

## CHAPTER ONE

# INTRODUCTION/CONCEPTUAL AND METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES

In the early hours of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2002, certain adherents and, or worshipers at G.T.C. Enugu Adoration Ground lost their precious lives in circumstances that could best be described as tragic and uncertain.

Concerned about the tragedy and in the anxious bid to locate the cause or causes of the tragedy, YOUR EXCELLENCY inaugurated a Judicial Commission of Inquiry on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 2002 in the Executive Chambers of Government House, Enugu acting in your statutory capacity, as the Executive Governor of Enugu State and the Chief Security Officer of the State in which the tragedy occurred.

The composition of the Commission is as follows:

1. Hon. Justice I.A. Umezulike (OFR) – Chairman
2. Professor C.O. Okonkwo (S.A.N.) – Member
3. Very Rev. Chike Nwizu – Member
4. Dr. (Mrs.) Eleanor Nwadinobi – Member
5. Chief Peter Orjiekwe – Member
6. Mrs. F.I. Agu – Member
7. Mr. S.C. Chukwu (Superintendent of Police) – Member
8. Mr. Godwin Ogbo – Secretary

The State further appointed the Director of Public Prosecutions (Enugu State), Barrister C.C. Eneh as Counsel to the Judicial Commission.

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The nine point terms of reference of the judicial commission are as follows:

1. To ascertain whether in the early hours of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2002, there was an attack on the Christian congregation at the Crusade/Adoration ground at G.T.C. premises, Enugu.
2. Whether any death or deaths resulted or occurred at the said crusade ground on that day.
3. If (2) above is answered in the affirmative, to ascertain the number and identity of the victims.
4. If (2) above is answered in the negative, to inquire into the cause or causes of and circumstances surrounding the death of the persons alleged to have died at the said crusade ground on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 2002 and where those bodies were deposited.
5. To identify those responsible for depositing the bodies of the victims.
6. To ascertain whether there are an attempt by any person or persons to conceal, hide or misrepresent facts relative to the death of the persons referred to in paragraph (4) above.
7. If (6) above is answered in the affirmative, to identify all those involved.
8. To inquire into any other matter or matters connected with, incidental relative to the above terms of reference.
9. To make all necessary recommendations to the State Government as the commission may seem appropriate.

## THE LEGAL PREMISE

At the inaugural sitting of this Judicial Commission on Monday, the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2002, the legitimacy or competence of the Executive Governor of Enugu State to set up the commission was doubted. However for the avoidance of doubt and in the interest of the public and posterity, it must be restated here that the powers of the Executive Governor of Enugu State to set up a Judicial Commission of Inquiry of this nature is undoubted, profound and succinct. For purposes of clarity section 3(1) of Commission of Inquiry Law (cap. 24) Laws of Eastern Nigeria, now applicable in Enugu State enacts as follows:

“The Governor may, when he shall deem it desirable, issue a commission appointing one or more commissioners and authorizing such commissioners, or any quorum of them there in mentioned, to hold a commission of Inquiry into the conduct of any officer in the public service of Eastern, or of any chief, or the management of any department of the public service, *or of any local institution, or into any matter in respect of which in his opinion, an inquiry would be for the public welfare.* The Governor may appoint a secretary to the commission, who shall perform such duties as the commissioners shall prescribe”.

Evidently, there are two limbs to the above law. The first limb gives the Governor the power to get up a Commission of Inquiry where the subject matter relates to any officer of the public service and government department and so on.

The second limb which relate to the matter afoot, is concerned with matters upon which in the deliberate opinion of the Executive Governor of Enugu State an inquiry is desirable for the public welfare of the state. Typically the loss of fourteen lives in Enugu capital city in uncertain and tragic circumstances is a matter of grave security and welfare concern for the state and people of Enugu State. Consequently upon the facts, principles and law, the Governor of Enugu State has unlimited powers to constitute this Judicial Commission of Inquiry to find out the cause or causes of the loss of lives of this magnitude in Enugu State.

Furthermore, it was argued before the commission, as could be seen from Vol. 1 of the Report, that the powers under the Commission

of Inquiry Law (Cap. 24 L.E.N.) were closely reserved to colonial Governors who exercised both legislative and executive functions. The powers therein are therefore not exercisable by present day executive Governor who exercised only executive functions.

The Commission perceives this as an argument of desperation, which, as always does not accommodate logic. The argument was also made without any nodding acquaintance with section 29 of the Interpretation Act Cap. 192 Laws of the Federation 1990 which enacts as follows:

“Where by any Act or Law, any act is extended or applied to the Federation, or, a state, such Act shall be read with such formal alterations as to names, localities, courts, offices, persons, moneys, penalties or otherwise, as may be necessary to make the same applicable to the circumstances”.

In otherwords, if under the Commission of Inquiry Law (Cap. 24 L.E.N) a colonial Governor with both executive and legislative powers was indicated, that provision must now be interpreted to read *Executive Governor* in order to apply to present circumstances. That is why where some statute had vested certain powers in a Military Governor, a civilian elected executive Governor exercised those powers without any need for the formal amendment of the provision from Military Governor to Civilian Governor. (See the land Use Act 1978). The result therefore is that the legitimacy of this Judicial Commission of Inquiry is unscathed and undoubted. And its legitimacy is neither defeasible or diminished by failure of the Governor to appoint into the Commission members of the Ogbette Trades Association, The Nigerian Bar Association or the Association of Estate Surveyors and Valuers, Enugu Branch and so on.

This is a fact-finding Commission of Inquiry. And the Governor reserves the latitude, unrestricted in any manner, to appoint persons who in the opinion of the Governor are men and women of integrity into the Commission.

We conclude, therefore that the executive powers of the Governor of Enugu State clearly, extends to the inauguration of the Judicial Commission of Inquiry afoot. His exercise of such powers are inviolate, indefeasible, valid and beyond doubt.

In any case, the loss of fourteen lives and injury to many others in a day and in a state ought to elicit grave security and welfare concern to the state. The functions of a state exercised, of course, through the government, is to govern the affairs of the people, both as individuals and as a society; the maintenance of law and order, peace and public security, including the settlement of disputes; protection of life and property, regulation of the affairs of the state by means of legislation; the provision of the infrastructure needed to enable individuals to develop by their own effort; the promotion of development generally and the defence of the community against violence and interference. Governmental functions of a state have but one purpose, namely, the welfare and security of the people.

The inauguration of a Judicial commission to locate the cause or causes of loss of fourteen lives and injury to many others, and make recommendation to prevent such tragedies in future, is no doubt an indication that the Government of Enugu State is concerned about the welfare and security of people of the state.

The responsibility is entirely that of the government of Enugu State, to use its judicial or administrative apparatus to find out what actually led to loss of fourteen lives in the G.T.C. Enugu Adoration Ground. This states responsibility cannot be split and, or shared with any institution, body or organ outside the framework of the State Government.

## **SOME CONCEPTUAL/METHOLOGICAL ISSUES AND CLARIFICATIONS**

For the development and modernization of Nigeria, and other schemes, the religious issues should not constitute a paradigm in her paradoxical exactitudes”.

(Per. Rev. Father, I.R. Vishigh)

The basic conceptual question which the Commission had to contend with as it set down to work has its bearing directly upon the prevailing fact that in matters touching directly or indirectly on religion, there are maximum *emotions* and minimum *reflections*. People are inclined to talk before they think. People are inclined to be interested in sensations, rumours and calumnious matters than the cold

facts on the ground. People are also unwilling to divorce substantive issues from personalities.

Wherefore, the Commission was in little difficulty in-limine to construct or paint a situation of complete severance of all links between

1. the terms of reference the commission;
2. the tragic incident of March 7<sup>th</sup> 2002 at the G.T.C. Adoration Ground Enugu; visa-vis;
  - a. The Catholic Church as a highly revered Christian institution, and
  - b. Its doctrines and religious practices.

We pause here, to clearly and unequivocally point out that the cause or causes of the loss of fourteen lives in the early hours of March 7<sup>th</sup> 2002 at the G.T.C. Adoration Ground, Enugu cannot be located within the bowels of the Roman Catholic Church as an institution. They have nothing absolutely to do with this great Christian institution.

Granted that the prevailing officiating priest at the Wednesday Adoration activities is and has always been Rev. Father Mbaka. A priest of the Catholic Church. But there is no credible or cogent evidence before the commission to suggest that the Wednesday gathering is not usually ecumenical. There are in the gathering non-catholics desperate for healing, signs and wonders.

It may therefore be necessary in this REPORT to refer to and comment upon the role, actions and articulations of some priests of the Catholic Church relative to the tragedy of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2002 at the G.T.C. Adoration Ground, Enugu. But we must here again point out that any reference in this REPORT to a priest of the Roman Catholic Church must be *conceptually* and closely construed '*eo-nomine*'. Thus a reference to and comment on Rev. Father Mbaka must not and should never be misconstrued to include or involve the Roman Catholic Church. Our terms of reference and our findings there upon have absolutely nothing to do with Catholic Church as an institution. They are never intended to bear upon its practices, dogmas and doctrines.

The Commission is at thus stage, under a great necessity to register and acknowledge its abiding respect to the Catholic Institution. It would obviously, be tedious to elaborate upon its great antiquity and

revered universality. Its enduring principles and certain practices have set a standard of consciousness whereby the civil societies are preserved over centuries.

The history of the civilization of Africa cannot adequately be discussed without the freshivating and accelerating influence and role of the Catholic Church thereto. Heretofore it was difficult to draw a distinction between the church and all civilized states and governments.

Importantly its proclivity for accommodation or its ecumenical spirit is legendary and exemplary. Thus, even in the Vatican, the religious capital of the Catholic Church, different religious affiliations are respected. That is why inside the Vatican, stands a magnificent mosque built and opened since June 21<sup>st</sup> 1995, for the realization of the religious aspirations if the Moslems there. This is a laudable disposition which may be difficult to be replicated by other religious group or groups.

We have gone into this little elaboration in order to show the Commission's deference and, or, great respect for the Catholic Church. And to state very solemnly that the Commission was not inaugurated to look into or inquire into any aspect of Catholicism. As the Chairman of the Commission rightly pointed out at its inaugural sitting:

"The Commission is obviously a fact finding one. And it would confine itself strictly and absolutely to its terms of reference. Thus stated, it becomes clear that the Catholic Church and other churches in Enugu State are not under any inquiry. Evidently this Commission is not permitted, entitled or warranted to examine the mode of worship of any religious group. We are not also directly or indirectly permitted to examine their doctrines or mode of worship and practices. We are only here to find out the cause or causes of the tragic death of fourteen citizens of this country in the early hours of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2002 at the GTC compound, Enugu and to make recommendations, or fashion out adaptive strategies of preventing future occurrence. In this solemn hour and with great respect for those who dies at the G.T.C. compound on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2002, we must all push our emotions, prejudices and political differences behind us".

This elaboration is evidently necessary because of certain misconceived impressions being created that the Catholic Church is under inquiry; that there is a brief upon the Commission to castigate the Church. These are not only false, baseless but also articulations of

despair. And as we have hinted in this REPORT, desperation knows no logic. The terms of reference of the Commission has been duly published to the world at large. There is no aspect of it that directly or indirectly suggest an inquisition or inquiry into the affairs of the Catholic Church.

Typically, the Commission feels that these clarifications are necessary in order to:

1. quieten all misconceptions, insinuations, allegations and calumnious relative to the purpose and aims of the Judicial Commission of Inquiry;
2. establish an objective framework or base upon which the commission's work must proceed and the basis upon which public confidence in it ought to be elicited established; and
3. announce the balance and complete detachment of the Commission relative to the correct completion or determination of all matters coming before it.

It also makes bold to assert that in this Report our examination of facts presented before it must be solemn, above board, above base sentiments; above political cleavages and common heads. It has been guided solely by the facts as presented before it.

And more importantly, it is guided by the fear of God Almighty, satisfied as it does, that the precious lives of fourteen citizens of this country are involved.

Furthermore, the Commission is anxious that its work be conducted and concluded in a manner that the hitherto established character and integrity of the Commissioners are not devalued. Obviously the Executive Governor of Enugu State has tried to ensure and secure the independence of the Commission by an appointment which accommodated distinguished professionals from three States of Nigeria, namely; Enugu, Abia and Anambra States.

Professor C.O. Okonkwo is from Anambra State; the very Reverend Chike Nwizu (a clergy man of international standing) is from Anambra State; Dr (Mrs.) Eleanor Nwadinobi is from Abia State and the remainder from Enugu State. The members are also from various religious groups. Catholic, Anglican and Pentecostal churches. And



infact a Monsignor of the Roman Catholic Church was also appointed. The combination of independent professionals from these various states of the Federation was to ensure a good measure of free hand and independence in the work of the Commission. As the Chairman of the Commission rightly stated at its inaugural sitting;

“The formidable assemblage of outstanding professionals makes it impossible for the Commission to bend the truth in favour of any person or group of persons. We shall be fair, resolute and unbending in our search for the truth. We owe the souls of the deceased a duty to locate the cause of their deaths. We also owe the nation a strong fidelity to discharge the burden of this Commission in a most commendable manner”.

We categorically therefore state that the findings and recommendations of the Commission must follow and flow strictly from the evidence and facts presented at the proceedings which the commission finds cogent and credible. And which it believes.

The Record of Proceedings, together with all the exhibits received in the proceedings could be found in VOLUME I of the commission's final presentation. An intimate comparative reading of Volumes I and II of the REPORT would clearly attest to the commission's level of impartiality and fairness.

# METHODOLOGY

As we have earlier stated, The Commission of Inquiry was inaugurated on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 2002. So soon after it, through paid announcements in Enugu State Broadcasting Service (ESBS), Radio Nigeria, Enugu, Enugu State Television Authority Service (ESTC); Nigeria Television Authority Enugu (N.T.A); Punch Newspapers, Guardian and Champion Newspapers, informed the world at large about the inauguration of the Commission, its terms of reference and called for memoranda from people who have useful information within the Commission's terms of reference. Some memoranda were received, all of which formed part of Volume I of the Commission's Report.

## **a. PUBLIC SITTING**

The procedure adopted by the Commission was one of unrestricted public sitting. The doors of the Commission were thrown open for all and sundry, including those who have presentations to make and spectators.

The Commission began its public sitting on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2002, almost two months after its inauguration. The delay in the commencement of its public sitting was not unconnected with the fact that:

- i. the Commission wanted to give everybody who had relevant information sufficient time to gather facilities for their presentations at its proceedings;
- ii. frayed nerves were expected to be quietened so that facts and reflections would have replaced emotions, passions and rumours.
- iii. the Commission, though unusual it may seem, had to defer to attempts by some meta-legal bodies and agencies to reconcile mounting allegations, insinuations and recriminations.

At the Commission's inaugural sitting the Chairman of the Commission, informed the audience its terms of reference and stated further thus:

“On the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 2002 the government of Enugu State inaugurated this Judicial Commission of Inquiry with the major object, in outline, of locating the cause or causes of this national tragedy and with the collorary component of making recommendations that would prevent such untoward event in future. Every good Nigerian must be happy about this anxiety and indication of government to locate the cause or causes of the tragedy”.

The object of the public sitting is:

- a. to ensure fair hearing to all;
- b. to provide unrestricted forum for all who have expressed different opinions relative to the cause or causes of death at the G.T.C. Adoration Ground to come forward and establish them before the Commission.
- c. to provide those who submitted memoranda, the opportunity at the public proceedings to amplify them and confront those against whom they have made allegations.

Evidently in our anxious bid to get to the truth of what actually happened at the Adoration Ground at G.T.C. compound Enugu on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2002, and concerned that souls of Nigerian citizens were involved, the Commission set out to invite everybody, high and low who have expressed opinions one way or other relative to cause of death at the Adoration Ground, to come forward to establish or authenticate their articulations. The roster of those include; but does not exhaust the following:

1. Rev. Fr. Ejike Mbaka of Christ the King Catholic Parish GRA, Enugu.
2. The Medical Director, Ntasiobi Ndinoafufu Hospital, Trans-Ekulu, Enugu.
3. Rev. Mgnor. Obiora Ike, Vicar General Catholic Diocese, Enugu.
4. The Medical Director Annunciation Specialist Hospital, Emene, Enugu.
5. The Catholic Bishop of Enugu Diocese, Holy Ghost Cathedral, Enugu
6. Chief Anthony Oguguo
7. Mr. Samuel Akuda O/C Homicide, Enugu State Police Headquarters.

8. Amby Uneze, Enugu Correspondent of This-Day Newspaper.
9. The Secretary to Enugu State Government
10. The Commissioner for Information, Enugu State.
11. The Attorney General and Commissions, for Justice, Enugu State.
12. The Divisional Police Officer I/C Abakaliki Road Police Station. Enugu (covering the G.T.C. Adoration Ground).
13. The Commissioner of Police, Enugu State.
14. Dr. Max Ude, Park Lane General Hospital Enugu.
15. The Chairman Nigerian Bar Association Enugu Branch.
16. The Secretary, Nigerian Bar Association Enugu Branch.
17. Rev. Sister Eunice Offor
18. Dr. D.B. Olusina, Pathologist UNTH Enugu (The Pathologist appointed by the Catholic Church to do the autopsy on the bodies of the victims of the G.T.C. Adoration tragedy).
19. Mrs. Eze, G.T.E. Enugu
20. Emefu Julius, G.T.C. Enugu
21. Mrs. V.I. Idu, G.T.C. Enugu
22. The Secretary, Catholic Secretariat, Holy Ghost Cathedral Enugu
23. His Excellency, Dr. Okwesilieze Nwodo
24. Barrister Ray Nnaji.

Aside from the names listed under Numbers 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 24, the remainder completely looked the other way. Barrister Ray Nnaji appeared according to him in protest, before the Commission.

It may be instructive to here recite a common paragraph that runs throughout our letters of invitation to most of the above invitees. It reads thus:

*"You are credited to have made statements to the Press on the likely cause of death of the victims of the stampede. You are therefore requested to attend the Commissions sitting which is kicking off on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2002 and thereafter from day to day to give evidence generally and produce documents if any it is pertinent to assure you that no person is on trial but that the duty of the Commission is to find out the truth of what happened on the said date leading to the tragedy.*

Of note, of course, is that these invitations were sent through IFEX WORLD WIDE COURIER LTD. and evidence abound on the IFEX PINK sender's copies that these invitations were duly received. And they are carefully documented under Volume I of this REPORT.

Of note, as well, is that the commission in a deliberate step, did a letter to His Lordship, Rt. Rev. Dr. Anthony Gbuji, The Catholic Bishop of Enugu Diocese. The letter was entitled *REQUEST FOR COOPERATION OF SOME CATHOLIC FUNCTIONARIES AND INSTITUTIONS*"

The letter reads, in part, as follows:

"We wish to request His Lordship to direct the underlisted functionaries and heads of Catholic institutions to appear before the Judicial Commission of Inquiry sitting at High Court No. 3 Old House of Assembly Building, Enugu on Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May 2002 at the hour of 10 o'clock in the fore-noon to testify to what they know in the matter under inquiry. The persons/Functionaries are as follows:

- (1) Rev. Fr. Ejike Mbaka;
- (2) Rev. Obiora Ike;
- (3) Rev. Sister Eunice Offor;
- (4) The Medical Director, Ntasiobi Hospital, Enugu;
- (5) The Medical Director, Annunciation Specialist Hospital, Enugu. Letters of invitation, copies of which are hereby attached, had previously been sent to these persons/institutions, all of which they have not honoured.

The Question which the Commission sought to ask itself, is why those who claimed to have incontrovertible, irrefutable and indefeasible evidence of what happened at the GTC Adoration Ground refused not only the Commission's invitations but its summonses to attend its proceedings and authenticate their claims and articulations? We must be reminded that we are dealing with the loss of 14 precious lives on an adoration ground in a single day. Are these invitees justified on any ground to have failed to seize the opportunity provided by the Commission to establish before the world and beyond doubt, their version of the authentic cause of death? Are they fair to the souls of those unfortunate 14 lives? Are they fair to the nation? Could they not even for the records have come to state their case to the knowledge of the world at large even if they think the Commission would turn a deaf ear? Then the world looking at the record of proceedings and the

recommendations and findings of fact of the commission would be in a position to see whether it was fair or biased.

These invitees were not entitled and indeed were grossly remiss to have duded under the plea of bias or “*nemo judex in causa sua*”. It is elementary law that, in allegations of bias, surmise or conjective are not enough. There must exist concrete circumstances upon which a reasonable man could form impressions of bias. (See per Lord Denning in *Metropolitan Properties Ltd. v Lennon* (1969) 1.Q.B.577 at 599).

The plea of “*nemo judex in caush sua*” also flies in the face of certain basic principles and forms and processes of state and government. In the first place the argument that “*nobody shall be a judge in his own case*” is utterly misconceived. This is a fact finding commission and nobody or institution is on trial. There is no complainant – accused – judge situation in the exercise afoot. Secondly, and more importantly, Enugu State/Enugu State Government, and Dr. Chimaroke Nnamani are not interchangeable names. Enugu State and, or Enugu State Government are merely organized under Dr. Chimaroke Nnamani as the Executive Governor. The governmental functions of the state are constitutionally divided into the executive, which Dr. Chimaroke Nnamnai is the head, the legislature which is headed by Chief Abel Chukwu and the Judiciary which is headed by Justice J.C.N. Ugwu. It cannot be lawfully and intelligibly argued that the Executive Governor, Dr. Chimaroke Nnamani is the repository of these three spheres of governmental operations. Because judicial determinations operate outside executive ambience and popular criteria, Justices of the Supreme Court of America appointed by President Richad Nixon were able to find him guilty during the Water-Gate trials.

Judicial determinations as with Judicial inquiries are based on evidence or cold facts as presented before them, arguments and legal questions and principles already settled upon superior authorities. They are not based on emotions, surmises and conjectures. Consequently the picture of “*nemo judex in causa sua*” being painted by these said witnesses is diversionary and quite removed from legal reality. As we have hinted in this Report, the setting up of this Commission evinces effective discharge of governmental functions and the responsibilities

of the state to the people. It seems to us, that government exists essentially for securing the welfare of society; maintenance of order and the protection of life and property. The inauguration of a Judicial Commission of Inquiry, in the context afoot, must be seen as part of the organized state machinery for the protection of life and property; execution of and administration of justice according to law.

It may safely be concluded that the functions of Enugu State government cannot be said to have been adequately discharged; and the state cannot be said to exist in a meaningful sense, if at the loss of 14 precious lives at the GTC Adoration Ground nothing was done to locate the cause and no plan or adaptive strategies were evolved to prevent future occurrence.

As subsequent chapters in this Report would confirm these witnesses who turned down our invitation to testify must have:

- a. found out that they were utterly remiss in the aetiology of death hastily constructed by them;
- b. made a gross mistake in a matter of this grave nature;
- c. realized that medical view point, eye witness accounts, cosmopolitan view point relative to cause of death dismantled and destroyed all the arguments they were anxious to put forward to the press.

## **TOUR OF ADORATION GROUND**

One of the inaugural steps taken by the Commission, was the visit to the G.T.C. Enugu Adoration Ground, namely, the scene of the tragedy. The Commission carried out an extensive inspection of the locus and its physical facilities. The visit and the Commission's observation and comments are detailed under Chapter 5 of this Report. The inspection was carried out on 17<sup>th</sup> of April 2002.

The object was to ascertain the basic infrastructural facilities on the ground and examine their suitability relative to the estimated ten thousand worshipers that use them every Wednesday of the week. The pictures taken on the occasion of the Commission's visit, which are carefully shown under chapter 5 of this Report, speak for themselves.

However, one fact which we are impelled to point out in limine is the 4.1 metre gate which serves as the sole point of ingress and egress by the worshippers.

## **COMMENDATION**

The Commission must at the outset register its immense debt of gratitude to persons too innumerable to mention here, who have assisted it one way or another to discharge its burden. It must also specifically commend the profound assistance received from the legal practitioners who appeared before it to make presentations and cross-examine witnesses from which vital evidence and exhibits were secured. (see Vol. One of the Report)

We also thank the Pathologist for their detailed autopsy report on the deceased. Their illustrative reports have helped, as we shall show in the next chapter, to establish the cause of death.

We also thank the eyewitnesses to the tragedy who found time despite all odds to testify. In this regard immense debt of gratitude is due, Mr. Ituma and his family. Mr. Ituma lost two of his children in the tragedy and was able to retain some equanimity to testify at the Commission. His family needs some assistance.

Evidently much gratitude is due, the Senior and Junior Police Officers who conducted the investigation; who were on guard at the adoration ground that morning; and who provided security to the Commission.

The ultimate gratitude is to God Almighty under whose security, the Commission was able to complete the assignment within the time frame.