

◆ NATION OF JUSTICE ◆

Respect • Equality • Justice for All

DEMOCRACY

NO BE **ONE-SIZE-FIT-ALL**

Di True Revolution
Dey Start For Mind,
and e dey start with **YOU**

My Address to Nigerian Youths

wey follow Section 1, 2, 14, 23 & 24 of di

Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as Amended)

by

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THE SOUL BEHIND THE VOICE

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"Di biggest revolution no dey for street. E dey for mind."

MY ADDRESS TO NIGERIAN YOUTHS

*Democracy no be one-size-fit-all.
Di True Revolution Dey Start For Mind
And E Dey Start With You*

My fellow young Nigerians,

una wey be youth of today, no forget say our leaders of today, na youth dem call yesterday wey we say na future. See us again now.

I no come greet una as politician wey want una vote, no be as preacher wey want una offering, and no be as celebrity wey dey find una clap. I greet una as broda wey come tell una one hard truth wey wrap inside deep love: *Nigeria no be exempt from getting better — Revolution for United States dem time different gan-gan from di idea of Revolution for Nigeria. Di condition of Nigeria dey allow me talk say, "but di real revolution no go start for Aso Rock or for street. E go start for inside your mind."*

For too long, we don dey shout "change" every four years and still we dey di same for inside our heart. We remove one man only to put another one wey dem mould from di same soil of greed, no-patience, corruption, oppression, and ignorance among all di other rubbish. From Lagos to Maiduguri, from Port Harcourt to Sokoto, from Oyo to Niger, di story dey repeat itself like one old drum wey no dey change im rhythm. And di painful truth — di one wey we don dey run from too tey — na dis one:

Nigeria no dey suffer shortage of leaders. Nigeria dey suffer shortage of citizens wey be true leaders wey sabi think well and wey truly care for di welfare of everybody.

We dey treat politics like inter-house sports. We dey wear party colour like jersey and dey shout for our team to win, no be for our nation to rise and prosper. We dey celebrate thief and terrorist because dem come from our tribe. We dey defend failure because dem share our tongue and pocket. We dey curse government for unemployment, but we dey celebrate shortcut and corruption for house. We dey blame our government and other management for pothole, but we dey throw rubbish for front of our own gate. We dey expect heaven from people wey dey office while we dey live like devil for our own small corner. And when di country fall, we go dey act like say we shock — like say na we no vote, with our own hand, for di very fingers wey dey choke our throat now.

No leader fit save people or nation wey no wan save demself.

Di Constitution No Be Book For Shelf — Na Mirror, Na Your Identity.

Make I bring you face to face with di document wey define wetin we owe ourselves and wetin we owe Nigeria. Di Constitution of di Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as Amended) no be museum piece. Na living covenant between you and your country. And e dey start by telling you exactly where di power dey.

Section 1 — Di Supremacy of di Constitution

"This Constitution is supreme and its provisions shall have binding force on all authorities and persons throughout the Federal Republic of Nigeria."

"The Federal Republic of Nigeria shall not be governed, nor shall any person or group of persons take control of the Government of Nigeria or any part thereof, except in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution."

"shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void."

Read dose words again, my young broda and sista. E be Supreme. E dey Bind. On all authorities and persons. Meaning say senator no dey above am. Governor no dey above am. Police no dey above am. Local government chairman no dey above am. Market king no dey above am. And di boy for street wey dey collect illegal "settlement" for checkpoint, e no dey above am too. Di Constitution dey bind everybody — or e no dey bind anybody. Na so e be.

Section 2 — One Indivisible Nation

"one indivisible and indissoluble sovereign state."

Indivisible. Indissoluble. E mean say our destiny dey tied togeda whether we like each oda tribe or no. Igbo, Yoruba, Hausa, Fulani, Ijaw, Tiv, Kanuri, Efik, Itsekiri — every drop of blood wey dey flow for dis land na inside one body e dey flow. When you tief from Nigeria, no be from "dem" you dey tief. Na from inside your own mama belle you dey tief.

Section 14 – Sovereignty Belong to YOU

Section 14 na di verse wey you must memorise like your name. E declare Nigeria as "a State based on the principles of democracy and social justice," and e proclaim like dis:

(a) sovereignty belongs to the people of Nigeria from whom government through this Constitution derives all its powers and authority; (b) the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government; and (c) the participation by the people in their government shall be ensured in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

You hear am? Sovereignty belong to YOU. No be to Senate. No be to Presidency. No be to di godfathers for Abuja or Ado Ekiti. Government no give imself power — na YOU give government di power. And wetin you give, you fit hold am accountable. Wetin you give, you fit demand answer for am. Wetin you give, you no go give am away again because of one bag of rice, one wrapper, one or two thousand naira for election day or days before.

And Section 14(2)(b) na di standard wey every leader must dey judged with: di security and welfare of di people shall be di PRIMARY purpose of government. No be personal wealth. No be estate for Dubai or mansion for London or Switzerland. No be private jet. No be children wey dey study abroad while public school dey collapse for home. Di PRIMARY purpose. Anything less than dat na constitutional betrayal, wey must meet di bar of accountability.

Di National Ethics Wey We Don Bury Alive

Section 23 of our Constitution list di seven national ethics wey suppose build Nigeria:

Discipline, Integrity, Dignity of Labour, Social Justice, Religious Tolerance, Self-reliance, and Patriotism.

Look di list. Now look our street. Now look our office. Now look our church and our mosque. Now look mirror.

1. Discipline— but we dey jump queue, beat traffic light, and call am "smartness."

2. Integrity— but we dey hail di man wey "make am" without asking how.

3. Dignity of Labour— but we dey laugh carpenter, paint farmer as dirty, and worship fraudster.

4. Social Justice— but we dey look away when dem dey crush poor people and abuse of power dey reign, but we go clap when rich people escape or when pocket loaded regardless of who suffer.

5. Religious Tolerance— but we dey use God name divide wetin God create as one.

6. Self-reliance— but we dey beg, we dey bribe, we dey "connect," we dey sell our voter's card, then we go talk "welcome to Nigeria" or di sad phrase "this is Nigeria."

7. Patriotism— but we go curse Nigeria for morning and queue for her passport for afternoon; we dey blame Nigeria, we forget say na caravan she be and she no fit drive imself, and we don blind to di clear fact say na di management dey turn and spin di wheel.

Dis na di mindset wey dey upside down. Dis na di abnormality wey we don begin call normal, and we dress am for agbada, danshiki, and call am "Democracy."

Democracy No Be One-Size-Fit-All

Here na one truth wey I don carry for long time and wey I don put for landing page of my advocacy make e clear: Democracy no be one-size-fit-all. Wetin dey work for Washington no go automatically work for Wukari. Wetin fit London fit strangle Lagos. We don dey wear foreign suit for African body, and we dey wonder why e dey tear for every seam.

Democracy must dey measured to fit di current mindset of our society. We must cut our coat according to our size. Democracy must dey moulded to fit Nigeria — our cultures, our values, our ancient ethics wey teach us say yam wey dem tief dey bitter, say elder wey lie go lose im stool, say na community dey raise pikin. We must surgically and step by step heal di abnormalities wey now find home here and dey live among us like say na di norm.

Di way we get am now — copy-and-paste democracy wey dem pour for wounded society — na exactly wetin bring us inside dis wahala. Until our mindset get healing, no ballot go save us. Until our values restore, no election go redeem us.

Section 24 — Your Duties No Be Option

And now, di section wey bring everything home. Section 24 of di Constitution declare:

It shall be the duty of every citizen to — (a) abide by this Constitution, respect its ideals and its institutions, the National Flag, the National Anthem, the National Pledge, and legitimate authorities; (b) help to enhance the power, prestige and good name of Nigeria, defend Nigeria and render such national service as may be required; (c) respect the dignity of other citizens and the rights and legitimate interests of others and live in unity and harmony and in the spirit of common brotherhood; (d) make positive and useful contribution to the advancement, progress and well-being of the community where he resides; (e) render assistance to appropriate and lawful agencies in the maintenance of law and order; and (f) declare his income honestly to appropriate and lawful agencies and pay his tax promptly.

Read am. Read am again. Read am until e enter your bone.

Dis na your DOs. Now learn your DON'Ts from di opposite of each of dem:

- NO trample di Constitution or excuse di people wey dey do am.
- NO stain di good name of Nigeria with corruption, cybercrime, or shortcut wey dey mock honest labour.
- NO dehumanise your broda or sista because of him/her tribe, religion, or accent.
- NO sit idle for your community while e dey rot, then blame Abuja or Aso Rock.
- NO shield criminals from di law because dem be "your own."
- NO hide your income and curse government for empty treasury.

When you sabi your DOs and your DON'Ts, you don qualify to hold others accountable. You no fit demand integrity from senator while you dey cheat for your shop. You no fit demand transparency from governor while you dey pad your receipt. Accountability dey start for mirror before e go reach microphone or street.

THE MOVEMENT IN MOTION



Di handbook no be theory.

Di youths no dey wait.

Di work don already begin.

Dis na part of di encounters wey push me to found Nation of Justice — one movement of citizens wey dey wake to their own power, their own duty, and their own dignity under di Constitution wey already belong to dem.

Nation of Justice — Why We Stand

Dese na part of di encounters wey push me to found Nation of Justice. We dey exist to champion di advocacy of citizens' awareness of dia responsibilities — to demself and to di Nation wey dem dey call dia Country. We no dey exist to fight government. We dey exist to help government see and do di needful for nationwide progress instead of sinking inside di swamp of corruption and personal wealth accumulation wey don hold us hostage for too long.

We believe in one Nigeria where:

- 1. Sovereignty** truly belong to di people, as Section 14 promise.
- 2. Di Constitution** dey supreme over every man pocket and every godfather table, as Section 1 command.
- 3. Our indivisible nationhood** dey honoured for deed, no be only for anthem, as Section 2 declare.
- 4. Di seven national ethics** of Section 23 no be museum word but daily practice.
- 5. Every citizen duties** under Section 24 dey lived, no be only recited.

When di citizens wake, government go straighten im back. When di people refuse to be bribed, di politicians go dey forced to perform. When accountability become di air we dey breathe, di looters go catch cold wey dem no fit recover from. Di fear of accountability na di start of di drumbeat of justice for all.

Di Revolution Dey For Mind

So hear me, young Nigerian. Di greatest revolution no be for street — even though di streets get their moment. Di greatest revolution dey for mind. Di day we go stop waiting for messiah and start becoming di citizens wey our Constitution describe — dat na di day Nigeria go rise.

No Constitution fit save people wey no go read am. No election fit rescue nation whose voters dem don buy. No foreign aid fit heal country whose own children dey tief from her. And no leader, no matter how brilliant, fit build for land where citizens dey destroy faster than e fit repair.

Di enemy no dey only for top. Di enemy dey live also for our habit, our excuse, our tribalism, our impatience, our willingness to clap for thief wey share our surname.

But di good news — di gospel I come deliver — na dis: di same hand wey build di prison fit open am. Di mind wey accept di abnormal as normal fit reject am too. Di voice wey one time shout for party fit learn to shout for principle. Di eye wey watch evil and look away fit learn to look am for face and talk, "Not for my Nigeria."

Di Final Charge

To every young Nigerian wey dey read dis — student, trader, artisan, graduate, hustler, dreamer:

1. **Read your Constitution.** Especially Sections 1, 2, 14, 23, and 24. Make dem your daily creed.
2. **Discipline yourself first.** You no fit give wetin you no get. Practice wetin you dey preach.
3. **Refuse di bribe** — whether ₦2,000 for election day or ₦200 million for office.
4. **Defend your community** before you demand Abuja attention.
5. **Hold di abnormal accountable**, starting with di one for your own mirror.
6. **Join hands with di Sunlight like Nation of Justice** wey dey exist to awaken, no be to deceive.
7. **Mould di Democracy wey fit Nigeria** — no be one wey dey mock us.

When di revolution for our mindset succeed, di true change go begin take shape — for our economy, for our social development, for our culture, for our children children. And we go finally look back and talk: we no wait for saviour. We become one — togeda.

And when I finally decide to seek una votes, na den you go know say na call for una to work like never before.

"I dey seek to serve my nation with all my strength as a pledge, to defend our unity and uphold our honor, Constitution and glory, so help me God."

Nigeria NO be exempt from getting better.

But Nigeria fit only become wetin her citizens dey willing to be.

Be dat citizen. Be dat revolution. Be dat Nation of Justice.



With unwavering belief for di Nigerian Youth,

Jyde Adelakun

Author & Founder, Nation of Justice

WALKING FORWARD, TOGETHER



"We no wait for saviour. We become one — togeda."



JOIN DI

NATION OF JUSTICE

Respect • Equality • Justice for All

Wake di citizen wey dey inside you.

Hold di abnormal accountable.

Mould Democracy wey fit Nigeria.

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