



MAGODO RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

38, Abdul-Quadri Adebisi Street,
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TO: All members of the Estate, Magodo GRA II

From: Magodo Residents' Association

Date: December 28th 2021

**RECENT INVASION INTO THE ESTATE BY THE POLICE AT THE INSTANCE
OF CHIEF ADEYIGA AND SOME MEMBERS OF SHANGISHA LANDLORDS
ASSOCIATION**

Dear Residents,

Following the invasion and illegal attempt to take possession of properties in the estate on the 21st day of December, 2021 by people said to be acting on the instructions of one Chief Adeyiga and some Shangisha Landlords Association with the support of about over 50 Armed Policemen from the Inspector General of Police, Abuja with the object or intention to enforce the judgment entered in Suit No: ID/795/88, it is important to explain the circumstances which led to the lockdown of the two major gates in the estate to prevent forceful and illegal take over/enforcement and wilful destruction of the properties of innocent residents of the estate, the current status of the case in court and to allay the fears of all residents following continuing presence of the said Armed Policemen in the estate.

On the 21st December, 2021 about 12:30pm, some hoodlums and people said to be acting on behalf of the Adeyigas and some members of Shangisha Landlords Association numbering about 100 with the support of about over 50 Armed Policemen made their ways into the estate to purportedly supervise and enforce the Supreme Court Order in No: ID/795/88.

The Armed Policemen were strategically positioned within the estate whilst the hoodlums began to mark houses within the estate with the inscription **"ID/795/88 POSSESSION TAKEN BY COURT ORDER TODAY 21/12/2021"**.

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Bajo Osinubi

Vice Chairman
Niyi Odusi

Gen. Secretary
Ade Aroloye

Asst. Gen. Secretary
Nkechi Olugbode

Treasurer
Olusola Ogundimu¹

Fin. Secretary
Bisi Oni

Asst. Fin. Secretary
Mulikat Onisarotu

Internal Auditor
Yinka Kolawole

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Bunmi Isijola

Legal Adviser
Tunji Abdulhameed Esq

Security Sec.
Kunle Kosile

Asst. Security Sec.
Olufemi Adanikin²

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Sheriff Daramola

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Olajide Subair

Utility Secretary
Israel P. Akinlawon

Asst. Utility Sec.
Kayode Momoh³

Environment Sec.
Davina Adeniyi

Asst. Environ. Sec.
Bamidele AlomoOluwa

Transport Secretary
Ayo Stuffman

Asst. Transport Sec.
Esther Obot

4. Members of the Board of Trustees and the MRA Executives led by Professor Ogunye and Mr. Osinubi promptly visited the Secretariat Gate of the Estate with a view to ascertain the mission of the hoodlums and Armed Policemen in the Estate, to confirm whether or not they are legally within the Estate and to sight the document(s) being relied upon to carry out their purported enforcement or execution.
5. Unfortunately, the hoodlums and the Armed Policemen were unable to show any valid document, particularly a valid writ of execution issued by any court of competent jurisdiction to back up their purported operation and/or enforcement. The best they could show was a Public Notice and the request to the IGP for police support. After series of engagements, questions and after futile attempts was made to stop the illegal enforcement, a formal complaint was lodged at Magodo Police Post.
6. When it became apparent that the Armed Policemen will not leave the estate, efforts were made through several quarters to draw the attention of the Governor to the situation on ground and to seek for his intervention to ensure safety of the people in the estate and to prevent breach of peace and unlawful invasion of the estate.
7. A meeting was thereafter called at about 9:00pm and it was agreed that all residents should gather at the Shangisha gate of the estate to secure our gates firmly. However, whilst marching towards the said gate at about 9:30pm, it was noticed that a bulldozer has been stationed close to the gate. It was confirmed thereafter that the said bulldozer was from the Adeyigas and some Shangisha Landlords Association when attempt to force the bulldozer into the estate was resisted by our security guards at the gate.
8. The bulldozer was at about 11:30pm removed from the Shangisha gate to a new location close to the Secretariat Gate on CMD road. Consequently, in order to prevent the bulldozer and the hoodlums gain access in to the estate and to prevent irreparable damages to the properties of innocent residents and house owners in the estate, decision was reached that the two major gates, Shangisha and



Secretariat should be locked from 6:00am the following day 22nd December 2021, thus a notice was sent out to all residents to that effect.

9. As early as 6:00am concerned residents were at the two gates and subsequently gain media attraction/attention. The roles played by Mr. Mojeed Jamiu and Mr. Deji Badamosi must be appreciated.
10. After assurances from the Governor of Lagos state, Mr. Babajide Sanwo - Olu through one of own, Mayoress Samiat Abolanle Bada (the Chairperson of Ikosi LCDA) and DCP Kotongora (on behalf of the IGP) at about 11:30am, decision was taken to open both gates at about 11:45am.
11. The Lagos State Government delegation led by the Commissioner Physical Planning, Dr. Idris Salako also addressed the residents and once again assured that all hands are on deck to find solution to the issue on ground.
12. The Governor's Special Head of Operations was also mandated by the Governor to engage Armed Policemen from Abuja and ensure their exit from the estate. Unfortunately, the Armed Policemen refused to leave on the ground that they are awaiting signal from the IGP. The said Armed Policemen are still within the estate as at today the 28th day of December, 2021 and all efforts to make them leave have so far proved abortive.
13. It is pertinent to state that whilst the attempt by the Adeyiga's family/Shangisha Landlords Association to forcefully and illegally take possession of properties within the estate is being curtailed, attempts were made by another set of hoodlums to forcefully and illegally enter the wet land by breaking the wire fence. We are pleased to however inform residents that we have taken control of the said area and some culprits have been arrested.
14. Contrary to the information or story being paddled or put out by the Adeyigas and some Shangisha Landlords Association to the public, it is also important to state that the judgment of the Supreme Court in Suit



No: ID/795/88 being relied upon by the Adeyigas and some Shangisha Landlords Association is not enforceable against any property in Magodo.

15. The judgment delivered by Honourable Justice A. L. A Balogun (of blessed memory) of the High Court of Lagos State in 1993 which was affirmed by the Court of Appeal on the 25th day of September, 2001 and reaffirmed by the Supreme Court on the 10th day of February, 2012 did not confirm and/or give any particular or specific plot or portion of land in Magodo Phase 2 to Shangisa Landowners Association, popularly known as Adeyiga Family and/or any person whatsoever.
16. The judgment in our opinion merely mandated the Lagos State Government to allocate 549 plots of land in Shangisa Village now to the Adeyiga Family. The said judgment is not specific because the judgment did not specifically mention particular plots of land to be allocated to the Family in Magodo Phase 2.
17. Similarly, the judgment was not directed at any particular individual or particular owners, occupier(s) or allottees or subsequent allottees of land in Magodo. The mandatory order of the judgment applies only to the Lagos State Government and other parties in the suit. Thus, until any particular or specific plot or plots of land is/are allocated to the family, the Adeyiga Family cannot claim ownership or take possession of any land in Magodo.
18. A judgment of court can only be enforced against a party to the suit. Thus, assuming but not conceding that any particular or specific plot or plots of land in Magodo has/have been allocated to the Adeyiga Family by the Lagos State Government, the Adeyiga Family must take further legal actions against the occupier or occupiers of the allocated land to be able to claim ownership and/or recover possession of such land from any current occupier(s) or owners of such land allocated to them bearing in mind that the occupiers of such land were not part of the case where the mandatory order was made.



19. It is also pertinent to note that assuming any land which was hitherto allocated to anyone by the government in Magodo is reallocated by the Lagos State Government to the Adeyiga Family, the occupier or occupiers of such land so allocated has/have the right to also defend and/or challenge the allocation of their land to the Adeyiga family on the ground that there were no proper and valid revocation of the allocation or certificate of occupancy hitherto issued to them by the Lagos State Government in respect of their land.
20. It follows therefore that the right of the Adeyiga Family to claim ownership and/or take possession of any land in Magodo even after allocated of such land to them by the Lagos State Government is not automatic. Thus, it is not within the sole discretion or powers of Adeyiga family to unilaterally take possession of any land in Magodo relying on the judgment without further recourse to court against individuals in occupation.
21. Until a new order is made by the court in a new suit filed at the High Court by the Adeyiga Family confirming Adeyiga ownership of any particular land or plots of land in Magodo and asking them to take possession from particular holder or holders of such land, any attempt to take possession relying on the judgment is unlawful and unconstitutional.
22. It must be placed on record that the writ of execution purportedly signed by a judge of the High Court of Lagos State in respect of Suit No:ID/795/88 being relied upon by the Adeyigas and some members of Shangisha Landlords Association was set aside by a judge of the High Court of Lagos State and is currently a subject of appeal at the Court of Appeal, Lagos Division. The matter comes up in February, 2022 at the Court of Appeal, Lagos.
23. It is also worthy of mention that on Thursday 23rd December 2021, the Lagos state Attorney General in person of Mr Moyosore Onigbanjo SAN had also issued a statement on the issue



24. Please be rest assured that all organs of MRA are not resting on their oars. We are consulting widely and all possible options, legal and political, are being exploited to ensure resolution of the matter.
25. Consequently, MRA Executives hereby appeal that all residents should be vigilant and report all observations to the designated phone number of the Security officers in their zones or Coordinators who will forward to MRA Security team.
26. MRA has also consulted its legal team and residents will be advised in due course.
27. We appreciate all the support and endurance of all members of the estate for the inconveniences. Collectively we shall work to ensure peace and harmony in Magodo GRA II.

Thank you.

Signed:

**MS. BUNMI ISIJOLA
PUBLICITY/SOC. SECRETARY MRA**

