





he Federal Government should rise above ethnic biases and ensure that every Nigerian life is valued equally. Selective justice and political correctness have eroded trust in the state's ability to protect its people. Likewise, political, cultural, and civic leaders in the South should be vocal in the face of these atrocities and find the courage to defend their communities through robust and actionable security policies. The continued silence only perpetuates the false dominance of one group over the others.

There are fears that Fulani herdsmen may retaliate by launching further attacks on Uromi communities. The government must prevent this by deploying adequate security forces to the region. Furthermore, these security forces must carry out thorough investigations and intelligence gathering without undue highhandedness and violation of human rights. Reports stated that some police officers in Uromi have begun harassing and extorting citizens under the guise of investigating the killings. This must be swiftly addressed, and errant officers should be prosecuted. Any government that cannot provide security has failed in its primary duty.

The Federal Government must take decisive action to curb violence and ensure justice for all, irrespective of ethnicity. The culture of impunity and partiality must end. The heinous killing of 16 Fulani hunters in Uromi, Esan North LGA, Edo State, in late March is unacceptable and totally condemnable. This is reprehensible. No decent society should condone mob justice or jungle justice, also known as vigilante justice. The criminals must be identified scientifically and punished. However, the Uromi killings are a symptom of a broken security and justice system.

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"These are not just news headlines; they are the bleeding wounds of the republic. Our people look to us, not for rhetoric, but for rescue. But I believe that there is no river we cannot cross if we put our trust in God and faith in the people He has ordained to lead us in both the executive and legislative arms of our government. "In the media, during our recess, the reform of our electoral and judicial systems, and the role of the legislature in sustaining democracy are not idle conversations. They are the heartbeat of our democratic future. Let us rise up and meet these expectations. "Colleagues, let us make no mistake, we are under watch. The people are watching. The world is watching. Our constituents are watching. And history silent, but unsleeping is watching. "No test must find us wanting. No challenge must catch us unprepared. Let every vote we cast, every motion we raise, and every oversight we conduct bear the fingerprints of integrity and patriotism. "The task ahead of us this session is as solemn as it is historic. We will be examining bills critical to national stability on security reform, economic resilience, education, technology, and youth empowerment. Our committees will delve into oversight functions that could unlock the performance potential of many MDAs. "Let us carry out our duties with the spirit of statesmen, not partisans. Let us elevate debate over

division.