



PARLIAMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

Parliament Building - O.A.U Drive, Tower Hill, Freetown | admin@parliament.gov.sl | www.parliament.gov.sl

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PRESS RELEASE



PARLIAMENT MOURNS HON. ZAINAB LYDIA KAMARA

The Parliament of Sierra Leone on Thursday 24/04/2025 opened and signed a Book of Condolence during the lying-in-state ceremony of the Late Hon. Zainab Lydia Kamara at the State Hall of Parliament at Tower in Freetown. The former Member of Parliament died at aged 69. She represented Western Area Urban from 2002 to 2007 under the banner of the ruling SLPP.

Reading the declaration of purpose, the Director of Parliamentary and Public Relations, Sheku Lamin Turay, said that Hon. Zainab L. Kamara contributed to the development of local communities and the health sector of Sierra Leone when she was serving as a councillor. According to the citation, Mr. Turay told distinguished mourners and family members that the deceased became a Member of Parliament between 2002/2007 in the Second Parliament of the Second Republic of Sierra Leone and was also a Member of the Health Committee in Parliament.

Giving a tribute in honour of the deceased, the Leader of Government Business, Hon. Mathew Nyuma said in solemnity that the former Member of Parliament served diligently. He dilated the uncertainty and inevitability of death. He consoled the family and asked them to mourn like believers. He also spoke about the deceased's generosity and philanthropy as well as her motherly role. 'Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, we live to serve our people and God,' he noted, asked for forgiveness, and wished the family well.

In his tribute, the Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Abdul Kargbo said tributes or praises are necessary when good people are alive. He reflected on the role of the deceased as a bridge between the people and the government. For her life in the public service, the opposition leader said it was predicated on serving the communities and went on to say she impacted many lives. 'Today, we are here to celebrate

a life that many people benefited from," he informed and consoled the family. He assured that the former MP is in the bosom of God.

Her grieving daughter, Madam Aminata Kamara, gave a tribute on behalf of her family, during which she said the deceased was an extraordinary person, fondly known as Mama G. According to her, the deceased served in many capacities of the state and was indeed a motherly figure. She commended and recognised her love for family. She said her deceased mother placed them deeply into religion and was a generous woman, a philanthropist, and always give support to people. The mother she said taught them how to love and give, "Mama G. We love and thank you," she said in a sombre mood.

In her tribute, the Deputy Whip 1, Honourable Veronica Kadie Sesay, with a heavy heart, told the mourners and family members that the deceased was more than a sister and friend. She reflected on their Magburaka Girls' Secondary School days and stated that she was her senior both in school and Parliament. "She used to assist me in Parliament during debate," she told mourners and stated "rest well, my sister," and quickly called on their old girls to assemble and sang their school's song in unison.

The befitting burial was climaxed by laying of wreaths and singing of the Book of Condolence.

Parliamentary and Public Relations Department
Parliament of Sierra Leone

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