

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KAJO-KEJI

CENTRAL EQUATORIA INTERNAL PROVINCE, ANGLICAN COMMUNION SOUTH SUDAN

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD MEETING OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KAJO-KEJI



COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE 14th DIOCESAN SYNOD
MEETING OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KAJO-KEJI, CENTRAL
EQUATORIA INTERNAL PROVINCE, ANGLICAN COMMUNION, HELD AT
EMMANUEL CATHEDRAL, ROMOGI MISSION AREA, KAJO-KEJI COUNTY
FROM WEDNESDAY, 2nd TO FRIDAY, 4th OCTOBER, 2024.

PREAMBLE

The 14TH SYNOD of the Episcopal Diocese of Kajo-Keji, Central Equatoria Internal Province, Anglican Communion, held at Emmanuel Cathedral, Romogi Mission area, KAJO-KEJI County from WEDNESDAY, 2nd TO FRIDAY, 4th OCTOBER, 2024., under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and presided over by Rt. Reverend Dr. Lule James Kenyi. In attendance were his wife, Mrs. Mary Lekea Lule (the Matron of the Mothers' Union); Mr. Jan Justine (the diocesan Chancellor), the Provost of Emmanuel Cathedral & the head of clergy (Very Rev. Can. Elias Sandiga Duku); the Archdeacons of our six (6) Archdeaconries (Ven. Luka Longok Gideon of Gaderu Archdeaconry, Ven. Duku Alex Erasto of Kiri Archdeaconry, Ven. Peter Wani Adullai of Lire Archdeaconry, Ven. Emmanuel Diliga Yongule of Logu Archdeaconry, Ven. Eli Mawa Lojuru of Bori Archdeaconry, Leikor Archdeaconry represented by Rev. Abanga David) and the Headlaity (lay Canon. Ev. Chaplain Sunamurye).

The SYNOD further recognized the presence of the honorable minister of finance Central Equatoria State. Hon. Viana Kakuli Aggrey, the County leadership represented by Hon. David Lisi Christopher (County Commissioner of Kajo-Keji County), the Executive Chief of Romogi Boma Celina Kobo, and the Landlords of the area and the Business community in Kajo-Keji County.

The SYNOD also acknowledged with immense gratitude the role of the peace partners in ensuring stability of the area following the establishment of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU) led by H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit for exerting their effort to ensure the implementation of the Agreements on Resolutions of Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS).

THEME

The theme for this SYNOD is “**TIME TO REBUILD, RESTORE AND RENEW (Isaiah 61:4)**”. This is the to rebuild the ancient ruins and restore and renew the former devastation and regain all structures of the People of Kajo-Keji County in particular, Central Equatoria State and South Sudan in general. “For only God provides ultimate Peace and protection from all sorts of harm in the world”.

1.0 QUALITY EDUCATION AND TRAININGS

The delegates to the 14th SYNOD reviewed the state of education in Kajo-Keji and noted with regrets; the vandalization of physical structures, the fall in Education standards due to absence of trained teachers, and the low enrolment of learners due to limited population of learners as many are still in the refugee settlement in West Nile region of northern Uganda.

1.1. While we appreciate the effort of the education working partners, the SYNOD call upon education stakeholders to exert a joint effort towards the renovation, rehabilitation and reopening of all learning institutions (Primary, Secondary and Tertiary) in Kajo-Keji County for the next academic year 2025. It further calls for massive training of teachers for both Primary and Secondary Schools.

1.2. It calls on government (Ministry of general education and instruction) to review and strengthen the education curriculum by ensuring that thematic education system is adopted in all schools including those in the rural setting. It further encouraged all learning institutions to embrace the inclusion of farming/agricultural practices by growing food crops and fruit trees in their school gardens/farms instead of concentrating on theory.

1.3. The SYNOD also call for the integration of Peace education into the education/School curriculum.

1. 4. The SYNOD call for the education stakeholders to support the accreditation process of Kajo-Keji Christian College (KCC).

1. 5. The SYNOD further call education stakeholders and parents to support education of girls facing teenage pregnancy and children dropping out of school.

1.6. The SYNOD reiterated the call for introduction of vocational training to encourage the youth to gain skills necessary to meet self-employ-ability.

2.0. HEALTH AND SANITATION

The SYNOD thank the government of South Sudan for considering to extend her partnership with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) for the People of Kajo-Keji County. The SYNOD also thank MSF, GOAL, SSUHA, and other health working partners for taking an action towards the rehabilitation of major health facilities within Kajo-Keji including Kajo-Keji (Mundari) Civil Hospital, Lire PHCC, Jalimo PHCC, Kangai PHCC and other PHCUs being rehabilitated that has built confidence among the residence of Kajo-Keji and boosting the return process and guaranteeing the improvement in the health system of the County.

2.1 The SYNOD noted with much appreciation the tireless effort of health working team/agencies within Kajo-Keji that render preventive health care and treatment to some diseases in the various health Centres /Units of Kajo-Keji County. However, it calls for Rehabilitation and construction of the health facilities within the County.

2.2 The SYNOD valued the return of Kajo-Keji Health Science Training Institute (KKHSTI) to its original location in Mundari, and taking a step to enrol students to pursue their Diplomas in Nursing and Midwifery. The SYNOD further calls for the return of other health Institutions that were originally operating in Kajo-Keji County.

2.3 The SYNOD call for the stakeholders in Health sector to consider improving the health standard by equipping the County Civil Hospital and other health Centres at the various Payams to minimize travelling long distances for medical treatment.

2.4. The SYNOD lamented with great concern the lifestyle of other youth who indulge in Drug abuse and consumption. The SYNOD call upon the young people to embrace education and productivity and be mindful of their health.

3.0. SECURITY AND CROSSBORDER RELATION

The SYNOD appreciated the steps taken by the government of South Sudan for ensuring improvement in the security situation in Kajo-Keji County.

3.1 The SYNOD regret with great concern the arbitrary arrest and unjustifiable detention of some citizens of Kajo-Keji. The SYNOD call for proper justice to be

followed by presenting any suspect before the already established legal system in the County before convicting any suspect.

3.3 The SYNOD the recognized the efforts of some peace working like IOM to have established a Project to Strengthen Border Management Capacities and Inclusive Community Engagement in South Sudan. We call for the Joint Border Monitoring Committee to expedite the demarcation process and closely look into the situation along bordering districts of Uganda (Moyo, and Yumbe) and Kajo-Keji County, Central Equatoria State of South Sudan.

3.4 The SYNOD further call for the citizen of the two neighbouring communities (Kangapo II and Yumbe, Kangapo I and Moyo) to strengthen bilateral relationship by participating in joint social events like Sports activities, marriage, funerals, etc) and promoting economic activities like marketing produce from either side.

3.5 We also calls for the government to ensure protection of women, girls and children who are looking for their livelihoods.

4.0 RETURNEES REINTEGRATION AND SOCIAL COHESION

The SYNOD noted that there is increase in the number of returnees who are voluntarily resettling back in their original homeland.

4.1 The SYNOD is hereby calling for support to the returning population of Kajo-Keji who are in dire need of humanitarian support.

4.2. The SYNOD further calls for the utmost consideration of the returnees to be engaged on life skill and other vocational skill training to enable them to be engaged on some income generating activities.

5.0. INFRASTRUCTURE AND MEDIA DEVELOPMENT:

The SYNOD laments for the distressing state of roads in Kajo-Keji County and inaccessibility to the national capital Juba. Moreso, the only community radio station (Hope FM 89.6) is playing key role in countering misinformation in the County.

5.1 The SYNOD calls on the County authorities, State and the national government to address this situation as a matter of urgency to avoid continuously being cut off from the rest of the Country and ensure comfort and peaceful travel for all road users connecting to the South Sudan Capital Juba.

5.2 The SYNOD further urged the County and the State authority to construct the Payam-Payam roads, and those connecting to other Counties.

5.3. The delegates noted with great concern on the limited coverage and lack of studio house. The SYNOD appealed for friends of Kajo-Keji and other good wishers to support the effort of Kajo-Keji people towards the construction of Hope FM studio house and acquiring, then installing a sizeable professional mast.

6.0. HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES IN KAJO-KEJI

The SYNOD expressed joy for all International and National Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working in Kajo-Keji County for their tremendous support to humanity.

6.1 The SYNOD encouraged the humanitarian workers to continue the team spirit as they consider working in Kajo-Keji County regardless of their ethnicity, race, and religious affiliation.

6.2. The SYNOD further calls for the government apparatus to continue providing an enabling environment including protection of their lives, and properties.

7.0 POVERTY REDUCTION AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD

Like any rural population in South Sudan, where 3 in 4 people live below the international poverty line. This needs an urgent action to change the situation:

7.1 The SYNOD advocate for increased empowerment of youth and Women so as to promote self-reliance, sustainable livelihood and improved household income.

7.2 The SYNOD encouraged the general population of Kajo-Keji to embark on the economic recovery process by forming Self Help Groups so as to improve their livelihoods.

7.3 The SYNOD also calls for the local investors and individuals to form/join Savings and Credit Corporation (SACCO) to boost their businesses as they will have access to loan service.

7.4 The SYNOD further calls for investors throughout the region/world to consider investing in Kajo-Keji County.

8.0 MISSION, EVALNGELISM AND DISCIPLESHP

As commanded by Christ in Matthew 28:19, we are sent to “GO” out and make disciples. However, secularism has entered into the Christian worship like the issue of human sexuality and dignity, faults doctrinal teachings (heresies), syncretism, etc.

8.1. The SYNOD reaffirmed the Resolution (8.2.) of the Standing Committee Meeting 2022, on the Biblical teaching on human sexuality to be honoured. ”In view of the teaching of Scripture, upholds faithfulness in marriage between a man and a woman in a lifelong union, and believes that abstinence is right for those who are not called to marriage”.

8.2. The SYNOD calls for evangelism and discipleship in all local Parishes of the Episcopal Diocese of Kajo-Keji in line with the five pillars of Anglicanism.

8.3. The SYNOD urged the existing ministries under the Episcopal Diocese of Kajo-Keji to adhere to the Diocesan Vision, Mission Statement and the Core Values of the Anglican Church in South Sudan.

9.0. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES: CONCERN OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF KAJO-KEJI

Protecting our environment is the basis for sustaining our planet, community and economy. If we fail to protect our environment, we will put the lives of humans, animals, plants and other God’s creations at risk.

9.1. The SYNOD acknowledges the dangers posed by the climate change in our Country resulting in to flood that are affecting the lives of the people in the whole World and South Sudan in particular. The SYNOD calls for the County, State and National government to take immediate action to stop the logging activities taking place in Bori Archdeaconry and other parts of Kajo-Keji County.

9.2. The SYNOD calls for the citizens in Kajo-Keji County to plant trees in their respective homesteads, community centres and all worship places.

9.3. The delegates also call for the population in Kajo-Keji to emulate volunteerism, self-awareness and personal responsibility within the community, like picking up trash (plastic waste) around your neighborhood or participating in community cleaning events (Waste management).

9.4. The SYNOD further urged that, the citizen of Kajo-Keji should practice to use reusable water bottles and those who consume water in plastic bottles should play key responsibility in ensuring that there is no littering.

10.0. CONCLUSION

We the delegate to the 14th SYNOD of the Episcopal Diocese of Kajo-Keji hereby urged the people of Kajo-Keji County to remain calm, emulate the spirit of love for service and hard work, promote brotherly love within Kajo-Keji and along the bordering communities so as to promote Peaceful coexistence, reconciliation and togetherness.

God Bless You All



Lay Canon Chaplain Sunamurye

Head of Laity, Episcopal Diocese of Kajo-Keji



Very. Rev. Can. Elias Sandiga Duku

Head of Clergy, Episcopal Diocese of Kajo-Keji



Rt. Rev. Dr. Lule James Kenyi

Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Kajo-Keji

