

**SUBJECT: FORCEFUL DISAPPEARANCE OF TIH AKUMBU JOSEPH AN UNARMED CIVILIAN IN BAMENDA, NORTH-WEST, CAMEROON SINCE MARCH 3, 2026, ALLEGEDLY BY DEFENSE AND SECURITY FORCES****WE WISH TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS FOLLOWS:**

**That according to reliable sources, Tih Akumbu Joseph, a 23-year old commercial motorcycle rider, has been missing since March 3, 2026, in Bamenda, North-West region of Cameroon. He was last seen at the Gendarmerie checkpoint around Banshe entrance in Bamenda sources say.**

**That Akumbu Joseph had left Babanki-Ketingoh in Turbah sub division with vegetables and tomatoes heading for Bamenda when he was stopped by Gendarmes at the said checkpoint. Allegedly, the Gendarmes demanded for what our sources described as "settlement," which Akumbu couldn't make, leading to his disappearance. Witnesses say he was forcibly taken away in a pickup vehicle despite protests from fellow riders. Neither his motorcycle nor the tomatoes he was transporting have been traced so far. His phone has been unreachable since March 3, 2026 till the time we are writing this report.**

**That all attempts by family and friends to search for him at various detention units in Bamenda including Judicial Police, Legion and Gendarmerie units, and others has been in vain as his whereabouts remain unknown. The family has equally filed complaints at different units in Bamenda, but yet no information has surfaced about his fate of being dead or alive.**

**That some sources suggest Akumbu Joseph might have been executed or is being held in a hidden detention center undergoing severe acts of torture, a practice reportedly common in the conflict North-West and South-West regions amidst the ongoing**

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**conflict. His disappearance highlights concerns over enforced disappearations and human rights abuses by security forces in the conflict regions.**

**That at the time of writing this report, there have not been any official reaction from the authorities of the region, despite the different complaints filed by family members at Legion, Groupement, Judicial Police in Bamenda etc.**

**That we continuous to warn that many unarmed civilians are continuously being executed unnoticed with many going through severe, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatments from the warring parties, despite systematic calls for the respect of International Humanitarian and human rights laws by both national and international Human Rights organizations working on the ground.**

### **THAT IN VIEW OF THE AFOREMENTIONED FACTS, CONSCIENCE AFRICAINE:**

1. Condemns in STRONGEST TERMS the forceful disappearance of TIH AKUMBU JOSEPH, allegedly by Cameroon Defense and Security forces in Bamenda, North-West region.
2. Demands an immediate investigation to trace his whereabouts, release, and ensure perpetrators face justice.
3. Calls for an end to impunity, especially in North-West and South-West regions where human rights violations persist unperturbed.
4. Urges warring parties to respect International Humanitarian and Human Rights laws.
5. Reiterates the need for an INCLUSIVE AND SINCERE DIALOGUE now to end the over 9 years old armed conflict rocking the regions.

**Done in Douala, this March 21, 2026**

**Signed**

**Amadu TARNTEH**

**Executive Secretary**



**CONSCIENCE AFRICAINE-CA**

*Réseau Africain  
Pour la Démocratie à la Base*



Fondée à New-York en 1994

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*African Network  
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Autorisé par les autorités Camerounaises sous le numéro N° 471/RDDA/C19/BAPP

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