

COLONIAL VIOLENCE TESTIMONY TEMPLATE

Title: *[Give your testimony a descriptive title – e.g., “Surviving the Iva Valley Massacre”]*

1. Personal Information (Optional or Pseudonymized)

- **Full Name:** [Optional or use pseudonym for safety]
 - **Date of Birth:** [DD/MM/YYYY]
 - **Place of Birth:** [City/Town, Country]
 - **Ethnic/Community Group:** [If applicable]
 - **Current Location:** [City/Country]
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2. Testimony Overview

- **Event Title:** [e.g., Enugu Colliery Massacre, Forced Relocation in Kenya, etc.]
 - **Date of Incident:** [DD/MM/YYYY]
 - **Location:** [Village, town, region affected]
 - **Colonial Authority Involved:** [e.g., British Colonial Administration, Belgian Forces, etc.]
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3. Background and Context

Briefly explain the political, economic, or social context that led to the incident.

Example: “In 1949, Nigerian coal miners were demanding fair wages and safer working conditions at the British-controlled Enugu Colliery. Tensions had been rising due to...”

4. Personal Experience

Describe in your own words what happened. Use as much detail as possible:

- What did you witness?
- What happened to you and your family?
- How were you affected emotionally, physically, or financially?

Example: “I was 15 years old when the soldiers arrived... I saw them open fire on the miners without warning. My father was among those killed...”

5. Evidence & Documentation (If available)

- Photographs, death certificates, or historical documents
- Witness names (optional)
- Government or colonial records, where applicable

6. Impact and Consequences

Describe the aftermath:

- Losses (lives, homes, land, livelihood)
- Physical or emotional trauma
- Intergenerational effects
- Community displacement or repression

7. Message to the World / Call for Justice

- What do you want people to know?
- What kind of justice or reparations do you seek?
- Is there a message to future generations or world leaders?

Example: "We want the British Government to recognize what happened and compensate the families. Our story should be part of school history so it's never forgotten."

8. Consent and Publication

- ☐ I consent to my story being used for advocacy and educational purposes.
- ☐ I prefer to remain anonymous.
- ☐ My testimony may be shared with legal teams or international human rights bodies.

Signature or Initials: _____

Date: _____

BIAFRA WAR SURVIVOR TESTIMONY TEMPLATE

Title: [e.g., “My Childhood in Biafra”, “How I Survived the Asaba Massacre”, “Memories of the Blockade”]

1. Personal Information (Optional or Pseudonymized)

- **Name:** [You may use a pseudonym for safety]
- **Date of Birth / Age during the War:**
- **Hometown / Village:**
- **Ethnic Group / Community:** [e.g., Igbo, Ibibio, etc.]
- **Current Location:**

2. Background Context

- **Where were you living before and during the war?**
- **What was your life like before the conflict began in 1967?**
- **Did you or your family support the Biafran cause?** [Optional]

3. Experience During the War

Describe what happened to you, your family, and your community. You may include:

- Forced displacement or fleeing to refugee camps
- Starvation or malnutrition
- Bombings or massacres witnessed (e.g., Asaba, Umuahia)
- Loss of family members
- Experience of the Nigerian blockade
- Encounter with soldiers or air raids

“I was only 9 when the war began. We lived in Nsukka. One morning, the air raid sirens wailed, and bombs fell near our school...”

4. Humanitarian Conditions

- How did you access food, medicine, or shelter?
- Did you receive aid from organizations like the Red Cross or Caritas?

- Were you in a refugee camp? What was it like?
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5. Psychological and Physical Impact

- Did you suffer physical injuries, illness, or long-term health conditions?
 - How did the war affect your mental health or sense of safety?
 - Did you lose close relatives or friends?
 - Has the trauma followed you into adulthood or old age?
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6. Life After the War

- How did your community rebuild (or fail to)?
 - Were you able to return to your home?
 - Did you face discrimination or exclusion as a Biafran survivor?
 - Did the government offer any form of compensation, acknowledgment, or healing?
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7. Message to the World / Appeal for Justice

- What do you want future generations or global leaders to learn from your story?
- Do you seek justice, acknowledgment, reparations, or apologies?
- How do you think healing or reconciliation can be achieved?

"They tried to erase our story. But I am still alive to tell it. Biafra was more than a war—it was a cry for dignity."

8. Consent & Use of Testimony

- ☐ I give permission for my testimony to be used for educational and historical purposes.
- ☐ I allow my story to be submitted to truth commissions, legal teams, or human rights organizations.
- ☐ I prefer to remain anonymous or use a pseudonym.

Signature / Initials: _____

Date: _____



DIASPORIC PERSECUTION TESTIMONY TEMPLATE

Title: [e.g., “Chased Across Borders: My Exile from Nigeria,” “Silenced Abroad,” “Living Stateless for Telling the Truth”]

1. Personal Information (Optional / Confidential)

- **Name:** [Real name or pseudonym]
- **Date of Birth:**
- **Nationality/Citizenship:**
- **Current Country of Residence:**
- **Original Country of Origin:**
- **Date of Arrival in Current Country (if applicable):**

2. Reason for Leaving Home Country

- What triggered your departure? (e.g., political persecution, threats, targeted violence, ethnic cleansing)
- Were you a journalist, activist, whistleblower, minority, or opposition member?
- What specific events or actions put you at risk?

“In 2021, I exposed government corruption involving the armed forces. After that, I received anonymous threats and my home was raided...”

3. Persecution or Threats Faced

- Describe the specific acts of persecution you experienced:
 - Arbitrary arrest
 - Threats to life
 - Torture or intimidation
 - Media attacks or defamation
 - Visa denial or forced deportation
 - Family members harassed or detained
- Who was responsible (state actors, intelligence agencies, extremist groups, etc.)?

4. Impact on Life in the Diaspora

- How has this persecution affected your life in exile?
 - Legal or asylum challenges
 - Fear of surveillance or stalking abroad
 - Mental health and trauma
 - Isolation from family or support systems
 - Barriers to employment or education
- Are you safe now? Why or why not?

5. Evidence & Documentation (If Available)

- Photos, videos, threat messages, arrest records
- News reports or publications
- Medical or psychological evaluations
- Affidavits or witness testimonies

6. Support and Solidarity

- Have any human rights organizations, embassies, or legal teams assisted you?
- Are you part of any diaspora support group or advocacy network?

7. Appeal to the Global Community

- What do you want governments, international institutions, or NGOs to do?
- What justice, protection, or recognition do you seek?

"I ask the international community to protect journalists in exile and to pressure regimes that silence dissent across borders."

8. Consent and Use of Testimony

- ☐ I consent to this testimony being used for advocacy, legal documentation, or awareness campaigns.
- ☐ I wish to remain anonymous or use a pseudonym.
- ☐ I permit this testimony to be submitted to international human rights bodies.

Signature / Initials: _____

Date: _____

Send all testimonies to
testimony@truthoverempire.com



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