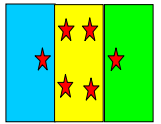


MOVEMENT FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE Ogoni PEOPLE **(MOSOP)**



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August 2, 2007

Press Release

MOSOP CONDEMNS KIDNAPPING OF PAKISTANI ENGINEER

The apex organization of the Ogoni people, MOSOP, has been saddened and vehemently condemns the reported case of kidnapping on Ogoni soil of a staff of Gitto Construction Company, Mr. Tahri, a Pakistani Engineer responsible for the company's dredging activities. He was abducted at the firm's camp site at Bodo community in Gokana Local Government Area of Ogoni, Nigeria. The company handles the construction of the Bonny – Bodo road project.

Information available to us indicates that the captors numbering about 8 had traveled to the camp site in a high-speed boat and armed with sophisticated weapons. They were reported to have speed away with their captive in the boat. Ogoni is largely an onshore community and we are therefore afraid that the kidnapers may have been outsiders. Eye witness account revealed that the under-world men were heard speaking a completely different language from that of Ogoni. MOSOP believes that the ugly development was implemented in our homeland to implicate Ogoni, which has hitherto had no case of such activity. MOSOP regrets that the good name of Ogoni has been criminally dragged into this condemnable act of terrorism and kidnapping of foreign nationals that has been perpetrated by a seeming minority that is bent on soiling our reputation.

We maintain that Ogoni is not part of this criminal show of shame. The Ogoni struggle, we all know, is built on non-violence expressed in our acclaimed harmonious disposition to peaceful advocacy, which has been admired globally. It is thus not in our character to terrorise or kidnap innocent people. And we will continue to resist temptations to abandon our chosen path for any violent option no matter the provocation.

MOSOP therefore call on the Ogoni people to rise up against the menace of these outlaws whose nefarious interest of hostage-taking and terrorism is certainly not directed at either the defence or articulation of any genuine principle but driven by the intention of profit-making through unlawful means. Facts abound that nobody but the criminals are benefiting from this state of anarchy, which the entire Niger Delta has been several times worse off for.

We urge the Ogoni not to conceal any information that would lead to the apprehension of the perpetrators of the crime. You will be contributing to a peaceful and stable Ogoni society by so doing.

Signed:

Bari-ara Kpalap

Information Officer

