



**IT IS TIME TO BLOW THE JUBILEE**

**TRUMPET**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY LIVE BROADCAST**

**ON AIT & 96.9 COOL FM**

**BY PASTOR 'TUNDE BAKARE**

**ON OCTOBER 10, 2009**

**AT NATIONAL CHRISTIAN CENTRE**

**CENTRAL AREA, ABUJA, NIGERIA**



Fellow countrymen and women, nine days ago, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, 2009, during our Independence Day Live Broadcast in Lagos, I intimated you that by God's grace we would be in Abuja, the FCT, to blow the Jubilee Trumpet over our nation. We want to thank everyone who has worked behind-the-scenes to make this special venue available to us today for this purpose. In like manner, we salute the courage of A.I.T and 96.9 COOL F.M. Radio for covering this event live, thus enabling viewers across the nation, and especially in Abuja, the seat of the Federal Government, participate right where they are.

We appreciate tremendously the contribution of all the Pastors and Business Leaders in our network – the GLOBAL APOSTOLIC IMPACT NETWORK (G.A.I.N.) – for their prayers and sacrifice toward making today a reality in line with the promptings of the Spirit. Equally appreciated is everyone physically present at this historic gathering.

Above all we give all the glory, all the praise and all the adoration to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God, who has orchestrated everything and has graciously given us the way out of our National Dilemma as we are about to witness today. May I humbly request that you all stand, if you can, as we sing together Hymn **1** in your programme. At the same time the trumpeters will symbolically blow the Trumpet of Jubilee over the entire spiritual, social, economic and political landscape of our Nation, Nigeria.

**"ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME"**

**[PRAISE INTERLUDE]**

Having worshipped and given the glory due to the True King of the Nations, including ours, let us proceed to our presentation today under the following headings:

- (1) The Labour Of Our Heroes Past



- (2) The Significance Of The Jubilee Trumpet
- (3) Our Present Dilemma as a Nation and
- (4) The Way Forward

### **PART 1: THE LABOUR OF OUR HEROES PAST**

Those who do not learn from history invariably repeat the blunders of the past till they inevitably become history. On the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2009, the eve of our Independence Anniversary, KAYODE KOMOLAFE wrote the following timely words on the back page of THIS DAY NEWSPAPER in his column, *The Horizon*:

*"...(T)here is another perspective to the discussion of the significance of October 1. The National Day is as much as about the present Nigerian condition as it is about the reminder of the journey to nationhood. For the reflection on this occasion to be judicious it should not just focus on the manifest failures of the present, it should also focus on the evident heroism that led to the birth of the nation in the first place. The story is not only about the unmaking of Nigeria, even though the majority of the contemporary actors is working assiduously to unmake the nation.*

*"There is also the increasingly hidden narrative of the making of Nigeria. The balanced record of this period should be popularised. Nigeria is being presented to his youths as a nation without any positive line in its history. The perception that is fast sticking especially for the youths is that of a nation without heroes. Now, this is simply fallacious, historically speaking. The National Day should not only provoke justifiable anger about monumental leadership failure, it should also remind us about the exemplary leadership of those Nigerians who led in the struggle for national freedom. It should be a day to reflect and promote the leadership virtues of those who gave leadership in the anti-colonial struggle. It should be a day to draw the attention of the young generation to the positive story of the genuine makers of Nigeria. The story of founders of Nigeria is not all about woes regardless of the valid faults identified in*



those leaders. It is easy for those who never lived a day under colonial bondage, humiliation and dehumanisation to take national independence for granted especially when freedom has not brought about prosperity.

*“Nothing exemplifies the levity with which national history is handled in Nigeria more than the attitude to the historic import of October 1 and the roles of those who led the people in making it possible. No matter the errors of their lives the Herbert Macaulays, the Nnamdi Azikiwes and the Anthony Enahoros of Nigeria’s history ought to be celebrated for their leadership roles in fighting for freedom. Today’s youths should be inspired by the selflessness, courage and nationalism of the young men in the Zikist movement. These great Nigerians were the dynamos of a national movement that fought for freedom and democracy at a period when western nations acted towards the colonies as if the words – democracy and freedom – never existed in the political dictionary of the time. The powerful nations of the West who today go about imposing democracy in different parts of the world punished these Nigerian democracy and freedom fighters in the first half of the last century. They acted at a period when men and women identified with a truly national cause and were prepared to make sacrifice for the common good. This is a vanishing virtue in the land. It will be helpful to summon such a historical fact to encourage the contemporary to pursue common good.”*

Also, President Umaru Musa Yar’adua said in his 2009 Independence Day Broadcast both on T.V. and Radio that, *“Rather than become another day of self-flagellation, today (that is the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, 2009) should be a forceful reminder of the promise yet to be fulfilled, of the dream deferred for too long and of the work that is still outstanding.”* Consequently, we remain eternally grateful to God for the selfless leaders He blessed this nation with who fought with all their God-given abilities till they broke the yoke of British Colonialism over the neck of our nation.



Psalm 44: 1 – 8 (NKJV) captures the truth of our past heroes and how their great exploits can serve as inspiration for the present and future generations of our people. It reads and I quote:

1. We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, the deeds You did in their days, in days of old:
2. You drove out the nations with Your hand, but them You planted: You afflicted the peoples, and cast them out.
3. For they did not gain possession of the land by their own sword, nor did their own arm save them; but it was Your right hand, Your arm, and the light of Your countenance, because You favored them.
4. You are my King, O God; command victories for Jacob.
5. Through You we will push down our enemies; through Your name we will trample those who rise up against us.
6. For I will not trust in my bow, nor shall my sword save me.
7. But You have saved us from our enemies, and have put to shame those who hated us.
8. In God we boast all day long, and praise Your name forever. Selah."

Indeed, no one can be a parent of the future, except he or she has been a child of the past. And as for those who in the words of Mr. President Yar-Adua have deferred our collective dream for too long, we cannot but pray the prayer of the Psalmist as contained in PSALM 144: 11-15 (NKJV):

11. Rescue me and deliver me from the hand of foreigners, whose mouth speaks lying words, and whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood -
12. That our sons *may be* as plants grown up in their youth; *that* our daughters *may be* as pillars, sculptured in palace style;
13. *That* our barns *may be* full, supplying all kinds of produce; *that* our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our fields;
14. *That* our oxen *may be* well-laden; *that there be* no breaking in or going out; *that there be* no outcry in our streets.



15. Happy *are the* people who are in such a state; happy *are the* people whose God is the Lord!"

Until God rescues our nation from the hands of 'strange children' – the internal colonialists lording themselves over our nation – we cannot truly stem the tide of decay and decline that the nation has been bedeviled with from shortly after our Independence. The Rescue Operation is what today's broadcast is all about.

## **PART 2: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE JUBILEE TRUMPET**

### SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT:

LEVITICUS 25: 1 – 4; 8 – 10 (NKJV)

#### **LEVITICUS 25: 1 – 4:**

1. "And the Lord spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying,
2. "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you come into the land which I give you, then the land shall keep a sabbath to the Lord.
3. 'Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather its fruit;
4. 'but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the LORD. You shall neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard."

#### **LEVITICUS 25: 8 - 10:**

8. 'And you shall count seven sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years; and the time of the seven sabbaths of years shall be to you forty-nine years.
9. 'Then you shall cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth *day* of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land.
10. 'And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout *all* the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee for you; and each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family."



Most people who celebrate Jubilee do so upon their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary be it of their birthday, wedding, the establishment of an alma mater, etc. There is nothing wrong with this. In today's society the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary is referred to as the Silver Jubilee in contrast with the landmark 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary called the Golden Jubilee. God is not against celebration. But in His template for Israel's development and transformation, while not forbidding the celebration of their Golden Jubilee, He emphasized CONSECRATION before CELEBRATION. The consecration process was to begin immediately after the nation's 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month of their Ecclesiastical Calendar referred to as 'Ethnim', which means STRONG AND VALIANT. See LEVITICUS 25: 8 – 10.

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The 7<sup>th</sup> month of the Ecclesiastical Calendar is our own present day October, April being the 1<sup>st</sup> month of the Ecclesiastical Calendar. It was in the course of Israel's exit from Egyptian bondage and slavery that God instituted the Passover Feast in the land of Egypt and changed their calendar in the middle of the year. He said categorically from a benevolent stand point: ***"This shall be the beginning of months to you."***

**EXODUS 12: 1 & 2 (NKJV):**



1. Now the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,
2. "This month *shall be* your beginning of months; it *shall be* the first month of the year to you."

**ONLY GOD CAN CHANGE THE CALENDAR IN THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR TO RESTORE HIS PEOPLE'S WASTED YEARS.**

Those who may be thinking that this applies to Israel alone should think twice. Because up till this day, even in non-Jewish nations, the financial year in almost every nation ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March every year and the New Financial Year begins on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April of the same year. Hence your current tax clearance certificate is from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 to the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2009 – because Almighty God changed the calendar in the middle of the year. So on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month, that is the 10<sup>th</sup> day of October following the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the nation, God commanded Israel to blow the Trumpet of Jubilee over the land.

In Biblical history, other significant events took place by divine orchestration in the month of October, being the 7<sup>th</sup> month. Let's see at least 4 of such:

1. In I Kings 8: 1 – 8: Solomon's temple was dedicated.
2. In Ezra 3: 1 – 6 and Ezra 10: 13: The Altar was rebuilt and offerings renewed.
3. In Nehemiah 8: 1 – 3 and verses 7 and 8: The culture of the 7<sup>th</sup> month was established namely, "cause every man to stand in his place: no more round pegs in square holes."
4. In Leviticus 23: 23 and 24: October 1 was established as a memorial for blowing trumpets.

**LEVITICUS 23: 23 & 24:**

23. Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
24. "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a



sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation.”

Is it an accident of history that Nigeria became independent from the British colonial rule on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 1960 – the day God established as a memorial for blowing trumpets? I think not. God has His eyes and His hands upon this nation and the difference will be clear soon to those who think they can keep her in perpetual subjugation and servitude as we blow the Trumpet of Jubilee today over our land in order to consecrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Independence.

So that the significance of today’s holy convocation is not lost on all of us let me now spell out the expectations of God regarding the blowing of the Jubilee Trumpet:

*There are at least 8 significant things God expects to happen and since no one can stand in the way of God or frustrate His counsel, we trust God to make them happen in our Nation soon.*

**LEVITICUS 25: 9 – 24:**

- 1) Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants of the people.
- 2) v. 13: Return every man into his possession.
- 3) v. 13: Return every man to his family.
- 4) v. 17: Stop all forms of oppression.
- 5) v. 18: Dwell in the land in safety – put in place everything that will guarantee the security of Life and Property.
- 6) v. 19: Fruitfulness and Fulfillment as we dwell in safety.
- 7) v. 20 & 21: Commanded Blessings on God’s part over our land.
- 8) v. 23 & 24: Land Reforms

Except we truly consecrate ourselves as individuals and corporately as a nation, it



will be near impossible to see GOD'S 8-POINT AGENDA FOR THE JUBILEE fulfilled in our land by the time the nation turns 50. NO CONSECRATION, NO CELEBRATION. This is why God commanded in His Word that following the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the nation of Israel, on the Day of Atonement namely the 10<sup>th</sup> day of October, Israel must blow the Trumpet of Jubilee in order to consecrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary before celebrating same.

It is also very important to note that God commands the Trumpet of Jubilee to be blown on the Day of Atonement. The word 'atonement' simply means agreement, concord, reconciliation after enmity or controversy. It also means expiation, satisfaction or reparation made by giving an equivalent for an injury or by doing or suffering that which is received in satisfaction for an offence or injury. The Day of Atonement provides an opportunity to reconcile ourselves with God and each other. Maybe this is what we should be talking about in relation to Niger Delta Crisis instead of amnesty. After all, God expects that as the Trumpet of Jubilee is blown over the land, all forms of oppression must stop as Liberty is proclaimed throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants of the people.

I believe this is why Prophet Isaiah was commanded by God to lift up his voice like a trumpet and tell the people their transgression. See ISAIAH 57: 19- 21 & ISAIAH 58: 1 & 2:

**ISAIAH 57: 19 – 21:**

19. "I create the fruit of the lips: peace, peace to *him* who is far off and to *him who* is near," says the Lord, and I will heal him."
20. But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.
21. "There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked.""

**ISAIAH 58: 1 & 2:**



1. Cry aloud, spare not: lift up your voice like a trumpet; tell My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.
2. Yet they seek Me daily, and delight to know My ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and did not forsake the ordinance of their God. They ask of Me the ordinances of justice: they take delight in approaching God."

This brings me to the last two points which I will combine together because of time.

### **PARTS 3 and 4: OUR PRESENT DILEMMA AS A NATION AND THE WAY FORWARD**

How do we explain our present dilemma and sufferings in the midst of plenty? What is taken for granted in lands and climes not as endowed as ours is like a desert mirage in our own land. We have become a bleeding giant with a seemingly broken spinal cord. Corruption and political hypocrisy have eaten deep into the fabric of our nation and we have become a people without any sense of shame as one of our past presidents said about himself. SIMON KOLAWOLE in his column *Simon Live* on the back page of THIS DAY NEWSPAPER of Sunday September 27, 2009 captures the gory state of our nation. He wrote and I quote:

"Things are so, so bad. You're dealing with a traumatised and disillusioned populace. I mean, just look at the comatose education sector – where do you start the resuscitation from? The infrastructure is rotten, the manpower is inadequate and largely incompetent and the administrative system is tragic. What about the civil service where idleness, apathy and corruption are the guiding principles? What of the political firmament polluted by self-serving, narrow-minded, loot-grabbing, untrustworthy and unpatriotic politicians? I'm not saying Nigeria is irredeemable, but all these are enough impediments in the way of anyone who wants to bring about change."



## **THE WAY FORWARD**

The trumpet is supposed to serve as a wake-up call for the slumbering leadership of a sleepy giant to put in place a clearly-defined and well-articulated agenda, without any political hypocrisy and with all the strength of character as well as the resolve of a determined will, expressed in pragmatic and measurable actions specifically designed and targeted at stemming the tide of our national decay and decline. **Where there is a will, there surely will be a way.** The next 12 calendar months of serious consecration and concentration in the following key areas will by the grace of Almighty God guarantee a sure celebration of our Jubilee and the beginning of our Journey into Greatness.

### **i) CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS**

This is critical. An imposed constitution cannot produce a great nation because it will lack popular support. We need a constitution that spells out the dynamics of True Federalism and emphasizes our Republican status with the active participation and support of our people as well as their truly elected representatives. What we have today as a constitution is a lie and a reformed lie is still a lie. Like a white-washed sepulchre, it is still full of dead men's rotten bones.

The present constitution is a lie not only because it is imposed on us without our consent but because it states one thing and we practice another. For example, it is referred to sheepishly as "The Constitution of The Federal Republic of Nigeria" while we are neither a true Federation nor a Republic. Or how does anyone make sense of the scandalous conflict between a monarch in Osun state and the supposedly elected Governor of the same state for an alleged criminal conversion of N8.3 million of the local government's funds?



The amalgamation of 1914 that brought strange bedfellows together is not the only challenge we are still facing till now - there is a much more worrisome cancerous amalgam of the national political variety. We are yet to come to terms with whether we are a Republic or a Kingdom. No nation with an identity crisis can make progress in her journey to greatness without first resolving said identity crisis. To resolve this and other conflicts, let us without delay put the process of having a true People's Constitution in motion. If Mr. President truly determines to do this and focuses his energy on giving Nigeria a fresh start with a dynamic Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in the year of Jubilee, it will be a worthwhile legacy that generations yet unborn will remember him for. Nigeria deserves nothing less.

Such a vital constitution will cover all the essential areas people are clamouring for today, like **Electoral Reforms**, **Resource Control** and **Equitable Distribution** of same, **Land Reforms**, **Local Government Reforms**, such that will ensure grassroots development in our nation, **a robust and free Judicial System**, a **Legislative System** that emphasises the making of just laws with sanctions that apply to all citizens regardless of gender or status, as well as a **Free and Fearless Press**.

With a truly Federal Republican Constitution in place, each federating unit will develop at its own pace all the domains that are necessary for the overall unity, peace and progress of our nation. As for the **Electoral Reforms**, no destructive means can bring about a constructive end. Our approach should not just be raising individuals from the federating states to be the voice of the people; we must first ensure that those they claim to represent have their voices back to truly determine who represents them.



All the efforts being put into having a one-party state will be absolutely counterproductive in the days and years to come. It will be like the ill-fated attempt of the military to impose a unitary system of government upon our nation. Just as that attempt failed, the behemoth being raised now in the name of an all-encompassing party will go the same way for the obvious reason that you cannot make steady progress and enshrine accountability in governance without a robust opposition and genuine voices of dissent. Even in states such as Ogun in the South West where all the supposed elected representatives are from the same party, the house is retrogressively divided against itself and the chicken has begun to eat its own intestines. If not arrested, your guess is as good as mine as to what the end product will be.

Equally important is the long overdue **Land Reforms**.

The present Land-Use Act smuggled into the 1999 Constitution overnight has not only outlived its usefulness, if any, it has become counterproductive to the overall development of the core area of our economy, namely real estate. According to Page 50 of *The 2008 Edition of Trade Invest - A guide to Business and Investment in Lagos State* (a publication of the Lagos State government), "Lagos State alone has a deficit of 5 million housing units. The Lagos State government is committed to providing 10,000 units per year. Private sector investment is urgently needed."

If the statement is true and governments at Federal and State levels are genuinely concerned about massive investment needed in the housing sector, how come they have allowed the legal absurdity of having to obtain **2 C of O's**, one Federal C of O and one State C of O in respect of one parcel of Land as is the practice in Lagos State now, in the name of regularisation occasioned by the obsolete and counterproductive Land Use Act? The



investors in this real sector and the end-users are constantly caught in the cross-fire of outrageous extortion by both the Federal and State governments.

The word of God should be our template and final authority in this regard if we truly acknowledge that 'The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.' (PSALM 24:1)

**See: EZEKIEL 45: 6 – 9 (NKJV):**

- "6. You shall appoint as the property of the city *an area* five-thousand *cubits* wide and twenty-five thousand long, adjacent to the district of the holy section; it shall belong to the whole house of Israel.
7. "The prince shall have a section on one side and the other of the holy district and the city's property; and bordering on the holy district and the city's property, extending westward on the west side and eastward on the east side, the length *shall* be side by side with one of the *tribal* portions, from the west border to the east border.
8. The land shall be his possession in Israel; and My princes shall no more oppress My people, but they shall give *the rest* of the land to the house of Israel, according to their tribes."
9. Thus says the Lord God: "Enough, O princes of Israel! Remove violence and plundering, execute justice and righteousness, and stop dispossessing My people," says the Lord God."

ii) **ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PEOPLE**

**ECCLESIASTES 5: 8 & 9:**

- "8. If you see the oppression of the poor, and the violent perversion of justice and righteousness in a province, do not marvel at the matter; for high official watches over high official, and higher officials are over them.
9. Moreover the profit of the land is for all; *even* the king is served from the field."



A lot has been said and is still being said concerning the education of our children and youth. The neglect of this vital sector is a major breeding ground of crime in our society. He who opens a school shuts a prison. If we spend more on education, we will spend less on crime prevention in the years ahead. Alongside quality education is skill development. This will not only ensure that the not-so-educated will not become social miscreants, it will also guarantee that everyone could have a trade along the lines of his or her strength based on the full development of each individual's God-given skill.

In addition to the economic empowerment of our people is the need for the development of each federating unit according to the resources of their land. Each vibrant region or state can give scholarships to brilliant students to go study special disciplines that will enable them not only mine their vast resources but also process them. Only a lazy nation would do otherwise:

**See: PROVERBS 12: 27**

“The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, but diligence is man's precious possession.”

When we focus more on accelerated development of our land, we will spend less time in future on amnesty as is being presently done as if the people granted amnesty are political prisoners. By definition, amnesty is an act of pardon by a legislative authority which effaces not merely a punishment inflicted but the cause of it as well so that no fresh proceedings can be instituted. What the Niger Delta needs in addition to the current ceasefire and disarmament is the whole-scale development of the area. A system that permits the unjust killings of our people, only



to turn around later to compensate the families of those killed, places no value on human life.

In closing, let us remember the **God Factor**. Just as it is dangerous to stand in front of a moving train or trailer, it is totally catastrophic to assume the posture of business as usual in the months ahead in the face of the declaration of Jubilee. Once the minds of people are unblocked and their eyes are opened, the oppressed will rise and demand what is rightfully theirs and with the support of Heaven, no force will be strong enough to curtail the upheavals that will permeate the entire land.

If we do not engage all our faculties and energies to bring about the reforms needed in every domain of governance, we will only be sowing the seeds of revolt. Ask the Pharaohs, the Nebuchadnezzars, the Rehoboams and all the oppressors of modern history. Let us restructure and reform now before it is too late. Let the Jubilee Trumpet blow across the length and breadth of Nigeria.

He who has ears to hear, let him hear. A word is enough for the wise.

God Bless the Federal Republic Of Nigeria.

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*10<sup>th</sup> October, 2009.*