

**The February 26, 2010 Resolution Held in the City of
Voinjama between the Lormas and Mandingos of Voinjama
City, Lofa County
Republic of Liberia
May 8, 2010**

On May 6, 2010, in the city of Voinjama, Lofa County, a meeting was hosted by the National Traditional Council along with other traditional leaders from Bomi, Grand Kru, and River Cess Counties. Representatives also came from various districts in Lofa County. The Commissioners of Voinjama and Quardu Gboni Districts, women groups, marketers, elders, youths, chiefs, religious leaders as well as county authorities were present to witness the traditional investigation of February 26, 2010 conflict between the Lormas and the Mandingoes residing in Voinjama City. The investigation started on May 6, 2010 at which time the both tribes (Lorma and Mandingo) explained their sides of the conflict. Having gone through the explanations, questions were asked and cross-examinations made. It was then concluded that the investigation continue the next day which was the 7th of May 2010. It was this day that the investigation could announce the quilt in the case. Now on the 7th of May 2010, Chief Zanzan Kawah, announced that the Mandingoes of Voinjama City were wrong to the Lormas of Voinjama City on the following points:

1. That the Voinjama City Mandingoes acted upon rumors
2. That the incident in question did not occurred in Voinjama City neither in Voinjama District.

Following this verdict, the Mandingoes accepted the ruling of the Traditional Council and pleaded to the Council through its Chairman Chief Zanzan Kawah to join them in appealing to their Lorma uncles for the sake of peace.

This appeal was accepted from the Mandingos. The words of apology from the Mandingos were then referred to the Lormas by the Chairman.

When the words of apology were extended to the Lormas, they then asked the Council to give them few minutes to meet and discuss the apology. This appeal was granted and they then met for nearly an hour. After the Lormas close-door meeting, they returned and unconditionally accepted the apology from their nephews.

After the Lormas accepted the apology, the National Traditional Council requested the Mandingos to traditionalize their apology by bringing Kola nuts and to kneel to their uncles. This was met by the Mandingos without reservation.

Having gone through the investigation, ruling giving, apology made and accepted, a committee was set up to write a resolution. This Committee then came down with the following:

1. We the Lormas and Mandingos have resolved to respect each other culture and religion/s at all level and everywhere.
2. We the Lormas and Mandingos have also resolved to protect, reserved, and respect all places of worship, traditional practices, public and private institutions even in time of conflict/s.
3. That rumor of any kind be properly ascertained or investigated to avoid conflict.

4. We (Lormas and Mandingos) have resolved to avoid all kinds of stereotyping.
5. That all tribally charged statement/s be avoided.
6. That whenever there is to be any practice of the religion or cultural practices that will involve the respect from the public prior notice should be given to avoid conflict except in case/s of emergency/s and in such case , the rule should be some how relax where violation is made.
7. We the Lormas and Mandingos have resolved that all trouble makers irrespective of tribe, religion, status, are exposed to face the full weight of the traditional law.

Penalty

1-With the signing and passing of this resolution by both parties (Lormas and Mandingos) shall serve as the standard code of conduct for all. Violators will be dealt with traditionally.

2-That any violator/s of points #2, should be held responsible to pay for whatever property/s that was damaged as a result of his/het or their actions. Fine will be imposed on the perpetrator/s and the amount or kind will be decided by the traditional people.

3-Any violator/s of resolution # 3 shall be arrested and dealt with traditionally based on the gravity of the violation.

4-The violator/ of resolution #4 shall carry the same penalty as the violator/s of resolution #3.

5- Any violator/s of resolution #5 shall be liable to be fine of traditional value based on the gravity of the violation.

6-Anyone or group of people who conceived or hide any trouble-maker/s shall also be considered as trouble maker/s and will be dealt with accordingly.

7- Anyone failing to adhere to the wordings of this resolution will be sent over to the formal justice system for prosecution.

Anything contrary notwithstanding.

Done in the City of Voinjama on this 7th day of May 2010

Members of the Resolution Committee

- 1-Alfred S. Kamara
- 2-Mamadec Kabah
- 3-Benyan Korleh
- 4-Siaka Kromah
- 5-Messagbeh Kelleh
- 6-Anthony Kamara
- 7-Battu Sidibe Kamara
- 8-Madam Elizabeth Tulay
- 9-Augustus K. Dorbor
- 10-Pastor James Korboi
- 11-E. Musu Coleman-NTCL
- 12-Deddeh Korzawu-NTCL

Signed: Voinjama District Commissioner Edward A. Koi JAWAH 5/8/2010
Kolahun District Commissioner Reynold J. Kromah 08/05/10
Quardu Gboni Commissioner [Signature] 08/05/10
Foyah District Paramount Chief For. M. S. A. MOHAMED KEITA
Zorzor District Commissioner [Signature] 5/8/2010
Vahun District Commissioner [Signature]
Salayea District Commissioner [Signature]

Lorma Community
Joseph Kabbah [Signature] 8-5-010
Prince Ballah [Signature] 8/5/2010
Kormassa Z. Jallah K. O. KORMASSA Jallah

Mandingo Community
Alfred Sekou Kamara [Signature] 4/8/2010
Shaka A. Kromah [Signature] 08-05-2010
Messagbe Kelleh [Signature]

Paramount Chief/ Voinjama District: B. Tellewoye
Youth Leader/ Voinjama District: Dr. D. Kollie

Attested By:
River Cess County William Blawin
Bomi County [Signature]
Grand Kru County [Signature]

Boakai Sulu [Signature]
Vice Chairman/Elders Affairs/NTCL
[Signature] Johnny K. M. Ndebe
The Carter Center Liberia Programme Representatives

Approved by: [Signature]
Chief Momo Kiazulu
Vice Chairman for Chief Affairs
National Traditional Council of Liberia
Republic of Liberia