



12th November, 2025

FAITH LEADERS' STATEMENT ON THE RECENT ABORTION JUDGEMENT AND OTHER ETHICAL ISSUES

The religious mother bodies in Malawi namely; the Malawi Conference of Catholic Bishops (MCCB), the Malawi Council of Churches (MCC), the Evangelical Association of Malawi (EAM) and the Muslim Association of Malawi (MAM) wish to reaffirm their strong and unwavering commitment to the promotion, protection, and sanctity of life, and to the natural family as ordained by God.

The mother bodies; stand united in expressing deep concern over the recent High Court judgement on abortion, which we believe sets worrying precedent for the protection of both mothers and unborn children in our country.

We are consulting our legal counsel to explore appropriate steps in response to this development. At the same time, we are engaging with the Government, through the Office of the Attorney General as the principal legal adviser to the Government and one of the Defendants in the case, to explore the possibility of appealing against this judgement.

We remain hopeful that the Government known for its respect for the cultural, moral, and religious values cherished by the majority of Malawians will act accordingly to safeguard our laws from alterations that undermine the will and values of the people. Decisions of such magnitude, touching on fundamental moral and ethical principles, must not rest solely on the opinion of a single judge but must reflect the conscience of our nation.

OUR APPEAL

We call upon our Members of Parliament to once again, as did their predecessors in rejecting the proposed Termination of Pregnancy (TOP) Bill, stand united in defending life and resisting any attempt to manipulate our laws to justify the taking of innocent unborn lives.

As faith leaders, we are fully aware of the hardships faced by women and girls who experience unplanned or difficult pregnancies. However, we firmly believe that ending the life of an unborn child is not the solution. Instead, as a nation, we must foster honest, compassionate and constructive dialogue to address these challenges, finding ways to support vulnerable girls and women while upholding the sanctity of life for both mother and child.

We further urge all citizens across Malawi to stand in solidarity to defend life, family, and moral integrity against any form of assault. We hold, without reservation, that life begins at conception and is sacred. No one has the moral or divine right to terminate life arbitrarily.

Our current laws already provide adequate protection for both mothers and unborn children. Any attempt to expand the grounds for abortion beyond what is currently permitted would open the door to abortion on demand, which aligns with the long-term objectives of global pro-abortion movements, a path we must not take.

Ultimately, this is a moral and spiritual battle between light and darkness. We therefore urge all Malawians to cover our nation and our leaders in the Executive, Judiciary and Legislature, in earnest prayer that they may be guided by the fear of God, uphold divine principles and act with wisdom and justice.

May the Lord bless Malawi and keep it a land of peace.

Signed by:

Malawi Conference of Catholic Bishops (MCCB)

Rt. Rev. Martin Mtumbuka – President

Very. Rev. Fr. Valeriano Mtseka - Secretary General

Malawi Council of Churches (MCC)

Rev. Prof. Billy Gama- Chairperson

Rev. Alemekenzeke Phiri -General Secretary

Evangelical Association of Malawi (EAM)

Archbishop Dr. Mark Kambalazaza- Chairperson

Rev. Francis Mkandawire- General Secretary

Muslim Association of Malawi (MAM)

Sheikh Idrissa Muhammad -Chairperson

Alhaj Dr. Twaibu Lawe- Secretary General