

A State of Nature

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A situation of lawlessness, a time without any central authority. A place or state where there is no order or institution to keep the people in awe; at least this is what I got from one of the courses taught this semester in Political science. Because of the above situation scholars propounded strategies as to how this problem may be solved. They all proposed a contract between the people and the sovereign (government) spelling out the governance processes. John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau are my favourites. Anyway, the Sovereign (Government) is meant to ensure equality, peace, order and stability- to solve the problem of the state of nature. To make sure people don't go back to the state of nature. But recently, by virtue of the happenings in the State, I fear people are going back to the state of nature. The Delta Force is a very prominent and serious group in the military in the U.S. The name "Delta force" has prestige and goodwill. This prestige was tainted by a Vigilante group in Ghana who took the laws in their hand and interpreted it in their own way on some government officials. A sign of a state of nature. The latest sad news is the gruesome and a totally uncalled-for acts of the people of Diaso. A Captain in the Army of Ghana found his one way ticket to judgement day by virtue of the actions of these people. Perhaps he was mistaken for a thief, perhaps the people hated him for being commissioned to curb the activities of illegal mining in the area, either ways, the people took the laws in their hand and applied it in their own manner . A spit on the Constitution of the land. An insult to the Judiciary arm of Ghana. A main feature of the state of nature. A tragedy for the family of the Captain.

CAPT. MAXWELL MAHAMA REST IN PEACE

If these activities are to continue then why are we being governed by a sovereign? why do we have the Police service? why are we going through the stress of educating the willing populace? why In the tertiary institution, especially in UG, mob justice has characterized various hall of residence. At the sound of "thief oo thief" will you witness a gathering of intellectuals with stones, sticks with nails and belts with spikes, there to apply the law in their own way on the caught thief. hmmm
Funny enough these same students are condemning the actions of the people of Diaso forgetting they have been engaging in same acts on the Hill of Knowledge-- UG. Hypocrisy at its best.
We need a strengthened institution, a less partisan Ghana and a change in the mindset of the people when it comes to mob justice. It starts with you and I. We make up the society. Let's have change it starts with a change in our attitude.
If we want to make the world a better place, take a look at yourself and make the change. It starts with the man in the mirror. -- Micheal Jackson

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