The United Nations Secretary General.


Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II,
Head of the Common Wealth.

The European Commission.

The Human Rights Watch.

The Amnesty International.


RE: HUMBLE REQUEST FOR AN IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION TO PREVENT FURTHER MASSACRE AND HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE IN UGANDA-AFRICA.

I am writing in my capacity as Special Envoy in charge of External Co-ordination and Mobilization Rwenzururu Kingdom and Independent Western Australia to the attention of your noble offices about the current situation effecting the Bayira of DRC Congo, Kasese and its environs within the Rwenzururu Kingdom. On the 14 April,2016 His Majesty King Charles Wesley Mumbere Irema-Ngoma Rwenzururu Kingdom petitioned the Hon.Speaker of the Uganda Government to notify them of the human rights abuse being carried out by army and Police officers against the Banyarwenzururu in the Kingdom.

The attached petition from the King is a corroboration of my letter of request to the Australian Government dated the 14th March, 2016, seeking urgent intervention to prevent further human rights abuse in Uganda. Both letters outlined and enumerated most of the atrocities that have been committed by the current government of Yoweri Kaguta Museveni as Commander in chief by giving orders to the Police, Military Personnel and secret services to kill publicly and in secret houses at the same time torture members of the public that supports the opposition. Nevertheless, the King of Rwenzururu did not participate in politics nor support any political party during elections.

It is documented through the media that the King of Rwenzururu has faced numerous assassination attempt by the security personnel of the government. Words are not enough to express the agony the people of Rwenzururu kingdom are currently going through. Paying a deaf ear to their cry would mean a life sentence to their current problems. His Majesty King Omusinga Charles Wesley Mumbere Irema-
Ngoma Rwenzururu Kingdom is constitutionally recognized by the Ugandan government as having its own jurisdiction and its administrative setup. An infringement to the rights of its people and the king is tantamount to a provocation of civil unrest that will finally lead to the Ugandan government creating a genocidal war to the people they should be protecting. As I write this letter, current happenings have led to the Army and police attack and bombed the palace of Rwenzururu Kingdom without a legal search warrant, so many people were massacred and burnt alive. Women were stripped naked and handcuffed at the back demonized in public as photos are all over on social media.

The King was kidnapped from his Kingdom dumped in another Kingdom “Nalufenya Jinja” far away from his kingdom, Parliament and the High court. After three days of illegal detention he was then charged with fabrication charges amounts to the abuse of his fundamental human rights and against the time frame within the law which is a violation of the Ugandan constitution.

A culture of keep allowing the Government to investigate its own crimes must stop with immediate effect. Therefore, I demand that His Majesty Omusinga King Charles Wesley Mumbere Ireme-Ngoma must be released unconditionally with immediate effect.

The International community and other relevant bodies must Intervene and investigate the Massacre of the Banyarwenzururu, Foreign land grabbers and the looting of Minerals from DRC. Congo and Uganda.

The Government of Uganda should be held accountable for all lives lost and the victims must be compensated according to the international law. The post-mortem of the dead must be carried out in the full knowledge of the family or relatives.

Mechanism must be put in place to allow me participate in that Investigation and a chance to address the United nations in my capacity as Special Envoy Rwenzururu Kingdom and Independent Western Australia.

I look forward to hearing from your urgent positive response.

Yours faithfully,

His Excellency,
Mr. Kidima Mubarak
SPECIAL ENVOY IN CHARGE OF EXTERNAL CO-ORDINATION & MOBILISATION RWENZURURU KINGDOM, MANAGING DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER OF MATOOKE PROJECT IN AUSTRALIA & INDEPENDENT WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CC. HIS MAJESTY OMUSINGA KING CHARLES WESLEY MUMBERE IREMA-NGOBA.
The Rt. Hon. Speaker,
Uganda Parliament
Kampala Uganda.

Right Honorable,

RE: PETITION AGAINST MARGINALIZATION AND EXCESSIVE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ABSENCE OF PEACE IN THE RWENZURURU KINGDOM AND REQUEST FOR INTERVENTION.

Preamble:
We are writing to bring to the attention of the Honorable 10th Parliament of the Republic of Uganda, the challenges faced by the Banyarwenzururu (Rwenzururu Kingdom subjects) living in and around the districts of Kasese, Bundibugyo, Kabarole and Ntoroko. This is in pursuance of the general marginalization and excessive violation of human rights of the Rwenzururu Kingdom subjects in those areas mentioned.

Right Honorable Speaker, it is shocking and very absurd when the entire world is moving towards universal social order, in this 21st century, that the Rwenzururu Kingdom subjects living in the mentioned districts are still living in adverse conditions and their rights are continuously being infringed on. The region continuously experiences mass killings, tribal hegemony, property grabbing, abduction and persistent fear resulting from on spot killings by the flying squad. Many people have
lost their lives, many orphaned, many widowed and many causalities have been left behind. There has been loss and destruction of property, and now people live under persistent fear and misery. This has kept the affected region in a state of confusion affecting the social, cultural and economic life of the populace.

We have decided to write to you after failing to get answers to our problems. As one of the voices of the voiceless Rwenzururu Kingdom subjects in the said districts, Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu (Rwenzururu Kingdom) hereby requests for your intervention for the pacification of the affected areas mentioned.

**Brief Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu Background:**

Rwenzururu Kingdom, commonly known as Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu (OBR), is a well recognized Kingdom among the officially recognized kingdoms of Uganda. It is located in the Rwenzori Mountain region of the South Western part of Uganda and spans into the Democratic Republic of Congo among the Bayira (Bakonzo/Banande and Basumba people). It is a monarchy of the inhabitants of the Bayira people who dwell in and around the Rwenzori mountain region. The term Rwenzururu means “of the snow capped Rwenzori mountain” and Banyarwenzururu refers to the people of Rwenzururu (Rwenzori mountains), which was mistakenly re-named by explorer Henry Murton Stanley as Ruwenzori – the mountain of the moon.

Bayira (Bakonzo/Banande) and Basumba are ethnic groups that originally lived and still live in and around the Rwenzururu mountains. Currently, the Bayira alone are about 6,000,000 (six) million with an estimated 1,000,000 on the Ugandan side of the mountain (commonly known as Bakonzo) and 5,000,000 on the Democratic Republic of Congo side (commonly known as Banande). Both the Bakonzo in Uganda and the Banande in DRC are one Bayira community, a Bantu speaking people. On the Ugandan side the Bakonzo occupy the Rwenzururu mountains cutting across the districts of Kasese, Kabarole, Ntoroko, Rubirizi, Kamwenge, Bundibugyo, Kyenjojo and parts of Mubende and those in Congo are found mostly in North Kivu province, South Kivu, Maniema, Ituri and Orientale. The Bamba who are sub-divided into Babwisi, Babutoku, Vonoma and Babila predominantly occupy the plains of Bundibugyo district. The Basumba are divided and scattered in the plains of Bundibugyo district.
They move to and fro in the Semuliki valley of Bundibugyo district. The Bayira-
(Bakonzo/Banande), Bamba and Basumba time memorial co-exist with no problems.

Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu is not political. It is purely a cultural institution of the
Bayira wherever they are without regard to geo-political boundaries, headed by His
Majesty Omusinga Charles Wesley Mumbere Iremea – Ngoma. It (OBR) is a non
discriminative kingdom that brings together the people living in and around the
Rwenzori Mountains. There are a number of theories as to the origin and history of
the Bayira but most common one is that the Bayira claim to have been the first people
to settle on Rwenzururu Mountains and believe to have been created there by God
just as Adam and Eve in Eden.

At the inception of colonial rule in the Rwenzori region, the Bayira (Bakonzo/Banande)
who were living in harmony and peacefully in and around the Rwenzori Mountains
were divided into two groups. One group was put under the Belgians in Congo and
was later on nicknamed Banande. Another group was put under the British in
Uganda, and was later on nicknamed Bakonzo. Remember that the Bayira all over
share similar mode of traditions, values, beliefs, feelings, festivals, language and
culture. The Bayira were then ruled by two different colonial masters and that is when
they started facing problems. In Uganda Bakonzo and Bamba people were lumped
together in the Toro kingdom. Throughout the colonial period these people were
marginalized, oppressed and dehumanized through the medium of the Toro kingdom.
So in 1954, the Bakonzo and Bamba organized themselves under the Bakonzo Life
History Research society, led by Isaya Mukirania.

On June 30th 1962 the Bayira Bakonzo / Bamba symbolized their break away from the
Toro kingdom by hosting their flag and installing Isaya Mukirania as their leader. This
was after loosing hope for consideration and recognition in the Toro kingdom and
even in the Uganda national independence Constitution as being part of the Uganda
society.

The same fate befell the Bayira Banande in the DRC. They were also not considered as
an ethnic group among other ethnic groups of the DRC. They were also not included
in the DRC national constitution then. So the Bayira Bakonzo, Banande and Bamba opted for secession and establishing their own independence. In 1966 Isaya Mukirania died, who after his death the same year, his 14 year – old son, Prince Charles Wesley Mumbere was installed as Omusinga Charles Wesley Mumbere Iremba – Ngoma. On August 15th 1982 Omusinga Charles Mumbere Wesley Iremba – Ngoma ended the 20 – year Rwenzururu rebellion and reconciled with the Uganda Government. By this time the former Toro kingdom had been divided into 3 separate districts Bundibugyo, Kasese and Kabarole.

In the wake of the 1995 constitution of the republic of Uganda which re – installed kingdoms that had been abolished countrywide before, Banyarwenzururu sought recognition of Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu as a Cultural Institution and on 19th October 2009 during the 43rd coronation anniversary of His Majesty the King of the Rwenzururu Kingdom, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni recognized Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu with his Majesty Omusinga Charles Wesley Mumbere Iremba – Ngoma as the King. The DRC President Kabila sent a high powered delegation with gifts to Iremba-Ngoma and many of the Congolese OBR subjects (Bayira) attended the Coronation ceremony. And below find the Vision, Mission and Objectives of Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu (OBR)

**OBR Vision:** To have a united, strong, Respectable, Peaceful and Developmental cultural society in and around the Rwenzori Mountains

**OBR Mission:** To create a framework by which the Bayira will be able to maintain the symbolic relationship between the people and their Rwenzori mountain habitat, through fostering social, economic and cultural progress for the restoration of hope and human dignity and esteem

**OBR Objectives**

1. To promote, preserve, develop and present Yira language and culture
2. To preserve, protect and uphold the rights and freedom of all the Bayira without discrimination.
3. To institute, preserve and maintain peace, unity and equality for positive change.
4. To exercise, practice perfect culture and protect rights without fear, favour or prejudice.
5. To exploit the natural resources and protect the environment for posterity
6. To coordinate links with governments and similar institutions at all levels for social economic and cultural development and mutual respect, trust and cooperation.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

To be able to understand properly how the people living in and around the Rwenzori region have politically, economically, socially and culturally suffered, it is very important to draw your attention to their socio-economic and political history before colonization during colonization after Independence and the current situation.

The History of the people living in and around the Rwenzori region being politically attacked by foreigners dates back to the 18th century. This was the time Bunyoro-Kitara was a very strong empire attacking any territory in order to annex more territory. Rwenzururu Mountains was one of the areas that were attacked several times. The Bayira clan leaders kept on defending their subjects against Bunyoro Kitara expeditions. The Bayira at this time were not ruled by one human being, but they were just divided into clans. No one of the clan leaders could dare to subjugate fellow clan leaders because they considered themselves as one family of kithasamba and descendants of creator God – Nyamuhanga, who hated blood shade of innocent people. Therefore, the role of the clan leaders was to defend innocent people, men, women and children against the attackers.

For instance between 1750 – 1852 Bayira Clan leaders Kighogho and Pukupuku repulsed the Banyoro invaders during the reign of Kyebambe Musuga Nyamutukura, Nyabwongo II Mugenyi and Olimi Rwakubale of Bunyoro Kitara. Many Bayira lost their lives but thereafter peace reigned in the Rwenzori region. And from 1820 – 1870 Ruhandika, Kalikura, Busongera Bwa Ntule, Ghome, Rubuha, Kakuri, Kithengera, ruled under Kithasamba the Bayira God of the Rwenzoris, who engaged in fighting against Bunyoro Kitara and the slave traders 1830 – 1860 Kisoro kya ghome ghome guarded the Rwenzururu Mountain against the expeditions of Banyoro and Arab slave traders
This opening portion of the problem statement therefore adds to the historical background of the affected region and offers legal, social, cultural, economic and political concerns for raising this petition. We the Bakonzo people living in and around the Rwenzori region feel that the obligations of the Government of Uganda to observe universally recognized human rights have not been respected or attained in and around the Rwenzori region. The Bakonzo people of the said region have continually faced political, economic, cultural and social challenges.

The reasons for which this petition is framed are to request for a more free and fair governance that puts first the aspirations and rights of its people, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to its citizens and their posterity. So we the people living in and around the Rwenzori region formulate this petition to request for intervention for our demand for peace and tranquility that have not been respected and therefore we inform the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda and all other humanitarian organizations about our problems for immediate intervention before the situation goes out of hand. Below are the challenges faced;

1. The present situation – Since independence to date, in both Uganda and the DRC, the plight of the people living in and around the Rwenzoris has not changed. The Rwenzori region has chronically become an arena for warfare, caused by the war mongers to access the natural resources with which the region is endowed. They have used all means to exploit the said areas at the expense of the indigenous people in many ways;

   • Many prominent businessmen and intellectuals in both Uganda and the DRC have been killed, abducted and others are still targeted. And many have run away to foreign countries to take refuge. Those who have remained live under great fear. This reduces their determination to invest in their homeland. Indiscriminate killing of the Bayira in Uganda is going on as we write this document. For instance the current flying squad that is in the districts of Kasese and Bundibugyo; that is openly killing and abducting only the Bayira is terrorizing people. This squad was introduced by the Inspector General of Police of Uganda (Kale Kayihura), immediately after the presidential elections of 18th February 2016. It is manned by Uganda government forces. Many innocent people including civilians and un armed, officially known by Uganda
government royal guards have been killed and some abducted. And recently the King’s palace was attacked by the same flying squad, where people lost lives and injured. And whenever such attack or killing is done, government deceive the public that rebels from Rwenzururu kingdom were trying to disarm a government soldier.

- Any mukonzo in Kasese and Bundibugyo districts of Uganda found coming from his/her garden carrying a hoe or a panga is now taken to be a rebel to the government of Uganda. Where other tribes like the Bamba, Basongora, Banyabindi with whom the Bakonzo co-exist are not mistreatd. Many Bakonzo are indiscriminately killed because of being found with such gardening tools. Shockingly, if the other tribes are found with fighting tools, they are left free. For instance late March this year,(ref. Sunday Monitor of 27 March 2016), Uganda’s professional Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kale Kayihura addressed Bamba warriors who were fully armed with pangas, bow and arrows ready to attack and kill Bakonzo. He (IGP), never disarmed them. He disguised that he was trying to cool the tension between the Bamba and Bakonzo. He (IGP) kept on making baseless statements linking the killings in the Rwenzi region by his forces to Rwenzururu Kingdom. Feeding the public on lies to cause more trouble. His flying squad is abducting innocent people who are taken to unknown destinations and we don’t know their fate.

- The Bayira are failing to get the right places to hide since all their homeland is under attack with broad day killings that are manned by government security agents who are supposed to protect them. Those government agents bribe and use Bakonzo to spy on their fellow Bakonzo to report any mukonzo who complains trying to defend his people. The killers of Bayira in Uganda seem to be fulfilling a hidden agenda against the Bayira which is aimed at having the Bayira tribe socially, economically, culturally and politically weakened.

2. Indirect rule – As if the indirect rule of administration seemed to be for the day of the colonial and post colonial times, the present government of Uganda still rule the Bayira through other ethnic tribes of the Banyarwanda, Bahuma, Basongora, Bamba/babwisi, whom they empower to excessively oppress the Bayira. For instance in Uganda the NRM government has planned to weaken Rwenzururu Kingdom by creating and empowering other cultural institutions within Rwenzururu kingdom to propel inter-tribal conflicts.
3. **Rampant Killing and abduction** - In both Uganda and the DRC, there is clear evidence of rampant killing, rapping, defiling of children, abduction and persistent fear among the people living in and around the Rwenzoris.

4. **Lack of cultural freedom** - It has not been possible for the Bayira to exercise cultural freedom even after the recognition of kingdom by government of Uganda. The King has in many times been stopped to make cultural visits within his kingdom, by Government forces, especially in areas where government is planning to put another cultural institution to try to undermine Rwenzururu Kingdom, even when majority of the population in those areas are Rwenzururu kingdom subjects. For instance the Bundibugyo and Kasenyi royal visits in 2013 and 2014.

5. **Lack of freedom of interaction** - The Bayira in the DRC and Uganda have not received enabling circumstances to interact for social, economic and cultural development, and yet the two governments know that Rwenzururu kingdom spans into the two countries. The Bayira are compelled to pay visas whenever families have social functions, only for some cases where the Uganda government give free entry to OBR cultural guests after along struggle.

6. **High ranking posts** in Uganda, in the army, police, Judiciary, civil service, especially with high pay both in the public and private sector like Revenue authority, Embassies, commissioners, permanent secretaries, Immigration and airports are dominated by others, but the Bakonzo/Bayira can hardly be seen there.

7. **Un necessary land grabbing** - Since colonial time to date, land for the people living in and around the Rwenzori region in Uganda, has been grabbed. Most of the indigenous people live as now squatters in their own homeland. There are always land conflicts between the grabbers the indigenous, which some time end up being termed as tribal conflicts by government. Land is taken by government and given to Bahima/ Basongora.

8. **The rich natural resource basket** Rwenzori has turned to be a problem to the indigenous because foreigners admire it and have always wanted to own it by force. The fertile land with very reliable rainfall and the water bodies, all types
of minerals underground, national parks and natural forests, the beautiful scenery, the unique snow capped Rwenzoris and the equator living together and the rich cultural heritage of the indigenous peoples. All these have caused the Bayira problems, as other greedy people envy them.

9. **Bad governance** – Poor leadership and discriminations based on tribes by ruling government of Uganda leaders have always featured as a key point affecting the people of this region. As a result, the ordinary people have remained poor, hungry, un informed and the social services like education, health, agriculture and infrastructure development have failed to be extended to some unfortunate communities.

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- Unemployment, especially the youth.
- Unfulfilled promises by leadership
- Lobby and advocate for comprehensive development of the affected area or region.
- Infrastructure.
- Increased capacity in protection and exploitation of natural resources.
- Increased internal and external relationship.

Hoping for your Humanitarian and sincere response. May the Almighty God bless you.

Thank you.

HABWA KAYINGO N'OBUSINGA BWETHU (For God and our Kingdom)

[Signature]

Omusinga Charles Wesley Mumbere Irema-Ngoma
OBUSINGA BWA RWENZURURU

CC: Rt. Hon. Omulerembera (Prime Minister) - OBR