



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 29 November, 2023

1. The House met at 10.03 a.m. Mr Speaker read the Prayers.
2. The House recited the National Pledge.
3. **Votes and Proceedings**
Mr Speaker announced that he had examined and approved the *Votes and Proceedings* of Tuesday, 28 November, 2023.

The Votes and Proceedings was adopted by unanimous consent.

4. **Admittance into the Chamber**
Motion made and Question proposed, "That the House do admit into the Chamber, the President of the Senate, Senators of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Ministers, Government Officials and other Dignitaries to receive an Address by the President on the 2024 Budget Estimates, pursuant to Order Twenty-One, Rule 8 (1) and (2) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives" (*Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader*).

Agreed to.

5. **Matters of Urgent Public Importance (Standing Order Eight, Rule 4)**
 - (i) ***Gruesome Killing of Two Men at Onitsha, Anambra State and the Worrisome Prevalence of Jungle Justice in Nigeria:***
Hon. Pascal Agbodike (*Ihiala Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:

- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
- (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Gruesome Killing of Two Men at Onitsha, Anambra State and the Worrisome Prevalence of Jungle Justice in Nigeria:

The House:

Notes that Section 33 (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) provides that "every person has a right to life, and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his life, save in execution of the sentence of a court in respect of a criminal offence of which he has been found guilty in Nigeria;

Also notes that jungle justice is an illegal and unconstitutional form of justice, and is a violation of Section 34 (1) (a) of the 1999 Constitution which states that "no person shall be subject to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment", and Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), all of which are against torture, cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment;

Aware that Section 36 (5) of the Constitution provides that a person shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty and the onus is on the prosecutor to prove the guilt of the accused in a court of law;

Also aware that according to experts, most jungle justice victims are innocent of the crimes for which they are subjected to violence or even death as such acts are mostly based on mere suspicion or rumour;

Concerned about the gruesome killing of two men, purportedly brothers, who were burnt to death on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at Onitsha in Anambra State for allegedly' being members of a notorious armed robbery gang despite never having been arrested nor prosecuted for such crime;

Also concerned about the prevalence of Jungle justice in Nigeria as reports have shown that between 2019 and 2022, 279 mob justice incidents happened, leading to the death of at least 391 individuals, of which 223 of the cases happened in the South while the remaining 168 occurred in the Northern part of the country;

Worried that Nigeria reportedly has the highest rate of jungle justice in Africa, and due to perceived tolerance of the act, the country has received several condemnations from the international community for enabling such an unlawful, barbaric, capricious, and unconstitutional practice;

Resolves to:

- (i) condemn in strong terms, the perpetration of jungle justice in Nigeria;
- (ii) urge the Nigeria Police Force to investigate the gruesome killing of two men at Onitsha in Anambra State on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 as well as other barbaric acts of jungle justice across the country, and ensure that the perpetrators are made to face the full wrath of the law;
- (iii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to ensure compliance (*Hon. Paschal Agbodike — Ihiala Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Section 33 (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended) provides that "every person has a right to life, and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his life, save in execution of the sentence of a court in respect of a criminal offence of which he has been found guilty in Nigeria;

Also noted that jungle justice is an illegal and unconstitutional form of justice, and is a violation of Section 34 (1) (a) of the 1999 Constitution which states that "no person shall be subject to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment", and Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), all of which are against torture, cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment;

Aware that Section 36 (5) of the Constitution provides that a person shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty and the onus is on the prosecutor to prove the guilt of the accused in a court of law;

Also aware that according to experts, most jungle justice victims are innocent of the crimes for which they are subjected to violence or even death as such acts are mostly based on mere suspicion or rumour;

Concerned about the gruesome killing of two men, purportedly brothers, who were burnt to death on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at Onitsha in Anambra State for allegedly' being members of a notorious armed robbery gang despite never having been arrested nor prosecuted for such crime;

Also concerned about the prevalence of Jungle justice in Nigeria as reports have shown that between 2019 and 2022, 279 mob justice incidents happened, leading to the death of at least 391 individuals, of which 223 of the cases happened in the South while the remaining 168 occurred in the Northern part of the country;

Worried that Nigeria reportedly has the highest rate of jungle justice in Africa, and due to perceived tolerance of the act, the country has received several condemnations from the international community for enabling such an unlawful, barbaric, capricious, and unconstitutional practice;

Resolved to:

- (i) condemn in strong terms, the perpetration of jungle justice in Nigeria;
 - (ii) urge the Nigeria Police Force to investigate the gruesome killing of two men at Onitsha in Anambra State on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 as well as other barbaric acts of jungle justice across the country, and ensure that the perpetrators are made to face the full wrath of the law;
 - (iii) mandate the Committee on Police Affairs to ensure compliance (**HR. 398/11/2023**).
- (ii) ***Cholera Outbreak at Maje Adena Community in Kaiama Local Government Area, Kwara State:*** Hon. Mohammed Omar Bio (*Baruten/Kaiama Federal Constituency*) introduced the matter and prayed the House to:
- (a) consider and approve the matter as one of urgent public importance; and
 - (b) suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to allow debate on the matter forthwith.

Question that the matter be considered as one of urgent public importance — Agreed to.

Question that the House do suspend Order Eight, Rule 4 (3) to enable it debate the matter forthwith — Agreed to.

Cholera Outbreak at Maje Adena Community in Kaiama Local Government Area, Kwara State:

The House:

Notes that Kaiama Local Government Area of Kwara State is one of the Local Government Areas in Baruten/Kaiama Federal Constituency and Maje Adena is a Community in the Local Government;

Also notes that due to fertility of lands in the local government, a lot of people moved in there for farming and other commercial engagements;

Worried that there is presently cholera outbreak in Maje Adena that has so far claimed over fourteen lives and leaving over thirty people in critical conditions;

Also worried that if this epidemic is not quickly attended to base on the situations on ground and the report of BBC (Hausa service) on this subject matter, the cholera outbreak may spread to other communities in the State and the neighbouring Niger State;

Resolves to:

- (i) urge the National Primary Health Care Development Agency and the Federal Ministry of Health to urgently intervene to put a stop to the epidemic by mobilizing their resources for adequate treatment of affected individuals;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services and Institutions to ensure compliance (*Hon. Mohammed Omar Bio — Baruten/Kaiama Federal Constituency*).

Debate.

Agreed to.

The House:

Noted that Kaiama Local Government Area of Kwara State is one of the Local Government Areas in Baruten/Kaiama Federal Constituency and Maje Adena is a Community in the Local Government;

Also notes that due to fertility of lands in the local government, a lot of people moved in there for farming and other commercial engagements;

Worried that there is presently cholera outbreak in Maje Adena that has so far claimed over fourteen lives and leaving over thirty people in critical conditions;

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Resolved to:

- (i) urge the National Primary Health Care Development Agency and the Federal Ministry of Health to urgently intervene to put a stop to the epidemic by mobilizing their resources for adequate treatment of affected individuals;
- (ii) mandate the Committees on Healthcare Services and Institutions to ensure compliance (**HR. 399/11/2023**).

6.	Sitting Suspended for Joint Session of the National Assembly	—	10.45 a.m.
7.	Joint Session of the National Assembly <i>(See the Joint Session Votes and Proceedings)</i>	—	11.20 a.m.
8.	End of Joint Session	—	12.20 p.m.
9.	Resumption of Sitting	—	12.49 p.m.

10. 2024 Budget Proposals

The Hon. Speaker stated that to give an accelerated passage to the 2024 Appropriation Bill, the two Chambers had met and agreed as follows:

- (i) debate on the general principles of the Bill comes up on Thursday, 30 November, 2023 and Friday, 1 December, 2023;
- (ii) Plenary Sitting is to be suspended on Friday, 1 December, 2023;
- (iii) A meeting of the Committee on Appropriation with Chairmen of the Standing Committees on the guidelines for the Budget Defence by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) has been scheduled to hold on Saturday, 2 December, 2023;
- (iv) Budget Defence by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) is to commence on Monday, 4 December, 2023;
- (v) Budget defence meetings of the Standing Committees are to be held jointly with the Senate Standing Committees on a fifty-fifty percent basis.

11. Adjournment

That the House do adjourn till Thursday, 30 November, 2023 at 11.00 a.m. (Hon. Julius Ihonvbere — House Leader).

The House adjourned accordingly at 1.07 p.m.

Abbas Tajudeen
Speaker