

## BONNY (IBANI) CHIEFS DILEMMA

Posted by

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Blind Funds markets have been a traditional flow of wealth for IBANI Chiefs in the past. Nevertheless, it turns deadly recently as natives watched helplessly the destruction of their hometown.

The question most being asked now is why Bonny (IBANI) Chiefs picked some blind funds markets for their community investment. I believe they have since learned that violent environments are some by-products of such investment approach. Unfortunately, the Chiefs have little or no time to correct their mistake or explain the “blind fund phenomenon” that triggered the worst violent in modern Bonny (IBANI) history.

I was concern and disappointed that the Chiefs did not act in good faith to stop the mayhem rather than deployed the “intimidation factor” to soften the youths’ resolved. However, it seems that if the Chiefs must use the “intimidation approach,” they would also then need a second if not third home in the mangrove. The youth take their duties very seriously and no apology or place for corrupt leaders on the Island.

I strongly believe that an effective leadership is those that strive to provide accurate and timely information regarding their community. Insubordinations start when leaders intentionally provide misleading information and watch it rolls.



The blind funds markets voted by Bonny Chief Council is a crazy experience because it involved questionable intent that lacks public tracking. This in no way, represent accountability on the side of their leadership. I agree that community leaders can invest public money in profit or interest-bearing instruments. However, I disagree that such investment should be in some kind of hidden markets.

Since the disclosure, I have had extremes' intellectual discussions with some high profile indigenous IBANI natives abroad. Some argued that since the money was for community developments, a blind funds investment approach could not be a legitimate market. They pointed out how poor communication between the Chiefs and the youths turned the issue a nightmare that affected all activities on the Island. They want an assurance that the errors will be corrected as appropriate and warned Bonny Chiefs to stop manufacturing tactics under different names as some beneficiary packages for their community.

However, another group believes that the error was obviously poor management issue and not an attempt on the leadership to intentionally misrepresent the facts. They want peace on their family Island as opposed warring. They believe that the youth and the elders can work together. They encouraged the Chiefs to stay open and honest in dealing with public issues. This group believes an honest poor oversight will not generate a long term problem.

#### WHAT'S UP WITH THE MONEY, CHIEFS?



“UNTIL A RESISTANCE GROUP CALLED OKOLOMA IKPANGI WAS FORMED TO TACKLE THE HIGH HANDEDNESS OF THE CHIEFS, THEY NEVER ADMITTED THE EXISTENCE OF THE FUNDS” said Kingsley Adoni People, Chairman of Bonny youths’ council.

The youths don’t have to apologize, when the Chiefs used aggressive tactics against the Island interests (developments). The Island had several instances of fraud on records. I have reviewed the detail of the youth’s grievance regarding the hidden money. I trust the youths claims that makes it clear that mismanagement took place. It appears the Chiefs considered the money as part of their royal spending allowance, so, it was deposited into a “Royal” blind fund account.

#### WHAT'S UP WITH LITIGATIONS?

Chief Reginald B Hart, Chairman, Bonny Council of Traditional Rulers, denied the youths allegations but talks about pending litigations surrounding the hidden funds. Speaking about litigations, it appears that the money in question is part of

the slush fund account established by KBR. That blind fund account (\$180,000,000.00) was a “Royal allowance” exclusively used by criminals in Nigeria government. The lead actor, Mr. Albert Jackson Stanley is a fellow Texan. I have since wishes him good luck and happy prison days.

Imagine, the money was hidden into a blind funds account before the youths had an opportunity to rectify the handling. What part of IBANI Social Order created the blind funds market account without public ideas? I am wondering if any consideration was given to all available options before application.

### WHAT’S UP WITH LEADERSHIP?

I am dismayed at the ineffectiveness of Bonny Traditional Rulers. This writing does not translate to disrespecting of the Island leadership but merit attention. It does not matter on the method of application, but you can’t act like front line bullies. Front line bullies always break the rules in order to get result. The funniest thing about front line bullies, is that they may present the best smile OR face while committing atrocity.

A leader must lead. The facts that citizens were kept in the dark are reason to be concern. Hopefully, the youth’s action will encourage the Island leaders to accept responsibility and accountability as a condition to lead. Days, the Chiefs spent in the mangroves hiding are now testimonies for their lack of visions, an ugly chapter in IBANI history. As we headed toward a year end, I encouraged Bonny leaders to take some time to think about their commitment to serve. It does not matter if their godfather is “Rotimi the wayward” of Rivers States, leadership based on services to community, including transparency and respect for IBANI values will make sense.

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