

UPF-Nigeria Calls for 40 Days of Prayer

Raphael Ogar Oko

April 18, 2015

Abuja, Nigeria—On May 29, 2015, the Federal Government of Nigeria, under the leadership of President Goodluck Jonathan, will be ending the mandate given to them by Nigerians and the president-elect, General Muhammadu Buhari, will be inaugurated for a four-year mandate given by Nigerians.

We should all be delighted that Nigeria will enter the first-ever fifth tenure of civil governance from May 29, 2015, which will lead to the completion of a 20-year cycle of uninterrupted civil leadership (1999-2019). This is a unique opportunity with several challenges, as we have become divided again along religious, ethnic and political lines. Even though there are conflicts, disagreements and divisions, we all belong to one nation under one God and we are one people. Despite our differences, Nigeria remains our common denomination.

As we prepare to enter a new era after amalgamated Nigeria at 100 and welcome the new government at the federal and state levels from May 29, 2015, it is important to offer special prayers for the 40 days between April 19 and May 28, 2015, by committing all that has happened and all that will happen to God. In response to the UPF founder's call to Forgive, Love and Unite, we are beginning a 40-day national prayer and reflection condition to usher in a new era of Forgive, Love and Unite from May 29, 2015. We are hopeful that elected leaders and all Nigerians will embrace the call to Forgive, Love and Unite to effectively utilize the emerging opportunities and overcome all the challenges as we aspire to become a peaceful nation by 2020.

The Universal Peace Federation-Nigeria hereby declares 40 days of nationwide prayers and deep national reflection as a foundation for national peace, unity and sustainable development. We are inviting all Ambassadors for Peace and their family members, as well as all Nigerians all over the world, to join the 40-day condition for national renewal and preparation for a new era. The 40-day condition commences on Sunday, April 19, 2015, and will continue until Thursday, May 28, 2015. Participants are invited to offer prayers for Nigeria and to reflect on the challenges we have passed through as well as the new opportunities and challenges ahead.

During the period of prayers and reflection for our nation, let us be determined to awaken our nation and our people to the critical need to Forgive, Love and Unite. We urge all Nigerians to join UPF-Nigeria in a nationwide 40-day prayer and reflection to prepare Nigerians and Nigeria for the new era that is emerging before us all and to appreciate the outgoing government and welcome the new government. Surely governments will come and go, but we as a people shall remain and our nation should remain!

Let us all pray in our families, schools, workplaces and worship places and wherever we gather as a community. Let us commit to pray to God for peace, unity and development of our nation, and let us reflect on our past, our present situation and our common future. Join us in the nationwide 40-day (April 19 - May 28, 2015) prayers and deep reflection to welcome the emerging new era in Nigeria.

This declaration has been published in some online newspapers such as NewsDiaryOnline.com and several organizations are joining the decision to pray for Nigeria.