



MAHAMA AYARIGA LL.B, BL, LL.M.

Member of Parliament
Bawku Central Constituency
Representative to the ECOWAS Parliament

Friday 3rd February 2023

THE COMMISSIONER
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND
ADMINISTRATION JUSTICE
HEADQUARTERS, OLD PARLIAMENT HOUSE
ACCRA

Dear Sir,

**COMPLAINT OF VARIOUS ACTS OF VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY
MEMBERS OF THE GHANA ARMED FORCES IN BAWKU**

PURSUANT TO REGULATION 2 (2) (a) and (b)

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE JUSTICE
(INVESTIGATIONS PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS, 2010 (C.I.67)

1. In my capacity as the Member of Parliament for Bawku Central I hereby lodge a complaint on behalf of some residents of Bawku under regulation 2(2)(a) and (b) of C.I. 67 pertaining to several acts of violation of the human rights of some residents of Bawku by members of the Ghana Armed Forces.
2. Among the rights violated included the sacred right to life of 10 citizens of Bawku who were shot to death by members of the armed forces engaged in Operation Gongong in Bawku on Tuesday 31st January and Wednesday 1st February 2023. Children's rights. Women's rights and property rights were violated.
3. The military do not deny shooting and killing these residents of Bawku. A statement issued by the military authorities on 2nd February 2023 admitting responsibility for the killings is attached.

4. I reject the self serving coverup account of the circumstances surrounding the brutal killings contained in the statement of the Ghana Armed Forces engaged in Operation Gongong and hereby call for an investigation by the CHRAJ so that eyewitnesses can give an accurate account of the brutality with which the military executed the killings.

5. The incidents occurred on the 1st of February 2023. An earlier killing of 2 persons in Patelmi in Bawku by members of the Ghana Armed Forces occurred on 26th of January 2023.

The following have been identified as the victims of the military killings and brutalities:

1. Imoro Salifu

Age: 59 years

House No: J25, Patelmi, Bawku

Survived by 2 wives and 6 children.

Incident occurred in Patelmi. Deceased was shot by soldiers in front of his house at about 8pm on 26th January 2023.

2. Dauda Salifu

Age: 60 years.

House No: J24 Patelmi, Bawku.

Survived by a wife and 5 children.

Incident occurred in Patelmi.

Deceased was shot and killed by men In military uniform in front of his house at about 8pm on 26th of January 2023.

3. Akudugu Bugnaba Karim

A 31 years old nurse.

Address:MC 146 songuri- missiga, Bawku

Married and survived by 3 children

Mother: Issifu Ayishetu (alive)

Father: Akudugu Issifu (alive)

He dies of gun shot wounds.

He was seen being chased by men wearing military uniforms by foot while others were in the armor vehicle equally chasing him too.

Location of incident was in a valley near Sunguri primary school

4. Abunbiana Madi

Age: 33

Address: Songuri missiga, hse no Mc147

Wives: 3

Children:6

Father: Mamudu Abunbiana (alive)

Mother: Mamudu Salamatu (alive)

Occupation: motorcycle mechanic

Died of gunshot wounds by the military. Men wearing military uniforms were seen chasing him on foot while some were in the armor vehicle chasing and shooting.

Location: at a valley near Sunguri primary school.

5. Kassim Issah

Age:33

Address: House No. ME43, Zoogin Missiga

Married with 1 child

Father: (deceased)

Mother Kassim Habiba (alive)

Died of military gunshot wounds on his head.

Location of incident was the valley near Songuri primary school. He was on top of a mango tree when he was shot.

They wore military uniforms with three armor vehicles and surrounded the valley full of mango trees.

6. Adamu Sumaila

Age: 32

Address: House No. ME43 Baratinga, Missiga.

Married with 2 wives.

Children: 7

Mother: (deceased)

Father: (deceased)

Died of gunshot by the members of the military.

Location of the incident was the valley near Songuri primary school. He was fetching water with a donkey cart to build when the military shot him.

7. Sumaila Jafaru

Age: 12

Address: ME 32, Baratinga, Missiga.

His mother was also sustained wounds in her left hand from the gun shots of the military and is receiving medical treatment.

His father had also been killed by the military

The military burned Sumaila Jafaru in a room full of hay where he had taken refuge.

The incident occurred in their house. The deceased mother resisted and that is how they shot her in the hand.

8. Ndeego Mumuni

Age: 39

Address: ME23, Baratinga, Missiga.

Married with one wife.

Children: 5

Father: (deceased)

Mother:(deceased)

Died of gunshot wounds inflicted by the military. He was in his garden watering his garden plants.

Location of incident was his garden in the valley near Sunguri primary school.

9. Haruna kodus

Age: 17

Address: House No. ME36 Zoogin, Missiga

Died of gunshots by the military

Incident was at the valley near Songuri primary school.

10. Ayuma Eliasu

Age: 37

Address: Sarabogo, Pusiga

Married with 2 wives

Children:7

Died of gunshot wounds inflicted by the military.

Incident occurred at the valley near Songuri primary school. The military were in uniforms ran by foot and with the armor cars and shoot him at the valley near a garden.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS -

From the forgoing accounts the fundamental human right to life enshrined in article 13 of the Constitution of Ghana has been violated in relation to each of the deceased. Children's rights under article 28 have been violated. Property rights have equally been violated. Women's rights have been violated.

The military have violated every known international human rights protocol governing military intervention in civilian armed conflict.

REMEDIES sought:

1. Compensation of Five Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis (Ghc 500,000.00) for each and every one of those whose lives were taken to be paid to their immediate families as punitive damage.
2. Restraining the members of the Ghana Armed Forces from further acts of brutalities in Bawku in the exercise of their responsibilities to maintain peace in Bawku.
3. Adequate compensation to those who have suffered physical harm.

This Complaint is Pursuant to section 7 of the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice Act 1993 (Act 456) and article 218 of the Constitution of Ghana 1992.

This Complaint is Dated Friday 3rd February 2023 and made by Mahama Ayariga who is the Member of Parliament for Bawku Central Constituency and is made on behalf of the victims of the military killings and their families.

Thank You,



Mahama Ayariga, MP

Bawku Central