

## **Press Statement**

**By the Family of Ibrahim ‘Kaaka’ Mohammed**

**On the Meeting of the**

**Family with the National Chief Imam, at this Fadama Residence.**

**24 August 2021**

1. Friends and Colleagues in the Media, thank you for showing up to our meeting with the National Chief Imam and for your industry in keeping the spotlight on our search for justice.
2. We are grateful for your investment in ensuring that our personal tragedy doesn't remain ours alone. But that Kaaka's death will become a tragedy of an entire nation which is tired of the killing of journalists and activists without answers. That Ejura will remain a blot on our democracy; its vaunt promises of equality before the law and the strive for justice for even the poorest among us.
3. You, the media did that. You the media played your role in ensuring your place as the fourth estate and as an entrepreneur of justice in our democracy. You the media carried Ghanaians along with your reporting on the sheer brutality meted out on the poor people in Ejura, just for seeking answers. People, who our system overlooks frequently. People whose lives would not have mattered but for you remaining ethical despite all the threats on your lives.
4. Today, we are here to speak to the Chief Imam because, Justice for Kaaka, Justice for the wife of Kaaka, Justice for the Children of Kaaka, Justice for Ejura, Justice for the people Ghana continues to elude us. We are all being continuously deprived of justice, truth and healing.
5. As you are aware, Kaaka was attacked by assailants on 26 May 2021. He was killed for reasons, we and several persons committed to truth, believe to be linked to his #FixTheCountry activism.
6. Since the attack on Kaaka's life and his subsequent death, we have continued to see a trend of laxity, intimidation, and deliberate misinformation from various persons in the Ghana Police Service.
7. We are aggrieved that Police deliberately peddled misinformation that will cause the public to believe that Kaaka's death was a case of fratricide and nothing else. Even though under the laws of Ghana, Baba Iddi should be considered and treated as innocent until proven guilty, certain persons have continued to create the impression that the Iddi has now been found guilty. We think that is unfair; and not right at all.
8. For instance, at least one Senior police officer, COP Tiwaa Addo Danquah, told the press that Kaaka was not killed in connection with his activism, even though the Police had barely conducted any investigation into the matter. Another individual who is head of a parliamentary Committee that oversees

the work of the Police, was deployed to jump from media station to media station to peddle the falsehood that Baba Iddi, Kaaka's brother killed him.

9. And yet the Police themselves had conducted no investigation into the murder. In fact, it took the youth of Ejura marching to the Chief's palace to demand answers, before the police at Ejura were forced to even attend the scene of the crime more than 16 hours later to pick up the two large sticks Kaaka was attacked with.
10. When Kaaka died, and the Police were informed about it, they told the youth of Ejura and the family that they were treating Kaaka's death as any other regular murder. This sentiment has now been strangely echoed by another Government communicator, who referred to Kaaka's murder as "a mere death".
11. Again, in all this, it was only a couple of days ago, on 10 August 2021, that the Police showed up at the scene of the crime to interview people who were there when Kaaka was attacked.
12. So, by directing the public to conclusively discount any suggestions that Kaaka's murder was in connection with his social activism, the Police deliberately gave currency to the perception that Kaaka was killed by his brother, Iddi Mohammed. Even though they had not even done the basic investigation. So where did that conclusion come from?
13. We have avoided saying anything publicly about this whole investigation because we wanted to believe that justice will be done and that the police will take their time to do their work properly. We never saw that happen!
14. The calculated attempts to misdirect the public and cause them to conclude on the guilt of our brother Iddi Mohammed, have compounded our grief, and made us lose all hope that the Police is committed to truth and justice in this case.
15. These actions have compounded a sustained practice of disregard for the family's welfare by the Police has made us apprehensive of their professionalism and care for due process. Till date, no one in the Ghana Police Service has called the family of Kaaka to update us on the work being done to bring us justice. It is almost as if we are not humans. We have had to find out everything from the media.
16. A couple of weeks ago, our brother and son Baba Iddi, informed us that the Police came to pick him up from his prison cell without an interpreter, and held him with force and made him thumbprint a document he doesn't know the content of or understand. We are disgusted by the reported actions of the Police. And we are now convinced that the Police are now active criminal agents working to incriminate our brother in a crime they know, and we know, he did not commit.
17. We refuse to remain silent any longer.

18. Since last week, we requested for an audience with the Inspector General of Police to raise our concerns at the highest level. That request has not been replied to or accorded any respect.
19. For these and other reasons, we have lost confidence in the ability of the Police to deal with this matter fairly, diligently and with the necessary regard for its gravity.
20. We have already lost one son. We feel that another son is being taken away from us.
21. We urge the public to ask the right questions and to verify the authenticity of the stories they hear. We also ask that they are more sensitive to the needs of a grieving family.
22. Please cover this story, as if your brother, son, or husband was the one who has been killed. In all things, remember that these are human lives at stake.
23. Kaaka's children have lost their father and the sole bread winner. Their whole lives have been turned upside down. Their welfare is a real concern. Their mental health cannot be taken for granted, even though many people are talking about this issue without being sensitive to their pain and suffering. We beg you to do things differently.
24. We are poor family, who now have seen one son killed. Another son who never had any problem with Kaaka has now been arrested by the Police.
25. But we refuse to give up hope that justice will be done.
26. We continue to trust in Allah. We know that surely the truth will come out and that Allah will give us justice, even if humans fail us.

### **Support for the Family**

27. We are asking the people of Ghana for their support in taking care of the family left behind by Kaaka and also for paying for the legal fees of Baba Iddi.
28. We are poor family, whose house tragedy has now visited twice. We pray for, and count that Allah the merciful will touch your heart, to show us support in our moment of need.
29. We have set up a Welfare and Legal Support Fund to which you can send any mobile money donations, to support the family in our quest for Justice.
  - a. Minawara Ibrahim: Daughter of Kaaka [MTN MOMO number: 0559948685]
  - b. Sahada Hudu: Wife of Kaaka [Vodacash Number 0504099677]
  - c. Nafiu Mohammed; Family Spokesperson Airtel Tigo Number: 0262459254]

### **Justice for Ejura**

30. We are also here because of the murderous attack on the people of Ejura.

31. Many of you will remember that after Kaaka died. Several Children, mothers and young people in Ejura took to the streets to show their frustration and to demand answers. Our State, the thing we call a democracy, deployed soldiers to shoot unarmed civilians; on Children and on mothers, in our hour of grief.
32. Their actions caused two people to lose their lives and several others, including a 16-year-old boy to be maimed for life.
33. The Police have taken no steps to investigate, arrest or prosecute the perpetrators of these crimes, many weeks on.
34. Instead, we were treated to a circus by those who hold the public trust. A sham committee process was put in place that quickly became an incubator of fake news, an attack dog on the media and a platform for insensitive compromising commentary on Kaaka's murder investigations.
35. A committee that was supposed to be a mechanism for truth searching and for holding people to account, was instead used to shift the narrative and to make murderous perpetrators look like victims. While the true victims were portrayed as hooligans and riff-raffs with no place in our democracy; and were made to think they were insane for even expecting the protection of our laws.
36. It is no surprise to us that many months on, the report of the Committee was not made public and continues to be held closely in the chest of those that unleashed them on us. Their immoral public performance discredits them and the report they proposed. They were used as an avenue to dissipate the urgency of the call for justice for the people of Ejura; and to shift blame to the people of Ejura.
37. May Allah indict those who work to deprive his people of Justice.
38. If there is any conscience in this Republic, we invoke Kaaka's blood, and that of those who were killed by the brutes we called soldiers, to give us Justice. We call for their blood to take its appropriate revenge.
39. If this Republic refuses to count us, as one of its own, then we too, as poor people, cannot continue to keep faith in a Republic that causes us nothing but pain.
40. Thank you and may Allah bless you all.