

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF MR. ADAMS MAHAMA,
NPP CHAIRMAN UPPER EAST REGION, MAY 27, 2015
BY OSEI KYEI-MENSAH-BONSU (MINORITY LEADER)

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to make this statement in honour of Mr. Adams Mahama the Chairman of the New Patriotic Party NPP for the Upper East Region whose unfortunate death happened last Thursday, May 21, 2015.

The Police have commenced investigations into the gruesome attack on the said Chairman. Whilst it is premature to conclude on whoever might have committed this heinous crime and the motive for it what can be ascertained, without any shred of doubt, is the fact that a very strong corrosive chemical or acid was splashed on Mr. Adams which led to his tragic demise. This is the height of man's inhumanity against man. It is bestial, barbaric and horrendous. It is satanic.

The use of acid to settle scores is assuming alarming proportions. It may be employed where love goes sour; to settle personal business or transaction scores; to teach one person or the other a lesson; to settle political battles, etc.

None of these however justifies the resort to such devilish means.

Last week another dastardly act allegedly involving one George Enu disabling his very beautiful fiancée, Henrietta Anuah with an acid splash occurred here in Accra. This is one too many

Question that must be asked include the following: *an incident.*

Where are those chemicals stored; how are these poisonous chemicals procured into the country and for what purposes; how do the persons who procure the chemicals for final use get to procure them and by what pretense

or for what reason; what quantities could an individual who has no business related to the use of acid procure at a given time? What regulations exist to guide the trade. It is unfortunate that it had to take the life of Mr. Adams Mahama a self-made man, a man who has pulled himself up by his own bootstraps, a man of the people of Bolgatanga, a philanthropist, to awaken the conscience of the nation to these unconscionable acts. Too late to bring the late Adams Mahama back to life but not too late for the nation to attend to this matter by fashioning out relevant piece of legislation to deal with this creeping menace.

Last Saturday, at Bolgatanga, where his mortal remains were laid to rest one witnessed a pitiful spectacle: a community that was grief-stricken, desolate and shattered. The immediate family – wife and the children wore the faces of broken dreams! Many dependents wailing and gnashing their teeth: they were from various creed, religions, gender mix, ethnic origin, circumstances of birth and class. Thousands gathered to mourn the person who rode an elephant with an umbrella in his hands. That is why both the New Patriotic Party and the National Democratic Congress were fully represented and indeed struggled to be provided equal number of seats at the funeral grounds. After all, recognizably, Adams ^{reached out to everybody} ~~as an elephant offered enough protection and meat which everybody benefited from.~~

Mr. Adams was a man of courage who conquered death by embracing death. May we encourage the Police to be very unrelenting in their pursuit of the

criminals and bring them to Justice. The 1992 constitution of the Republic provides in Article 125 (1): "Justice emanates from the people" The people of this country by our ^{upbringing,} training, customs, traditions and usages know what truthfulness is. They know what justice is. The people are distressed because of these incidents. People are calling for justice. Let justice be administered as speedily as practicable to still the waters. That may be an appeasement of some sort at least.

Mr. Speaker, one can only pray that the Almighty God grants courage and strength to the wife and children and the many dependents that Mr. Adams Mahama has left behind and provide them with the fulfillment that they require today. For the soul of Mr. Adams Mahama the Good Lord should provide eternal rest far away from the tribulations and the acidic tongues and deeds of this world till we meet again.

Thank you once again, Mr. Speaker, for this space.