

Lesson from Amasa Fridaus AbdulSalam Case: A courageous and Justified Fight for Human Right.

December 2017, Amasa Fridaus AbdulSalam, a University of Ilorin law graduate was denied access into the hall for her Call to Bar Ceremony, which took place at the International Conference Centre, Abuja, for refusing to remove her hijab; the case that generated a lot of controversies within the Nigerian law profession and the general public.

For peace to reign and in order to ensure Nigeria is not a ridicule, a committee was set up by The House of Representatives for public hearing on the case and scheduled March 14, 2018 to decide on whether the use of Hijab will be constitutionally allowed by Nigerian Muslim female lawyers, but unfortunately the public hearing has to be postponed due to an impediment created by seven Christian lawyers who filed and got a court injunction restraining the House of Representatives from conducting the hearing.

As gathered, these seven Christians have no direct business in the case. They aren't representing the Law School neither are they representing the Body of Benchers except their hatred for Islam and commandment of Almighty Allah to discourage indecency that leads to other crime. Come to think of it, those who hand over this act has since moved on. Unfortunately the unconcerned lawyers attempting to gain cheap popularity in the face of truth is not considering looking stupid. This is the same thing they are accusing of Amasa Fridaus, a girl that is not just fighting for her personal human right but that of the Muslims as a whole.

Unsurprisingly, Allah (SWT) has reference to people like this in Qur'an 2: 109 that: "Many of the People of the Scripture wish they could turn you back to disbelief after you have believed, out of envy from themselves [even] after the truth has become clear to them. So pardon and overlook until Allah delivers His command. Indeed, Allah is over all things competent."

I have come to learn from this incident and other related one that a significant achievement required a calculated effort and risk taking. The Amasa Fridaus CASE is never a coincidence, according to her "wearing the hijab does not contradict the dress code set by the law school, while describing the action as "a violation of her rights". She also said that the restriction was a mere convention "that the British gave to us and we have to stick to it." She has conducted her research and ready to risk her years of educational effort for her right and that of Muslims for Islam. One other point is that, in the light of the truth, there are people who will definitely be against your effort out of ignorance, hatred or envy.

The truth prevailed at last in June, 2018 when the body of benchers responsible for calling law graduates to bar approved the use of hijab, and Fridaus was called to bar on Tuesday, 10th of July, 2018. Fridaus said: "I don't feel any special. I feel grateful to my Lord. A Muslim will always be hopeful. It was not something I did myself. A lot of people were involved. I believe it is something that Allah has personally designed; I was just used as an instrument. A lot of people were in hijab. I feel grateful to Allah, it is not something I did. It is what Allah did Himself. I don't feel any special. I just believe Allah decided to use me for it."

A coward and selfish person can never step out to stardom. It takes courage and knowledge to challenge the status quo and achieve what may seem impossible.