

The Episcopal Diocese of Liwolo



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Pastor

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AN OPEN APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, THE AFRICAN UNION, THE UNITED NATIONS, THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Ref: *A Cry for Peace Before Another Tragedy Unfolds*

Your Excellencies,

I write with a heavy heart—not merely as a pastor, but as a shepherd entrusted with the lives, hopes, and fears of thousands of God's people living along the South Sudan–Uganda border.

Today, our communities are gripped by fear. Mothers do not know whether their children will return safely from school. Farmers hesitate to cultivate their fields. Traders who once crossed the border in friendship now travel in uncertainty. Families who have lived together for generations are beginning to fear one another because of rising tensions beyond their control.

The border is not just a line on a map. It is home. It is where children are born, where families earn their living, where churches gather in prayer, and where communities have shared friendship across national boundaries for decades. When peace is threatened there, it is not only territory that is at risk—it is human life, dignity, and the future of an entire generation.

The people living in these border communities have already endured years of conflict, displacement, hunger, and loss. They have buried loved ones. They have rebuilt their homes from ashes. They have prayed for peace when the world seemed to have forgotten them. They should not be asked to bear another burden of violence.

We therefore make this urgent appeal to the Governments of the Republic of South Sudan and the Republic of Uganda:

Do not allow political disagreements, security incidents, or territorial disputes to become another chapter of bloodshed. No piece of land is worth the life of a child. No border is more valuable than the tears of a mother mourning her son or daughter. No political victory can replace the life of a father who never returns home.

History will remember not only those who fought wars, but also those who prevented them.

We call upon both governments to immediately pursue peaceful dialogue, exercise maximum restraint, strengthen communication between security forces, and resolve every dispute through diplomacy rather than confrontation.

We also appeal to the African Union, the East African Community, the United Nations, religious leaders, humanitarian organizations, and all friends of peace to support urgent efforts aimed at preventing violence and protecting innocent civilians before the situation deteriorates further.

Silence in moments like this can carry a terrible cost. When warning signs are ignored, families suffer the consequences for generations. The world has witnessed too many conflicts that could have been prevented through timely dialogue, courage, and compassion. We must not wait until lives are lost before peace becomes a priority.

As followers of Christ, we believe that every human being is created in the image of God. Every life matters. Every child deserves to grow up without fear. Every family deserves to sleep without the sound of gunfire. Peace is not a sign of weakness—it is the highest expression of wisdom, justice, and responsible leadership.

From the churches of Liwolo Diocese, our prayers rise every day for both South Sudan and Uganda. We pray not for the triumph of one nation over another, but for the triumph of peace over fear, dialogue over hostility, and hope over despair.

May God touch the hearts of all leaders entrusted with authority. May He grant them the wisdom to choose reconciliation over confrontation and the courage to protect the lives of those they serve.

The blood of innocent people must never become the price of unresolved disputes.

The time to act is now.

May God bless the Republic of South Sudan.

May God bless the Republic of Uganda.

May God bless all who labor for peace.

Respectfully,

Rev. Duku Emmanuel Bosco

Pastor, Diocese of Liwolo

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