



DIOCESE OF KUMBO
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To the Priests and Religious
To all the Faithful
Men and Women of good will
Diocese of Kumbo.

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A Day of Prayer for the Victims of the Ngarbuh-Ntumbaw Killings that took place on Friday 14th February 2020

We have been reliably informed about a very sad incident, which took place on the 14th of February in the village of **Ngarbuh-Ntumbaw in Saint Martin de Porres Parish Ndu**. On Friday 14th February 2020, the military invaded Ngarbuh at 4a.m., and we are told that twenty-four (24) people were killed among whom were pregnant women and little children. Some of the victims were burnt alive and several others wounded. A total of nine (9) houses were burnt down. Hundreds of people from Ngarbuh are currently displaced and seeking for refuge in nearby villages under deplorable human conditions.

While further investigations are going on about the perpetrators of this ruthless massacre, it is incumbent on us as Christians not only to loudly condemn these atrocities, but also to immediately reach out to help the new victims find support and livelihood among us.

As usual, CARITAS is doing its best already to reach out with help to these grief-stricken and traumatized victims. I therefore invite all of you to a Day of Prayer for the deceased and suffering members of this tragic incident.

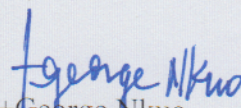
I hereby declare **Friday 21st February 2020 as a Day of Prayer and Mourning in the entire Diocese of Kumbo for the victims of the Ngarbuh Disaster**. In this way, we shall vehemently say, **"Yes to life and no to death"** in solidarity with the recent message of the National Episcopal Conference of Cameroon in which the Bishops declared:

"In view of this agonizing and tragic situation, we Bishops of Cameroon, deem it necessary to organize a day of prayers throughout the nation for the respect of life and the promotion of the sacredness of human life: **"You shall not kill"** Mt 5:21. This day shall give all the faithful and all men and women of good will the opportunity: To launch a vast movement of solidarity and support for the culture of life in favour of the civilization of love against the culture death."

I am once more calling on all the priests, religious, the faithful, men and women of good will in the Diocese of Kumbo to keep this Friday 21st February 2020, as a day of prayer and mourning especially for our brothers and sisters who were brutally killed, wounded and rendered homeless at Ngarbuh.

As is the tradition, a **Requiem Mass** should be celebrated in all our churches and where possible, an Ecumenical Service be organized to implore God for an end to this socio-political crisis that has plunged us into a senseless and painful war. I count on your full collaboration for the success of this Day of Prayer.

May our Lady, Comforter of the afflicted, intercede for us.
Done at Kumbo, 18th February 2020


+George Nkuo
Bishop of Kumbo

