

Family Statement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 13, 2025

ESTATE OF LATE EMIR OF ILORIN: COURT DECLINES EX-PARTE
APPLICATION, ADJOURNS TO DECEMBER 18, 2025

Ilorin, Kwara State – The Kwara State High Court, presided over by the Hon. Justice H.T. Kawu, today heard the ongoing legal dispute concerning the estate and administration of the late Emir of Ilorin, His Royal Highness (Dr.) Zulqarnain Gambari-Muhammad, CFR.

The matter, listed for mentioning, featured the appearance of Princess Bilkisu Tinuola Gambari, one of the seven claimants and a plaintiff in the suit, who represented herself and the other claimants in open court.

The claimants sought to move an ex-parte motion for, among other reliefs, an interim order of injunction restraining certain actions pending the hearing of the substantive motion on notice, as well as an order for substituted service on the respondents.

During proceedings, His Lordship inquired why the claimants were appearing without legal representation. Princess Bilkisu informed the court that no lawyer was willing to take their case due to fears for their personal security.

His Lordship further inquired why the matter had to be brought before the court instead of being resolved within the palace. In response, Princess Bilkisu stated that after 34 years of unsuccessful attempts at internal resolution, they were left with no choice but to seek justice through the law courts.

His Lordship outrightly refused to entertain the ex-parte application and proceeded to adjourn the suit to Thursday, December 18, 2025, for further proceedings.

The claimants expressed confidence in the judicial process and reaffirmed their commitment to pursuing all legitimate legal avenues to ensure the fair, transparent, and lawful administration of the late Emir's estate in accordance with Islamic injunction as commanded by Allah, his wishes, family tradition, and the law.

The claimants continue to call on all parties and the public to remain calm and law-abiding as the court adjudicates the matter.

Further updates will be provided as the case progresses.

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