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PRESENTS

CHALLENGES OF GBAGYI UNITY IN NIGERIA

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BY

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

“Gbagyi Unity” is the oxymoron of Gbagyi nation. The subject of this discourse is reasonably a prickly one. For this, I initially became nervous, to a state of incomprehension, as I pondered over the likely motivation of the conveners of this meeting. During my consideration of this highly engaging intention, I skated into a quicksand. Even though it was quite easy for me to read the orifices of the conveners as I can attest to their patriotic experiences on issues that pertains Gbagyi, I could not afford being unmindful of conflicting comebacks such a discourse can provoke the audience.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The typical Gbagyi person is friendly and industrious, peace loving. The women folk do not look for trouble. Gbagyi, despite the inclinations of modernity, still retain an appealing simplicity which is not enticed by the temptation of wealth and glamour: Their women are simply dressed in their traditional wrappers and for some, blouse even their young maiden, and of course the elderly men who are equally not dressed flashily. Only their young men appear to be caving into modern way of life through their more fashionable life style. Gbagyi are cultured and give respect to everyone they come across. They are not proud, and at the same time they are not to be taken for granted. You give them their respect and they respect you in return. As long as you do not stop them from going to their farms, they keep out of their way too. The Gbagyi tribe can be found in five states of Nigeria: Kaduna, Niger, Kogi, Nassarawa and the Federal Capital Territory. Though not grouped in one area, but generally observed to be occupying the fifth most populated tribe in Nigeria. Absolutely the Gbagyi, are something to celebrate. Their colorful festivals are performed to mark the burial of their loved ones, marriages, naming ceremonies and others.

3.0 CHALLENGES OF GBAGYI UNITY

Its pertinent to highlight some credibly general firm truths developed about Gbagyiman by my good friend and oga - By George S. Koce. Among these are;

1. Gbagyi peoples tend to have created the feeling and seem to have accepted that unity amongst them is hopeless.
2. The greater proportion of Gbagyiman’s time is expended on lamentation, self-pity and discouraging others directly or vicariously.
3. They easily surrender when faced with a challenge. Indeed, they tend to give up even when problems are only being envisaged.
4. When examined against leadership qualities of vision, indomitable spirit of sacrifice, selfdenial, positive dreaming there is a yawning leadership vacuum.

5. They are generally plausibly bereaved of a conscious, supportive and determined followership as mentorship culture is virtually nonexistent.

6. Gbagyi peoples level and extent of exposure, experience and indeed network is highly restricted.

Other obvious Challenges are;

- i. Dialectical problem
- ii. Economic development issues
- iii. Lackadaisical approach to leadership
- iv. Comfort zone to second-feeder role.

4.0 AGENDA FOR GBAGYI UNITY

The need for personal positive change with focus, vigorous energy and utilization of quality time for productive unity with the following attributes;

- a. The new Gbagyi paradigm of productivity that would fulfill purpose – led productivity, value – Driven productivity and Soul-guided productivity.
- b. Mentorship – and believing in one another, irrespective of religion and dialectical differences.
- c. Encouragement to be kind to one another
- d. Encouragement to strengthen ties of kinship
- e. Need for truthful Gbagyi Networking

5.0 CONCLUSION

All praise is due to Allah by whose blessing all good deeds are completed.

This is an attempt to present my views on Gbagyi unity therefore, let the discussion continue until we develop an acceptable methods and principles that would help foster unity in all ramifications. Finally, in order for this anticipated ‘change’ to succeed, it may need the following;

- i. Solid will and determination.
- ii. A clear vision for the new status quo that this gathering aimed toward.
- iii. A good understanding of the high cost and huge burden that we will carry when we choose to stay static and leave everything as it is.

Thank you sincerely for the privilege and the attention. God Bless!!!

