TECHIMAN TRADITIONAL COUNCIL

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P. O. Box 4
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Date: 3rd December 2024.

PRESS RELEASE "ALLEDGED ATTACK ON OTUMFOUR'S CONVOY BY TECHIMAN PEOPLE"

We refer to the information circulating on social media landscape about the alleged attack by the people of Techiman on the Asantehene and his retinue who were attending the burial of the late Nana Dudaa Kani, Nkoranzahemaa at Nkoranza and wish to state that:

1. The people of Techiman and the people of Asante are not different from each other. For instance, Nana Techimanhene and Nana Asantehene are both from the Oyoko Clan and there is a family relationship between them. They see themselves as brothers. They usually visit and call each other when there is the need to do so.

When Otumfour's son, the late Okatakyie Agyemang Kudom IV, Nkoranzahene joined his ancestors, Otumfour notified Oseadeeyo Akumfi Ameyaw IV, Techimanhene and paid a courtesy call on him and his elders at Techiman ahead of his arrival at Nkoranza to attend the funeral of his departed son.

In a similar context, when Otumfour decided to bury his wife yesterday, Monday, 2nd December, 2024, he informed Nana Techimanhene and expressed his willingness to pay a courtesy call on him and his elders at Ohene Ameyaw Palace.

Unfortunately, Nana Techimanhene had travelled but left a message to his elders to assist Otumfour to go through all the traditional rites of the land to enable him get to the funeral ground to give his wife (Nana Nkoranzahemaa) a befitting burial that goes with his status as Asantehene.

The first customary rites were performed at Techiman Tanoso where a sheep was slaughtered and a libation was poured at River Tano on Techiman –Kumasi highway. On Techiman-Nkoranza road, a similar rites was performed at Fiaso whilst crossing river Fia. There too, Okogyeaman Kesse Basahyia II, Oforikromhene/Benkumhene of TechimanTraditional area did perform this rite. Otumfour then crossed the river to attend the funeral.

2. It is in the social media that a member of Otumfour's convoy claimed that they had been at Techiman for three hours but could not see any brave man on the street and that everybody had run away upon hearing that Otumfour was heading towards his wife's funeral. Again, upon reaching Techiman, there were series of gun shots from Otumfour's security guards at the center of Techiman. Innocent people were beaten and molested on the street. This and many other social media threats were believed to have angered the youth into action to defend themselves.

Fortunately, the security services in Techiman were at the scene to rescue the situation and maintained law and order. However, those who sustained gun shots from Otumfour's security guards were sent to the Holy Family Teaching Hospital and the matter reported to the Ghana Police Service.

3. We wish to state that, Techiman as a cosmopolitan town and now the seat of Bono East does not discriminate against anybody irrespective of one's ethnicity, race, religion, sex etc. Nananom are therefore using this opportunity to appeal to all the youth in the country to concentrate on issues that bring development and unity.

We also appeal to the entire Ghanaian populace to be responsible on postings on the social media platforms. Chieftaincy institution is a revered institution which must be respected at all times. Those who insult chiefs in Ghana on social media platforms should as a matter of urgency advice themselves and desist from such acts since it is "un-Ghanaian". This would enable us to enjoy the peace our grandfathers bequeathed to us.

Nananom once again wish to reiterate that, there is no bad blood between the people of Techiman and the people of Asantes since we are one people of a common destiny.

The entire Techiman Traditional area is very peaceful. The Techiman Traditional Council therefore entreat all and sundry who wish to come to Techiman for business and its related activities to do so and are warmly welcome.

Thank you.

NANA TAKYI FIRI II

KRONTIHENE & AG. PRESIDENT

TECHIMAN TRADITIONAL COUNCIL