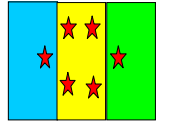


MOVEMENT FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE Ogoni PEOPLE (MOSOP)



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Press Statement

AUTA'S APPOINTMENT NOT SURE STEP TO JUSTICE

The Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People, MOSOP has deep concern about the appointment of Justice Ibrahim Auta as the Chief Judge of the Federal High court.

In our view, the appointment brings to fore the continuation of the recycling of individuals whose activities epitomized the monumental state of rights abuses and institutionalization of injustices of the past.

By allowing such persons that epitomized injustice in our recent past, whether in the Police, Army or the Judiciary, to continue and even to progress in these institutions charged with the constitutional responsibilities of being handmaids in the fight against injustice, we appear to have shown callous insensitivity to the victims of such injustices.

In particular case of Auta, for example, it might be sad to imagine that Ibrahim Auta now heads the federal High that has exclusive jurisdiction over issues pertaining to oil and gas, the sore point of the Ogoni struggle.

MOSOP believes that one sure means for achieving national reconciliation is the flushing out of our system, institutions, and all persons that are sad reminders of the dark days of injustice.

Signed:

Sunny Zorvah
Press Officer