

## BNFA statement on the BRE suggested Dialogue Council

by BNFA Publicity Wing

The Barotse National Freedom Alliance (BNFA) cannot and will not take part in the [Barotse Agreement 1964](#) negotiations proposed by the Barotse Royal Establishment (BRE). There is nothing to negotiate about the [Barotse Agreement 1964](#) as insinuated by the BRE [press statement](#) of April 16, 2018. The negotiations were done and concluded before the co-signing of the Agreement. What should have followed was implementation; but the Zambian regime defaulted and legislated against its own obligations.

Zambia was a product of two equal partners—Barotse-North Western Rhodesia and North Eastern Rhodesia, each of which had its own unique governance system. North Eastern Rhodesia, represented by Northern Rhodesia government systematically destroyed the governance system of Barotse and superimposed its own system over Barotse using state oppression.

BRE was created by the Zambian regime for the purpose of suppressing the Barotse governance system. Before 1969, there was no BRE. The Northern Rhodesia government co-signed the [BA'64](#) with the Barotse government not BRE. The Barotse National Council (BNC) rightfully recognizes the Barotse government in the implementation of its [resolutions](#). BRE has completely no role in the post 2012 BNC Barotse and is not a recognized institution in the Barotse governance system. It represents nobody but the Litunga Edwin Lubosi Imwiko and his self-appointed stewards. BRE turned against the wishes and aspirations of the people of Barotse as enshrined in the [2012 BNC resolutions](#). Today, BRE and the Zambian regime are partners in the continued oppression of Barotse and are acting together in the deception over the restoration of the [BA'64](#). They both have no mandate whatsoever to negotiate the now null and void [BA'64](#).

As BNFA we are determined to re-institute the Barotse government. In any case, the people of Barotse have already decided to disengage from Zambia through the [2012 BNC resolutions](#). Accordingly, we call on the Barotse to desist from the BRE/GRZ machinations. All MaLozi, starting from the individual level, Village Kuta, SilaloKuta to Regional Kuta should remain resolute and support the BNFA and the [2012 BNC resolutions](#). Anyone who does not support the [2012 BNC resolutions](#) is an enemy of Barotse. Anyone who will take part in the BRE/GRZ machinations is an enemy of Barotse—it is akin to eating your own vomit.

The greatest enemy of Barotse independence is the Barotse. Kaunda called for division among us and we became divided. Lungu also called for division and BRE turned against its own people—why can we not learn from our enemy? All the tribes of North Eastern Rhodesia remain united to this day against the Barotse state. In 1968, the entire North Eastern Rhodesians voted against the [BA'64](#) in a national referendum. They remain united in stealing Barotse jobs and resources. BRE/GRZ has inflicted irreparable damage on Barotse and our environment. Our people have been made jobless even in their own state, they have been made poorer and illiterate with our schools filled by unqualified Bemba and Nyanja speaking teachers, our people are being killed by unqualified Bemba and Nyanja speaking doctors and nurses in our hospitals and clinics. Our forests and trees are being destroyed and fish stock depleted as a deliberate policy to leave Barotse impoverished.

There were no pre-dialogue and dialogue discussions when the [BA'64](#) was unilaterally abrogated by the Zambian regime in 1969, despite protests from the Barotse government. Subsequent calls for its

restoration following the 2012 BNC meeting in the backdrop of the lies submitted by the Zambian regime to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the withdrawal of BRE from the case is in an attempt to derail the progress made by the BNFA in actualizing Barotseland independence. Why is BRE the only side pleading for dialogue from a deceitful government which no longer has the legitimacy to preside over the affairs of Barotseland with BRE itself also having no legitimacy while the Barotse continue being denied their fundamental human rights to assembly, association, movement, speech and self-determination? How ready can BRE be when they don't even know that there is nothing to negotiate over the [BA'64](#), when they cannot even assemble a batch of traitors to aid them in their continued deception with GRZ, when they cannot even organize Ku-o-mboka traditional ceremony, when Barotseland has been flooded by Zambia security agents, when they are afraid of being arrested by the Zambian regime themselves, when they have been holding nothing but clandestine meetings among themselves but afraid to face the people, when they have been taken to the High Court and Constitutional Court for gross misconduct, violations of Barotseland governance, culture, traditions and values, and immediate removal of Litunga Edwin Lubosilmwiko? It is time for BRE to step aside as demanded by the people. Restoration of the [BA'64](#) is no longer an option. We the people of Barotseland have already said **NO** on March 27, 2012. The people of North Eastern Rhodesia said **NO** in 1968. The Zambia regime said **NO** in 1969 and at every municipal constitutional review of Zambia thereafter.

The BNFA cannot stand-by and watch the destruction of our state, jobs, people and resources by BRE/GRZ. The independence of Barotseland must be achieved as quickly as possible in order to stop this destruction as resolved in the 2012 BNC meeting. This remains the only way to restore our human dignity, cultural, political and economic rights. This is a fight for every daughter and son of Barotseland, no one else will do it for us. The time has now come for us ALL to get involved.