

CITIZENS FOR NIGERIA



AGAINSTBABANGIDA.COM

standing up against Nigeria's destructive leaders

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web: <http://citizensfornigeria.com>
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To: General Ibrahim B. Babangida (Rtd.)
IBB Villa, No. 1 Hilltop Road,
Minna, Niger State, Nigeria

From: Citizens for Nigeria (CFN), New York, United States of America

Date: November 27, 2006

WARNING TO DISCONTINUE YOUR PRESIDENTIAL BID

In the national interest of the good people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and in the interest of the national security of this vitally important African country to the world community, we the members of the Citizens For Nigeria (CFN) deeply implore you to reconsider your heavily monetized bid for Nigeria's presidency in 2007 and immediately withdraw from the race effectively.

Citizens for Nigeria and Againstbabangida.com believe in the right of every Nigerian covered by the constitution to contest any political office in Nigeria, until disqualified. However, your records in the eight years from August 1985 to August 1993, that you ruled the nation as an unelected military head of state of the Federal Republic of Nigeria are so unsatisfactory and worrisome that your participation constitutes a mockery of this hard earned democratic environment and consequently litter the nation with massive political garbage whose social implications are even too depressing to contemplate.

Right under your supervision, Nigeria's currency lost most of its value. The percentage of devaluation between 1985, when the naira had more value than the dollar, and 1993 when you left office, has never been matched. With you in control, the economy took a nose dive, even as a multitude of social programs you introduced, such as SAP, MAMSER, DFRRRI and Peoples' Bank were never able to redeem Nigeria's economy from sinking into paralysis. Under your administration, billions of dollars remain unaccounted for and the financial system collapsed just before you stepped aside in 1993.

Human rights existed only in your take over national addresses, as you closed more media houses than any other leader in Nigeria's history. Freedom of the press and freedom of expression was non-existent during your regime. Military officers who directly reported to you under the military structure were allegedly responsible for the murder of a national icon and journalist, Dele Giwa, on October 19, 1986. It is public knowledge that Dele Giwa was murdered by a letter bomb. The significance of this is that the adopted method was a single dastardly event completely alien to Nigeria at that time and remains unmatched to date. You have resisted every attempt to find the killers. International correspondents of foreign media houses and university lecturers of other nationalities were deported for voicing opinions contrary to your wishes. On various occasions, you did not hesitate to order gun-wielding soldiers to kill protesting Nigerians on the streets when they exercised their constitutionally-protected freedom of expression.

You appointed cronies to manage national affairs and did not find it indecent to cover up when questions that could expose gross misconduct of your family and associates were asked. Drug dealers and narcotic traffickers were virtually protected from justice, and drugs seized by your officials disappeared in custody even in the face of the court. Fraudsters prospered under your command and the despicable "419" syndrome took shape right under your nose. In the pharmaceutical industry, the importation of fake/expired medicines took center stage during your reign with untold consequences. Our education system, the single most important vehicle of knowledge common amongst all advanced nations, was also in ruins with universities closed for several months at a time. Ethics lost its place in national character and Nigeria became the foremost rogue nation in the world under your stewardship. Instead of

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transparency, decency, honesty and sincerity of purpose through leadership by good example, you institutionalized corruption, complacency, deception and decadence in national life.

In furtherance of your defiance to civilized expectations, you annulled the most powerful collective expression of the people, the June 12, 1993 national election. That selfish, wanton and illegal annulment of the expressed electoral wish of all Nigerians is the greatest harm ever done to Nigeria by any leader. There is therefore absolutely no democratic credential to your credit. By so doing, you disqualified yourself summarily by lacking the trust required from anyone aspiring to lead a country as complex and diverse as Nigeria at this critical juncture in our history.

You damaged Nigeria politically, economically, socially and ethically. Single-handedly, you enlisted Nigeria in an international religious body and jeopardized the secularity of the nation. The wounds you inflicted have not fully healed. Your ambition constitutes a mockery of the democratic process, the same very system of governance you vehemently opposed by all means at your disposal. Nigerians have not forgotten who you are. The great scientist Albert Einstein said: "Insanity is doing the same thing and expecting a different result." We are not a nation of morons.

The Justice Chukwudifu Akunne Oputa Human Rights Violation Investigation Commission of Nigeria (HRVIC), which was set up for national reconciliation, invited you to participate in its hearings and gave you an unprecedented opportunity to clarify issues of national importance, yet you refused to humble yourself and participate in that very respected panel. Instead you went to court to challenge the authority of the panel. The verdict of the Oputa panel is also an indictment of your present campaign to be president. It is far more important that you dwell on how to redeem your horrendous legacy than pursue your current campaign to bring yourself back to power somehow.

Remember that every tyrant in history had his followers. Therefore, do not consider in the least that those around you are proof of support for your ill-advised ambition. We bring to your attention the fact that it is with this same group of people that you stirred the ship of state to the brink of self destruction and established a reputation as one who is inherently deceptive.

Your actions so far are becoming a grave and gathering danger to the survival, peace and security of Nigeria and, by extension, world peace and stability. In the interest of the nation and generations unborn, we strongly advise you heed these warnings. You are not what Nigeria needs. You have done too much damage to be of any political value to our hard-earned democratic system and national destiny.

Owing to the urgency of this letter and because the stakes are so high, we have sent it through DHL and copied important institutions and stake holders who are encouraged to do the right thing in the interest of world peace. A word is enough for the wise.

Sincerely,

Signed:

For: Citizen for Nigeria/Againstbabangida.com

Copied:

President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

President of the Senate, Federal Republic of Nigeria

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Speaker of the House of Representatives, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Chief Justice of the Federation, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Secretary to the Federal Government, Federal Republic of Nigeria

Economic and Financial Crimes Commission of Nigeria

President, Christian Association of Nigeria

Sultan of Sokoto, President Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs of Nigeria

The Secretary General, United Nations

The Secretary General, African Union

The Secretary General, ECOWAS

The European Union, Brussels, Belgium

President, Nigerian Bar Association

President, Nigerian Guild of Editors

Editors of Nigerian National Newspapers and Broadcasting Houses

Editors: Cable Network News (CNN)

New York Times

Washington Post

British Broadcasting Corporation

Deutsche Welle

Radio France

Financial Times, London

Guardian, London

Times, London

Reuters

Associated Press

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