra Leone to exorcise the devil out of the RUF and Charles Taylor. However, because they refused to use the appropriate language to exorcise the devil, Charles Taylor and the RUF have rather succeeded in driving the angel out of them. However, angels can always return with vengeance and the angel that was driven out of the British and the UN is no exception.

The manipulative and malicious accusations by Charles Taylor after the recent meeting in Abuja are not surprising given that it is not he that speaks but the devil inside him. By his statements, Charles Taylor has sent the clear message that the devil inside him has to be exorcised before he can receive his salvation. But that devil cannot come out unless the appropriate command that it can understand is invoked. That command is "Attack Charles Taylor and the RUF by day and by night until they are so crippled that they are not capable of attacking even a fly." Until this command is given, the mission of the British and the UN in Sierra Leone will be futile. Since Charles Taylor and the RUF understand only the language of violence it is futile speaking to them in English. Fortunately, in the arsenal of the language of violence are bombs capable of not only casting out the devil but also incinerating it and turning its followers into agents of peace.

The capacity and capability of bombs in incinerating the devil and turning its followers into agents of peace was proved during the Second World War. Is it not beautiful and admirable that both Germany and Japan are among the best peace-loving nations of the world today? Charles Taylor and the RUF too can become the same provided they are talked to in their own language of violence.

When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, the King of Texas, George Bush, realized that only the language of violence could drive him out quickly. On speaking effectively to Saddam Hussein in that language, he withdrew his forces and Kuwait became free. The British and the UN should take a cue from the King of Texas. Fortunately, the Prince of Texas, George W. Bush is at the helm of affairs on this planet and has inherited all the genes of his father. What Clinton failed to do in Sierra Leone, the Prince of Texas can easily succeed in doing and that is appropriately talking to the RUF and Charles Taylor in the language of violence. The British and the UN should invite the support of that honourable Prince of Texas.

However, the British and the UN should not forget that Sierra Leone is a land of very treacherous people. From President to the common man in the street, Sierra Leoneans are treacherous! That is precisely why despite much shedding of the blood of peacekeepers from Nigeria, Kabbah went to Monrovia to fraternize with Charles Taylor. Again, that is why the Sierra Leonean Army under Koroma joined forces with the RUF to invade Freetown to kill or amputate their fellow Sierra Leoneans and the peacekeepers. He or she that has ears to hear let him/her hear.

From President to the common person, Sierra Leoneans are treacherous, unreliable and can just not be trusted. The British and the UN should do their work quickly without fear or favour and should never count on the Sierra Leone Army. Training the Sierra Leone Army might be as well be training cadres for the RUF. It is only after the RUF and Charles Taylor have been crippled militarily and they are on their knees begging for mercy that the techniques of the indigenous democracy - Jaku democracy - can be invoked to unite all Sierra Leoneans.