To The District Administrator  
Ministry Of Local Government, Public Work and Urban Development  
P.O. Box 2  
BINGA  

08 December 2008  

PETITION ON THE EXPLOITATION OF BINGA PEOPLE.

While we acknowledged the existence of drought disaster in the district, but we, the residents of Binga are deeply worried at the way barter trade is being carried out by the monopolists. We feel, the barter trade exchange rates used by inhuman outsiders are very unfair and exploitative in nature. The uncontrolled trading has greatly expose the community of Binga to abuse, as the traders does not uphold the rights of the people. Imagine an exchange rate of 3 goats to one bag of 50kgs of meal-mealie. This is what we term day light robbery. We appreciate the efforts the outsiders are making to assist the residents of Binga but their comparative advantage has not saved the Ba-Tonga but rather impoverished and exacerbated starvation and poverty. Therefore, we can not be quiet and watch. We can not be silent as 'feathers’ while our parents are being exploited and robbed in the day light. We would like to invite good your office, honourable District Administrator and the Local Authority to intervene. We proposed that your office should stipulate reasonable barter trade exchange rates which shall restore sanity and dignity to our community. We propose that goats should be barter traded at 1: 1 (50 kgs) minimum and 1:2 maximum, whilst the a cow should 1:6 minimum and 1: 15 maximum. We appeal for your urgent action before the district resources are fully plundered/depleted.

Binga Goats traded at unbalanced barter exchange. (Manjolo Business Centre)  
Truck load waiting for barter exchange. (Manjolo Business Centre)  
One of the truck waiting to load the goats. (Manjolo Business Centre)

Deeply Concerned Binga Residents.

cc  
ZRP  
President's Office  
Binga Rural District Council  
Veterinary Service  
Zimbabwe Information Services  
Chronicle

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