

## GMA calls for Equal Rights for Nubian Community in Kenya

**GLASGOW, UK (17th June 2013)** Global Minorities Alliance has called for equal rights and amelioration of Nubian Community, an ethnic and religious group which settled during the British rule in 1885 in Kibera, the largest urban slum in Africa.

The Nubian slum dwellers are often victims of injustice, inequality and deprived of their basic amenities of life.

Commenting on the plight of Nubian Community, the Alliance's Chief Executive, Manassi Bernard said, "We demand equal rights and opportunities for the Nubian community who are denied of their human rights and they are treated as "outcasts".

He further said "We also demand minority status for Nubian Community to Uhuru Kenyatta, the President of Kenya."



Anne Misiko GMA Ambassador to Kenya meets with members of Nubi Community

The Nubian Community which is thought to be highly marginalized are not included in Kenya's 42 minority groups and is dubbed as "Others" by Kenyan Government. This makes the members of Nubian community more vulnerable to all kinds of violation, oppression and injustice.

The population of Nubians is estimated to be between 40,000 to 50,000 according to the Kenya Population and Housing 2009.

The members of Nubian community face multi-faceted socio-economic and political problems which have

made them open to various kinds of human rights abuses. They are besieged by poverty, high illiteracy,

and lack of social amenities and marred by no political leaderships and being the voiceless of the society whose rights is often suppressed.

During a recent visit to the Nubian community, the Alliance's Ambassador to Kenya, Anne Misiko held talks with local Chief Assistant Mr Shaban and other members of the community to discuss the issues faced by Nubian community.

The Nubian people who originate from Chad and Sudan are spread over various East African Countries due to their involvement with the British Army.

"The slum dwellers that are neglected and forgotten are steeped into poverty and denied of their fundamental human rights which are cause of concern of us", said Miss Misiko.

She further stated the social gulf has been widened between Nubian and other minority members and less integration and cohesion between members of different groups is detrimental to the overall well-being of Kenyan society.

"Lack of public facilities like schools or clean water and gender inequalities are tearing apart the Nubian community who are hopeless about the situation", said Miss Misiko

Global Minorities Alliance stands in solidarity with Nubian community and demands their fundamental rights from Kenyan Government to ensure protection of lives, better facilities and equality and minority status to the Nubian people.

"We believe every human being has a right to life and we strive for justice, peace and equality for all those who are under-privileged, discriminated, poor and the persecuted." said Mr Bernard.

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