



## THE METHODIST CHURCH MUST NOT BOW DOWN TO FIJI JUNTA

BY RATU TEVITA MARA, 19 August 2011

---

Coupfourandahalf, a blog site dedicated to informing the people of Fiji about what is taking place in the country and the restoration of democracy, reported today that the military junta has issued restraining orders to the Methodist Church.

According to the report, the President of the Church, Rev. Ame Tugaue; the General-Secretary, Rev. Tuikilakila; and Rev. Mana Lasaro, were commanded by the military junta to step down within 24 hours.

It was also reported that the tyrant Bainimarama also ordered the Church to endorse the illegal and spurious People's Charter on the first day of the Methodist Conference otherwise it will be shut down.

This is sacrilege! And it flies in the face of the fundamental rights and freedom of religious worship and religious belief. It is an outrage!!, Ratu Tevita Mara said today, August 19.

" I call upon the Leaders of the Methodist Church **not to obey** the satanic military junta. I call upon Rev. Tugaue, Rev Tuikilakila and Rev. Lasaro not to resign. You should only heed the voices of your Church and of Our Lord and not the satanic order of the Military junta," Ratu Tevita declared.

"I also call upon the Leaders of the Methodist Church and church members not to endorse the evil, malicious and illegal People's Charter of the vaka tevoro Bainimarama and his quari," he added.

The champion for Freedom and Democracy in Fiji reminded Church Leaders of the words of Our Lord in his Sermon on the Mount, the Gospel of Matthew, No man can serve two masters for either he will hate the one and love the other, he will hold to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Mammon ( the false god of riches and avarice).

Ratu Tevita said that it is time that Chiefs, the people of Fiji, organisations, institutions and community groups in Fiji stand up against the rot, corruption, evil governance and ruthlessness of the military junta.

"The Methodist Church has the power to make a bold statement for freedom and democracy in Fiji by refusing to bow down to the demands of the evil military junta. The Church has played a leading role in the struggle for democracy in many parts of the world. Fiji should be no exception," Ratu Tevita said.

He advocated to Methodist Church Leaders "If God is for you, who can be against you?"

End