



# CITIZENS UNITED FOR THE REHABILITATION OF ERRANTS

## CURE-NIGERIA

...Defending Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms ...Enriching our Democracy

Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants, CURE-Nigeria

Press Release – 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2015 – Abuja

CURE-NIGERIA CALLS FOR THE APPRECIATION OF CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY, INTER-CULTURAL AND INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE IN NIGERIA AS THE WORLD CELEBRATES THE WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT.

In 2001, UNESCO adopted the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and in December 2002, the UN General Assembly in its resolution 57\249, declared May 21<sup>st</sup> as the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

This day provides all humanity, especially Nigerians with an opportunity to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the values and riches of cultural diversity, to learn to live together in harmony, regardless of our cultural and religious diversity, and to raise awareness worldwide about the importance of intercultural dialogue and inclusion of all cultures, as well as to build a world community of individuals committed to support diversity with real and everyday life gestures, and combat polarization and stereotypes to improve understanding and cooperation among people from different cultures, traditions and religions.

Cultural and religious diversity should be seen as stimulators for creativity. Investment in this creativity can transform societies and our nation. One way to do this is to develop education and intercultural skills in young people to sustain the diversity of our world and to learn to live together in the diversity of our languages, cultures and religions to bring about peace, unity and positive change.

To this end, CURE-Nigeria calls on all ethnic, cultural and religious traditions in Nigeria to cherish our differences, learn and appreciate our diversity, and use our cultural, tribal and religious diversity for development, unity and progress rather than disunity and destruction. Religion must become a unifying force rather than a dividing factor and the North and South, East and West must accept one another as an indivisible and interdependent unit of Nigeria, while extending a warm hand of friendship to one another across language, tribal and religious boundaries.



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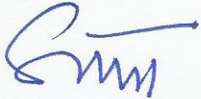


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Also, government at all levels must invest in programs and activities that promote national unity, and isolate and sanction individuals and groups that preach disunity, bearing in mind that Nigeria needs unity now than ever before.

END

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