



LAWGIC ADVOCATES

Our ref: LGA/GM/GEN/001/2023

8th May, 2023

THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES
CHURCH OF UGANDA
P.O.BOX 14123 KAMPALA
KAMPALA

For the attention of the Archbishop Church of Uganda.

Your Grace,

RE: NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SUE.

Your Grace, please accept our greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We still represent Mr. Nelson Habasa herein after referred to as our "Client" upon whose instructions we address you.

As you may already be aware, our Client preferred charges against the Bishop of Kigezi Diocese, Rt. Reverend Gaddie Akanjuna for the willful violation of the Church of Uganda Provincial Constitution and canons by lodging Articles of Presentment to the Provincial Tribunal.

The Articles of Presentment were accompanied with a letter addressed to the Provincial Secretary and the Provincial chancellor dated 31st March, 2023 and received on 20th April, 2023 and on 19th April, 2023 respectively. **Enclosed herewith is a copy of the letter and Articles of Presentment for ease of reference.**

The letter requested the Church of Uganda administration to constitute the Provincial Tribunal to try the charges against the Bishop of Kigezi Diocese, Rt. Reverend Gaddie Akanjuna in accordance with **Article 17[C] and 17[I] and Canon 3.29.1** which is to the effect that any allegation of commission of an ecclesiastical offence by a Bishop shall be tried by the Provincial Tribunal.

The gist of the charge and offence committed by Rt. Reverend Gaddie Akanjuna is that he accepted his nomination as a candidate for Bishop of Kigezi Diocese and subsequent consecration well aware that he did not meet and fell far short of the requisite educational requirements for a Bishop under the Church's Provincial Constitution and Canons.

Your Grace, **Canon 3.7.22** requires that a Bishop is a holder of a degree in theology/divinity or a degree in any other field with a **post graduate diploma [emphasis is ours]**. Our Client alleges that Rt. Reverend Gaddie Akanjuna does not meet this standard set out in the

Our receiving copy

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Received for Archbishop/
as well
Provincial Head of Laity.

provincial canons and the veracity of this allegation can only be arrived at a full trial and after both parties have presented evidence in support of their respective cases.

Article 21[4] of the Provincial Constitution prohibits a member of the Church of Uganda that is aggrieved from seeking redress elsewhere. An aggrieved member is required to exhaust all the administrative quasi-judicial bodies set up in the Church. However, ever since **31st March 2023** when the Articles of Presentment were lodged and a letter requesting for the Provincial Tribunal to be constituted we have not received any hearing date and no action has been taken by the Provincial chancellor who is the chairperson of the Tribunal.

Please be advised that the Church is required to observe the **PRINCIPLES OF NATURAL JUSTICE** in the adjudication of disputes in line with **Article 17[10] and [14] of the Provincial Constitution**.

We demand that our Client is given a fair hearing as the presenter of the charges against Rt. Reverend Gaddie Akanjuna. Justice must not be done but must also be seen to be done. Our Clients' confidence in the Church dispute resolution mechanism is wavering because of the in-action demonstrated. We are at a loss wondering why the Church of Uganda that boasts of a country wide congregation of about [15] Fifteen Million Ugandans is displaying utmost unwillingness to constitute a tribunal and determine sharp accusations against the person of the Bishop.

We do not take lightly that our Client is being ignored most especially given the fact that these allegations were made well before Rt. Reverend Gaddie Akanjuna was consecrated as Bishop. We are informed that Your Grace received these allegations in writing in a letter dated 31st March, 2022 authored by Advocate Drake Twebaze but chose not to take any action let alone investigate them. ***[A copy of this letter is attached hereto for ease of reference]***

Your Grace, this in-action and absolute disregard of the Articles of Presentment and charges against Rt. Reverend Gaddie Akanjuna makes the Church of Uganda and its stewards such as yourself who are charged with exercising general pastoral care, leadership and discipline in the Church appear in a bad light especially amongst the members of the Church to whom Your Grace is accountable.

Your Grace, we now request and demand that you prevail over the Church's officers such as the Provincial Chancellor and make arrangements to constitute the Provincial Tribunal to hear and determine the allegation of commission of the ecclesiastical offences against Rt. Reverend Gaddie Akanjuna. It is embarrassing as it is strange that the Church of Uganda does not have internal dispute resolution mechanisms.

We shall be constrained to institute civil proceedings against the Registered Trustees of the Church of Uganda and against Your Grace in your personal capacity. The intended course of action should we fail to get positive results from you allows us to sue Your Grace in a personal capacity which we shall not hesitate to do should you fail to heed to our demand with in fourteen [14] working days from the receipt of this letter.

By copy of this letter, we hereby request the Provincial Chancellor, as chief legal advisor to the Church of Uganda to ensure compliance with the rules of natural justice which are

manifestly being violated in this instance. Our Client just like many other Christians do not want to feel cheated having already pledged allegiance and loyalty to the Christian faith which stands for truth, fairness and justice.

We expect your co-operation.

Yours Sincerely,



-LAWGIC ADVOCATES-

Copy: Client

The Dean of the Province of the Church of Uganda.

Diocesan Bishops of the Church of Uganda.

Head of Laity Church of Uganda

Provincial Chancellor, Church of Uganda

Provincial Secretary, Church of Uganda