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### **THE ALLIANCE THAT KENYANS DESIRE.**

It has been long since I wrote an article based on the Kenyan situation especially after the much talked about Kenya's Post election violence in December 2007 to around February 2008. The last article I wrote in this line was about our situation after the coalition government was formed thanks to the greater involvement of the accredited team of mediators lead by none other than the former United Nations Secretary General Koffi Annan.

At that time, in the article I talked much on our social, political and economic status then. Even though the situation on these three key pillars were seen to be picking up but at a slow pace- of course due to the effects of the violence-no one anticipated that our politicians who were the main players in antagonizing the Kenyan communities against each other would be at it again. To keep our hopes alive by way of arm-twisting the politicians out to antagonize us, we went full blown in the quest for a new constitutional order which to the marvel of many within and without the Kenyan borders, was promulgated on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2010. At that time all Kenyans, except a few, held their heads high that impunity was a gone jargon in the Kenyan social, political and economic landscape. True, the new constitution has in it provisions which if implemented can send impunity into the valleys of death. With the knowledge that this constitution is that good and that impunity provides good fodder, the politicians have kept us in political limbo when it comes to fast tracking the implementation of the constitution. The crucial commissions to oversee such implementation have been politicized. Filling these all important commissions have turned into political bargaining chips for rewarding political cronies hence the slow pace of implementation.

That said and done, this constitution gives cognizance of strong institutions, political outfits being part of this and on that basis any political alliance should be seen to be reflective in terms of both the country and human rights dynamics. Exhausting this provision thus leads one to focus on the formation of political alliances that should be Kenyan both in thoughts and in ideology. My take on this issue has been peptized by a group of politicians currently moving around the country in the name of KKK alliance (Kikuyu, Kalenjin and Kamba). This has partly been occasioned by the Kibaki succession debate and at its worst, political dishonesty by a group of Kalenjin Members of Parliament claiming frustration at the Orange Democratic Movement. They cunningly want to sway the Kenyan voter by alleging that it is time for the young people to take over the leadership of Kenya. Critically looking at the alliance, it is no doubt tribal in nature because people coalescing around it come from the three tribes mentioned above while Kenya has over 40 tribes. They have not said a thing when it comes to their

political ideology for the country but wherever they go they have continued to talk about the age factor and how it is important to give the young people time to take leadership in Kenya. Alarming, they have continued to incite the three tribes against other 40 plus tribes in the name of seeking political mandate for the entire country forgetting that such alignments towards a general election landed us in hot soup in 2007.

Another trait of this grouping is that its membership is drawn largely from the Moreno Ocampo list of suspects destined for possible prosecution at the International Criminal Court about their responsibility in the 2007/08 post election violence. Interestingly, they have gone against most of the restrictions put on them by the court through the prosecutor, for example, that they should not be in direct communication with one another but through their lawyers. It is also composed mostly of those politicians who lead a deadly fight against the new constitution seen as a tool of prosperity by majority of Kenyans. It is such high level of impunity that led the country into a near civil war.

Political accountability is very important in a country such as Kenya where both social and cultural dynamics are very diverse. I believe that this new breed of politicians will come to the reality that the issue here is not about which tribe should be the president in 2012 but how Kenyans should be united and peaceful coexistence given the seriousness it deserves. As we speak, events that were witnessed prior to the 2005 referendum and which later precipitated into post election violence are in top gear courtesy of these so called young turks. We need to take caution.

The alliance that should be Kenyan must thus be based on national interest instead of tribal and individual ones. It should embrace peace instead of fuelling political turmoil against other individuals, tribes and parties. It should be gender sensitive and must give cognizance to portfolios and manifesto geared towards pushing the entire country forward. The alliance must be led by a group of Kenyans clear of any manipulation and corruption. They must not be suspected criminals both locally and internationally. It must uphold the sanctity that is human life in ways that promote integration of all Kenyans as one. It need not be temperamental as this will lead to its proponents issuing inflammatory statements which pit tribes against each other. It must be seen to be respecting institutions as opposed to individuals in high office because this way such an alliance will lead to utter breakdown of the rule of law. It must be led by people whose political track records speak for themselves as champions of all Kenyans liberation not those whose motto is reflected in the divide and rule ideology.

We must wake up to take action and send this breed of politicians packing because we are past their youthful but retrogressive thinking and maneuvers. A divided Kenya is a breeding ground of violence come 2012 general elections.

As a Convergence of Cultures team in Miwani whose one of its mandate within this locality is to maintain harmonious co-existence among the various tribes, we have moved with speed to reassure the community that peace shall reign over such simplistic political minds. We have intensified our intercultural meetings loaded with peace, love and unity messages.

The peace crusade continues; take action.

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