

JOY FM - NEWS EDITOR

REJOINER: MILLS DEATH COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED - RAWLINGS
(PRESS STATEMENT FROM THE MILLS FAMILY, FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2012)

The Mills Family, nuclear and extended, has lost a Beloved and Respected Son, Brother, Uncle, Friend, Relative and President of our Nation.

We are in deep mourning and would have wished to remain quietly so, for as long as necessary.

Unfortunately, we are forced to break our silence on account of the widely reported, insensitive, uncustomary and in-humane comments made on BBC by our past President, Jerry John Rawlings concerning the person, ill-health and death of His Excellency President Prof. John Evans Atta Mills.

Our entire family wishes it be known that in the spirit of tolerance and peace, as consistently preached by the late Prof. Atta-Mills throughout his life, we have over the past three years remained quiet over the constant harassment and insults poured on our Son simply because he took the path of presiding over this country in a humane, sensible, non-vindictive and lawful manner, without the specter of blood-curdling acts and speeches that only threaten the peace and stability of our country.

Three and half years of insults we took and would have graciously forgiven as a tribute to the nature and legacy of the honourable man whose death Ghana and the world mourns..

But we deem it extremely provocative and almost impossible to ignore the continued direction of such un-dignified insults at an honourable man whose loss has turned our hearts as icy as his body that lies in the morgue,

We are provoked to face up to those whose minds continue to ferment such uncouth, derogatory, uncensored insults and from whose lips they spew. Nonetheless, we remain restrained, for now.

We are restrained because throughout his life and up to the time of his death, the late Prof. John Evans Atta-Mills remained sane, full of wisdom and capable of sound judgment, expressing same in thought and speech. Further, our Son died in a bed, at peace with himself, and with dignity in the eyes of equally well-thinking men. Such a kind fate may not befall those tempted to stride the world as rabble-rousing tin-gods.

Our family is particularly restrained by the spontaneous, sincere display of sympathy and sorrow with which Ghanaians from diverse political, religious and cultural persuasions continue to mourn our loss.

The extended and nuclear Mills Family, as I have stated, are restrained for now. In that spirit, we do appeal for restraint from all Ghanaians who feel provoked as we are by the last straw of insults hurled at the late Prof. John Evans Atta-Mills by Jerry John Rawlings.

We plead for restraint in these trying times on the basis of the para-phrased adage, to wit:

‘If a man climbs up a rotten tree, intending to make it his Castle, do not be tempted to join him or be drawn into an argument with him.’

THANK YOU



ABUSUAPANYIN NKUMJI-KYERBA TWIDAN

(for and on behalf of The Mills and Allied Families of Cape Coast, Ekumfi and Accra)