



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

NIGERIAN MUSLIMS NETWORK

In pursuit of Allah's pleasure

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Advice to the CONFAB Delegates By NMN

All praise is due to Allaah, The Lord of the Worlds, The Owner of sovereignty, He gives it to whoever He wishes.

There is no doubt that our country is passing through hard times and her future will depend on how these problems are well handled, managed and resolved. Deliberation, gentleness and forbearance at times of tribulation and upheaval are praiseworthy traits according to the teaching of Islam. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "There is no gentleness in a thing, but it adorns it, and the absence of gentleness in anything makes it ugly". And he (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said to Ashajj 'Abdul Qays: "You have two characteristics which Allaah loves, forbearance and deliberation".

We, members of the Nigerian Muslims Network (NMN), an association of Nigerian Muslims at home and in Diaspora, felt obliged to offer words of advice to all CONFAB delegates in general and Muslim delegates in particular to be careful and conscious of the gravity and consequences of the tasks ahead of them. In as much as deliberation is encouraged in Islam, it should be done with high sense of justice, fair play and respect. Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning): "And whenever you give your word (i.e. judge between men or give evidence), say the truth" [Qur'an 6:152] "and let not the enmity and hatred of others make you avoid justice. Be just: that is nearer to piety" [Qur'an 5:8]. It is pertinent to remind them of the evil consequences of every act not done according to the dictates of Allaah (God) and not done purely for His sake.

Islam was founded, nurtured and sustained on justice, sincerity of actions and purpose, and the overall benefits of the community. The strength, honor and integrity of a nation are functions of its population, unity, mutual understanding and respect. All the delegates should do everything possible to maintain and strengthen the unity of Nigeria. Without doubt all ethnic groups from different regions have gone to the CONFAB to represent and protect interests of their ethnic groups or regions. The Muslim delegates should however protect the interests of Islam and Muslims - without jeopardizing the rights of others. They should listen, understand and conduct thorough evaluations of the submissions of other delegates and recommend the best options that serve the best possible interest of the country.

We pray to Allaah to guide the CONFAB delegates, protect our religion and grant our society tranquility and peace.

Ibraherabdulkadir

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