



CONCERNED PUBLIC TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS' STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (COPTISA)

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Our Ref:..... Your Ref:..... Date: 18th January 2024.

His Excellency Ahmed Bola Tinubu

President/Commander-in-Chief Federal Republic of Nigeria
State House
Abuja

Your Excellency,

SAVE OUR TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS FROM DESTRUCTIVE LEADERSHIP

We bring you patriotic greetings from the Concerned Public Tertiary Institutions' Students Association (CoPTISA), a coalition of students at government-owned universities, polytechnics, monotechnics and degree and higher diploma awarding institutions in Nigeria. The emergence of our association is in response to the need to champion issues that affect government-owned schools to the exclusion of privately owned schools. Among our objectives is the imperative to champion issues affecting our members without such being mediated by political affiliation.

Mr. President, recently an officer in the Nigerian Army released a video detailing sexual harassment in the military, which drew widespread condemnation from the populace and resulted in an investigation being ordered into the allegations, This goes to show that certain kinds of behaviours, particularly from persons in positions of influence and authority are unacceptable and constitute a basis for removal from office and prosecution with eventual punishments if convicted.

The rot of sexual harassment in the military might have been exposed but tertiary institutions' students are the worst hit by harassment of all forms including sexual abuse. In the past, it used to be lowly placed lecturers trying to act on their weaknesses. However, going by the current situation, no fewer than 12 University Vice Chancellors are involved in this nefarious and damaging crime against students. Professors now rape students in their offices or any location they fancy. Their crimes are hidden by the fear of the survivors of their crimes that society may not believe them should they step forward to report the horrendous crimes committed against them.

If Mr. President can promise to protect the students and safeguard their future, we have compiled a list of survivors who are willing and ready to testify. If the National Assembly – Senate and House of Representatives are willing to investigate this matter our members are available to testify.

In another vein, as the end users of the government projects and interventions on campuses, we hereby assert that the debauchery of tertiary institutions' leadership now transcends the unguided libido that is driving the culture of rape on our campuses. The leadership of various

schools are also into the diversion of funds meant to improve schools to personal use. Monies released to our schools by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) are being stolen with projects improperly executed in connivance with contractors who have turned out to be friends, family and associates of the Vice Chancellors and members of their management team.

Armed with the slush funds from these poorly implemented projects, our Vice Chancellors, and professors now brazenly live about their means. Little wonder that students, taking cues from the schools' leadership, have resorted to internet scams and other forms of fraud to imitate the bad examples set by those society has entrusted with their education. These VCs built micro cities where they live alien life like being able to power their tasteful compounds while students have to study by candlelight in the year 2024. They can send their children abroad, without exception, even in the face of a prohibitive exchange rate for FOREX. It is a travesty that the Vice Chancellors do not consume what they produce as their children do not attend the schools they or their colleagues preside over.

Your Excellency, this is the terrible reality that we live through every day on our campuses. It is part of the reason that there are no appreciable returns on the funds that the government is spending on our schools and the reason our schools rate poorly globally.

We will conclude this correspondence with a passionate appeal that Your Excellency saves our save our tertiary institutions from destructive leadership by ordering a detailed nationwide investigation into the areas we have identified and others that the relevant government institutions with the means might be able to flag as a result of their preliminary investigations.

Mr President, accept the assurances of our patriotic commitment to continue contributing to a reformed Nigeria.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,



Comr. Adebayo Tosin
Nat. President.



Comr. Rosemary Olusegun
Secretary General.



Comr. Musa Attah
Vice President.



Comr. Solomon Amawah
P.R.O



Comr. Bosede Kawosha
Treasurer



Joseph Udoh
Director Action and Mobilization

CC:

The President, Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

The Speaker, House of Representatives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria