

Our ref: GLOSARGG NKWANTA02072025



2<sup>ND</sup> JULY, 2025

Your ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**GLOSARGG P.O.BOX : MD 1601 MADINA ACCRA-EAST TEL-0248759048**

**PRESS RELEASE -GLOSARGG**

**NKWANTA CLASHES: A GRAVE HUMANITARIAN AND SECURITY THREAT**

*By Francis Ahovi, Executive Secretary, Global Security for Africa Research and Good Governance (GLOSARGG)  
Security Expert and Humanitarianist*

The recent escalation of violence in the Nkwanta enclave of Ghana's Oti Region presents a dire and complex crisis that straddles ethnic tension, structural insecurity, and failed local peacebuilding systems. As security forces attempt to contain the violence, lives are being lost, properties destroyed, and fear deeply etched in the minds of innocent citizens.

This is not just another isolated conflict. The Nkwanta situation reflects the fault lines in Ghana's peripheral security governance, where socio-ethnic grievances, land ownership disputes, and political neglect intersect. For a country that prides itself on democratic stability, the failure to address recurrent clashes in this region reveals a dangerous blind spot in national security policy.

**Underlying Factors:**

- 1. Ethnic and Chieftaincy Rivalries:** The long-standing disputes between Konkombas and other local groups over territorial rights, chieftaincy legitimacy, and land boundaries continue to erupt due to lack of effective mediation.
- 2. State Absence and Distrust:** Many local inhabitants perceive the state as partial or absent. This perception creates a fertile ground for militia formation and reprisal attacks.
- 3. Political Exploitation:** Local political actors, driven by electoral calculations, have at times failed to speak objectively or intervene fairly, further deepening community divisions.

**Humanitarian Implications:** The consequences are catastrophic, internally displaced families, closure of schools, breakdown of local commerce, and psychological trauma among children and women. Humanitarian corridors are not being created swiftly enough. Food, medical aid, and emergency shelters are lacking.

**Roadmap for Peace and Stabilization**

**1. Immediate Security Containment:**

- Deploy a neutral peacekeeping and intelligence-led security force to cordon off hot zones, disarm militias, and de-escalate ongoing clashes.
- Engage community-based intelligence units to ensure non-lethal and intelligence-driven operations.

**2. Humanitarian Response Framework:**

- The Ghana Health Service, NADMO, and Ghana Education Service must lead a coordinated humanitarian response.
- Establish temporary shelters, mobile health clinics, and trauma healing centers in safe zones.
- Launch a rapid food and water supply intervention supported by Red Cross and UNHCR partners.

**3. Community Dialogue and Truth Process:**

- Form a Neutral Peace and Reconciliation Commission made up of retired judges, clergy, and traditional authorities from non-local zones.
- Organize inter-ethnic dialogue forums under the auspices of the National Peace Council and CSOs like GLOSARGG.

**4. Long-Term Governance Reforms:**

- Review and regulate the chieftaincy recognition mechanisms in the Oti Region.
- Implement land-use planning reforms and digitization of local land records to reduce future disputes.
- Introduce early warning systems and peace education in local schools.

**5. Monitoring and Accountability:**

- Set up an independent monitoring mechanism for tracking human rights violations, misuse of force, and post-conflict interventions.
- Enforce punitive sanctions against politicians or community leaders found to be fueling the violence through speech or funding.

**Conclusion:** The time for rhetorical condemnation is over. The Nkwanta clashes must be treated not as a regional skirmish but as a national security emergency with regional destabilization potential. As Executive Secretary of GLOSARGG, I call on the Government of Ghana, ECOWAS, AU, and civil society to collaborate in rolling out a comprehensive peace strategy rooted in justice, accountability, and dignity for all communities.

If this violence is not decisively addressed, the scars will linger, hence, weakening national cohesion and undermining the credibility of Ghana's peace architecture.

Francis Ahovi

Executive Secretary, Global Security for Africa Research and Good Governance (GLOSARGG)  
Security Expert & Humanitarianist



**PHONE**

+233 (0) 200 769 650  
+233 (0) 248 759 048  
+491 521 0549 856



**EMAIL**

glosargg@gmail.com



**ADDRESS**

Comp. Reg. No: CG182220521  
Digital: GM-118-6210