



EDO NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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PROTEST OVER FUEL SUBSIDY

Like every concerned Nigerian citizen, our attention has been drawn to the stories and photographs coming out of Edo State and around Nigeria through news and social media. These stories and photographs are extremely disturbing and worrisome, especially for those in the Diaspora. With this in mind, we will like to state the following:

- That one of the most basic human rights is the right to freely and peacefully express your opinion without harm, fear of reprisal, or punishment. We strongly support the constitutional rights of all citizens to free expression, assembly and the right to peacefully protest and demonstrate in support of or against any policy. We believe that the ongoing demonstrations are an expression of these rights.
- We also believe that these Constitutional rights are governed by established rules of law and good moral judgment and must be exercised without inflicting harm on self or others or destruction of personal and public properties. We therefore condemn the current violence being demonstrated in some parts of Nigeria and appeal to everyone in Nigeria, especially in Benin City to refrain from such aforementioned actions and choose more peaceful means of expression. As one of the most tolerant States in the nation, this is not who we are.
- We also strongly implore the representatives of organized labor, political leaders, traditional rulers, clergy and the federal government to work speedily together in the interest of the common people and in the spirit of unity so that the on-going nationwide strike and demonstrations over fuel subsidy removal can be resolved peacefully and amicably.
- Finally, we also appeal to the general population to help protect lives by reinforcing the need for peace among their families, friends and neighbors as we all go through this trying period.

Edo National Association (ENA) is the worldwide umbrella association for Edo related organizations in the Diaspora. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the unity, self-reliance, economic and social development and awareness among all people of Edo State.

Long live Nigeria!! Long Live Edo State!!!

John Idehen
National President
Edo National Association