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24-year-old to hang for raping mad woman

From Sharafa Dauda, Maiduguri

A 24-year-old man has been sentenced to death by hanging for raping and stabbing to death a mad woman in Damboa, Borno State.

Danjuma Zira, a native of Michika, Adamawa State, stabbed Ya Mallum in the stomach with a butcher's knife after raping her at a market, a high court heard. He told the court that

after the rape, he turned the woman face-down and used a knife to slit her neck from behind because he became angry with her after she continued to struggle with him.

After the stabbing on January 31, 2006 at the Damboa central market at about 5pm, Ya Mallum was found unconscious in her pool of blood and taken to the Damboa General Hos-

pital where she died on February 2, 2006, court papers revealed.

"On that fateful day, I was passing through the market when I heard someone crying in one

of the shops. When I entered, I saw a man stabbing a woman. The woman shouted out for help after seeing me and the man rushed out, running away
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PHOTO: KENNEDY EGBONODJE



PUPILS of Handmaid International Nursery School, Garki, Abuja, during their march past at the Children's Day celebration in Abuja yesterday.

Gas price shoots up by 400%

By Hamisu Muhammad

POWER generating companies and other users of industrial gas would later in the year begin to pay more for the commodity after the Federal Government approved a 400 percent increase in price of gas to power for the domestic market.

The new price, taking off by Decem-

ber, is \$1 per million metric British thermal units (mmbtu), up from \$0.2/mmbtu, Minister of Petroleum Resources Diezani Allison-Madueke announced in Abuja yesterday. She said the price increase has been approved by President Goodluck Jonathan.

"By the end of the year, the price of gas to power will increase to \$1/mmbtu, by end of 2011 to \$1.5/mmbtu and then \$2/mmbtu

by end of 2013. Beyond 2014, it will increase by inflation," she said at a news conference.

With the increase in the gas price, the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), which is the major consumer of gas in the domestic market, will begin paying the same price with what obtains in the export market.

Allison-Madueke said government

decided to harmonise the domestic and export market rates so as to attract investment in the gas sector and make the domestic gas market more attractive for the operators.

"This new pricing arrangement has been very positively received by the industry and should stimulate a major growth

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Yero to be sworn in today as Kaduna deputy governor

From Ibraheem Musa & Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

ARRANGEMENTS have been concluded for the swearing in of Alhaji Muktar Ramalan Yero as Kaduna State deputy governor today after the House of Assembly confirmed his appointment yesterday, ending one week of speculation and anxiety.

The Special Adviser to Governor Patrick Yakowa on Media and Publicity Reuben Buhari told our correspondent yesterday

that the event is slated for 3:00pm at the State House in Kaduna.

Yero who was Commissioner for Finance, was widely speculated to have been picked at a stakeholders' meeting when Vice President Namadi Sambo visited Kaduna Saturday.

The rumour of Yero's nomination had heightened tension in the state because politicians from zone 2 felt marginalised. Governor Patrick Yakowa as well as the Secretary to the State Government come from zone

3 while the House Speaker and party chairman are from zone one. On the other hand, with the elevation of Sambo as vice president, Zone 2 has no major political appointee.

In order to compensate them for losing the governorship, politicians from zone 2 thought that their zone ought to produce the deputy governor of the state.

However, Yero who is from zone one was said to have been handpicked by the vice president to replace Yakowa as deputy governor, angering politicians from zone 2 or

the central zone as it is also called. The zone consists of Chikun, Igabi, Giwa, Kaduna North and Kaduna South Local Governments as well as Birnin Gwari.

Unanimously, the House of Assembly endorsed Yero yesterday after the Majority Leader, Bashir Idris Aliyu, read a letter from the governor requesting the appointment of a deputy governor. The House members adjourned for about 30 minutes after the request was tabled and reconvened to endorse Yero.

Born on May 1st, 1968 in

Zaria, Yero attended LEA primary school Kaura from 1974 to 1980. Thereafter, he proceeded to Government Secondary School Ikara (1980-85), then Government Day Secondary School Zaria (1985-86).

Yero was at the ABU Zaria Institute of Administration (1986-1991) where he obtained a diploma in Banking. He was also at the College of Accountancy, Jos (2003-2004). The new deputy governor has a Bsc Accounting from ABU, Zaria and he is a Certified National Accountant.



FROM left: President Goodluck Jonathan, Governor Gabriel Suswan of Benue State, Senate President David Mark and Dr. Alfred Akawe Torkula, chairman, Benue State Council of Chiefs, during a Benue State Delegation visit to State House, Abuja, yesterday.

Scholars, associates extol Tajudeen Abdurraheem's virtues

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

NOTABLE scholars, friends, associates and students have extolled the virtues of late pan-Africanist, Dr Tajudeen Abdurraheem, at the first Distinguished Alumni Symposium organised by the Bayero University Kano (BUK) in honour of the late scholar.

In his remarks, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Attahiru Jega, said late Abdurraheem was a distinguished alumni of BUK who had made the university proud.

"He was a First Class graduate of this university whose virtues are worthy of emulation by all," he said.

Jega said Tajudeen was a great ambassador of the university who was instrumental to the renaming of the Organisation of African Unity to African Union (AU).

He said the university had decided to award the Tajudeen Abdurraheem Memorial prize for the best graduating student in the Department of Political Science. He also said the university was considering instituting a Chair in African Studies in the same department.

Also speaking, the Executive Director of Kenyan Human Rights Commission Ms Muthoni Wayeki said the late pan Africanist had a larger-than-life spirit and impacted greatly on championing the rights of the people. The rights activist urged students to draw inspiration from the teachings and virtues of late Abdurraheem.

A political scientist from the Department of Political Science, Lagos State University, Dr Abubakar Momoh, said BUK should be proud of an alumni who put the university on the international map. Dr Momoh, who spoke on the legacies of Abdurraheem, said the late scholar was a fearless orator. "He was a loquacious speaker who broke protocol in order to tell the truth to the face of the powers that be. Taju was not just a pan Africanist but an internationalist who believed in service to humanity," he said. According to him, Taju was an idealist who started as a humanist, changed to socialist, and later became a Marxist before he died a pan Africanist.

Half of Nigerian teachers unqualified — Minister

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

MORE than 50 per cent of teachers in the country are unqualified and lack teaching skills, Minister of Education Professor Ruqayya Rufa'i has said.

Speaking during a courtesy visit to Governor Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa of Kaduna State yesterday, she said the problem of unqualified teachers was responsible for the dwindling standard of education in the country.

"The cause of the falling standard of education and the mass failure of students that sit for the senior secondary school

examinations is the problem of unqualified teachers. And unless we find a means of addressing this problem, the future will be bad for the country," she said.

To check this, she said henceforth, teachers would be made to undergo mandatory examinations before being employed.

"Before teachers are employed, they must undergo a mandatory screening. They have to be examined in class to ensure they have teaching skill and to also know how versatile they are in reading and writing," she said.

The minister who was in Kaduna on a one day tour of edu-

cational institutions under her ministry in the state, stressed the need for all stakeholders in the education sector to work hard to reverse the trend for the acceleration of the country's development.

Earlier last month, the minister observed in a 34-page evaluation document presented to the National Economic Council in Abuja that 207, 813 of the 603, 461 teachers under the Universal Basic Education scheme were unqualified. The 36 states, she added, would have to employ 39, 524 teachers every year for the next six years to fill the gap

in public schools. She said the North-East, North-West and North Central have high rates of unqualified teachers.

Responding, the Governor Patrick Yakowa said the heavy investment in the education sector had started yielding results but that they were facing challenges in the area of teachers.

"We have a lot of challenges in our state-owned colleges of education. This is badly affecting teachers' production not only in Kaduna State but also in our neighboring states. We are soliciting your support to address these challenges," he said.

NLC opposes hike in electricity tariff

By Francis Okeke & Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

THE Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) has condemned government's plan to increase electricity tariff, describing it as the "height of irresponsibility and total lack of wisdom."

While saying that the move

would be opposed, the General Secretary of the NLC Comrade John Odah said the proposed action amounts to government adding further burden on Nigerians under the prevailing scenario where many business concerns depend on generating their power needs or closing down their operations or relocating out

of the country.

Odah said in a press statement yesterday that the increase, if allowed to be implemented, is certainly a death sentence to the very few industries still operating in the country.

He said the increment would kill the nation's fragile but active small and medium business

enterprises which today form the backbone of Nigeria's economy.

The union urged President Goodluck Jonathan, being the man in charge of the power ministry, to immediately reverse the policy and focus his attention on how to deliver on the promises of improving power generation and supply.

Electoral offences tribunal coming, says Jonathan

By Mohammed S. Shehu

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan has said that an electoral offences tribunal would be established to try electoral crimes in the country.

Jonathan said this yesterday when a United States delegation led by the Undersecretary for Democracy and Global Affairs Maria Otero visited him at the State House, Abuja.

"If you alter results, that is forgery, it is criminal and the offender must be made to pay for the crime. If you snatch ballot

papers, that is stealing and there is a penalty attached," Jonathan was quoted as saying in a statement by his spokesman Ima Niboro.

Jonathan, who also admitted that even with the present laws we can conduct fairly acceptable elections, said all that is needed to be done was to enforce the law.

He said in the next election, there would be no cheating, "every vote must count and we are totally committed to this."

He said that "winning elections is not the issue, but the process must be credible,

free and fair."

While noting that the People's Democratic Party (PDP) "is the dominant party," he said that "even at that, we must ensure that things are done properly and so people can be convinced that we won fair and square."

Jonathan also reiterated the intention of his administration to sanitise the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and allow only people of proven integrity and good track record to man the outfit, adding that electoral reform was very crucial.

Undersecretary Otero, who was accompanied by the United States Ambassador to Nigeria Robin Sanders, said that her delegation was in Nigeria to attend the first Nigeria-US Bi-national Commission meeting.

She said President Jonathan can contest the 2011 presidential election provided the 2011 elections are going to be fair and transparent enough to ensure that every vote counts.

"When elections are fair and transparent and when everyone can see that every vote counts, the question of them being contested decreases a great deal."

Ibori's life is in danger - Aide

By Boco Edet

FORMER Delta State governor James Ibori fled Nigeria fearing for his life after he was declared wanted for allegedly laundering N44bn owned by the Delta State government when he was governor, his aide said yesterday.

Ibori who is currently in Dubai where he was arrested by Interpol upon receiving an alert from the UK Metropolitan Police said through his spokesman Tony Eluemunor yesterday that his life was in danger.

The ex-governor was arrested on May 12 at a five star hotel. He was later freed on bail pending his extradition to the UK or face trial in a Dubai court to answer a case over frozen assets worth \$35million.

EFCC which also dispatched a legal team to the country is working with the UK Police to ensure that Ibori is made to answer the allegations against him.

On speculations that he may seek asylum in Dubai citing political persecution in Nigeria, Eluemunor said, "Ibori does not believe in trial by the media. He has not said or done anything regarding that yet."

The spokesman said, "They (EFCC) alleged he is being guarded by militants.

This is not true. But this allegation was made so that force could be used to arrest him and anything could happen in the process.

His life is in danger. In fact when he travelled abroad in February, many people called and advised him not to return but he did return."

When asked if EFCC was aware of moves by some prominent Nigerians to frustrate Ibori's extradition, spokesman Femi Babafemi said, "I am not aware of that.

Our men are still on ground in Dubai helping the UK Police."



PEI ROLEUM Minister Diezani Alison-Madueke (left) briefing the press on the new price of gas in Abuja yesterday. With her is Dr David Ige, Group General Manager (Upstream) of the NNPC.

PIC: AFOLABI SOTUNDE

U.S: Corruption remains high in Nigeria

By Aisha Umar Agaie

CORRUPTION in Nigeria is still at a high level and continues to be a challenge to Nigeria government, United States Undersecretary for Democracy and Global Affairs Maria Otero has said.

She said though Transparency International has rated Nigeria high in combating corruption, a lot

more needs to be done by Nigeria's anticorruption agencies and the judicial system to prosecute high corruption cases.

Undersecretary Otero spoke at a press conferencing and reading of the final communiqué of U.S.-Nigeria Bi-national Commission in Abuja yesterday.

She said, "We are committed to partnering on combating cor-

ruption and ending the culture of impunity. We will strengthen the capacity of Nigeria's anti-corruption agencies, including the EFCC, to support Nigeria's anti-corruption efforts. We will build on existing training and technical assistance."

Solicitor-General of the Federation and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice Abdul-

lahi Ahmed Yola said Nigeria is committed to maintaining a fully independent electoral commission capable of conducting credible elections at the state and federal levels.

He said both Nigeria and U.S are committed to building the capacity of the EFCC, Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), police and the ministry of Justice.

Gemade to Jonathan: Ignore PDP zoning, run for president

By Mohammed S. Shehu

FORMER Peoples Democratic Party National Chairman Barnabas Gemade said President Goodluck Jonathan should ignore the PDP zoning formula and contest for the presidency in 2011 elections.

Gemade said there is no reason why Jonathan cannot get support from all parts of Nigeria if he decided to contest.

Gemade stated this to newsmen yesterday at Presidential Villa, Abuja when he accompanied Benue State delegation to the State House.

When asked whether Jonathan can contest elections and whether North Central geopolitical would support the ambition, Gemade said, "I believe that no one should stop an incum-

bent president, or an incumbent office holder, in any respect from exercising their fundamental human rights to contest an election.

"Nigerians are very understanding when it comes to issues of politics and therefore, there is no reason why he cannot get support from all parts of Nigeria if he decides to contest.

On the controversy trailing the PDP zoning formula, Gemade said the zoning arrangement was initiated in 2003 and further consolidated in 2007 because of the exigencies of those periods but now it was divine zoning and Jonathan should not let it slip away.

Jonathan told the Benue State delegation led by Governor Gabriel Suswam that his administration remained committed to instituting credible electoral processes, good gov-

ernance and upholding the tenets of the rule of law in the country.

He thanked the Benue delegation for coming to condole with the Federal Government over the passage of President Yar'adua.

Speaking earlier on behalf of the delegation, the Tor Tiv, Dr. Alfred Akawe Torkula, said the Benue citizens came to condole with President Jonathan over the death of President Yar'adua and also to congratulate him on his assumption of office as President, Commander-in-Chief.

The delegation also hailed the President's choice of Arc. Namadi Sambo as vice president.

Jonathan was joined by Vice President Sambo and Senate President David Mark to receive the delegation.

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Jonathan was joined by Vice President Sambo and Senate President David Mark to receive the delegation.

Yobe approves N3 billion for projects

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

THE Yobe State executive council yesterday approved the release of over three billion naira for various projects including completion of the Damaturu Ultra Modern hospital, roads and new structures at the state university.

Commissioner for home affairs, information and culture Barrister Bala Haladu who addressed newsmen in Damaturu yesterday said government has approved the release of N157.66 million for the completion of the 200 bed capacity Damaturu Ultra Modern Hospital which was awarded in 2007

at the cost of N1.7 billion.

Haladu said contract has been awarded to Eighteenth Engineering Company (EEC) for the construction of 17-kilometer Jajimaji-Karasuwa road at the cost of N1.6 billion, adding that the commissioner of finance has been directed to pay the contractor 40 per cent of the total sum.

"Government has also approved the release of N650 million for the construction of six blocks of departmental buildings in the Faculty of Arts of the Bukar Abba Ibrahim University Damaturu. Additional N230.65 million has been granted for the construction of modern library complex for the univer-

sity," the commissioner said.

The commissioner said N60.69 million has been approved for the purchase of low loader bed heavy duty machine to improve direct labour activities of the ministry of works, N67.38 million for the procurement of heavy duty machines and sanitary equipment for the ministry of environment and N401.1 million for construction of infrastructure at the Yobe Turkish International College Mamudo.

"The state government has also approved the release of N536.19 million for the sponsoring of 550 intending pilgrims for the lesser Haji (*Umra*) in Saudi Arabia, this year.

'Over 12m in North at risk of food scarcity'

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

THE National Emergency Agency (NEMA) has said that over 12 million people in northern part of the country would be affected following the recent prediction of food shortage in some northern states.

Director General of the agency retired AVM Muhammad Audu-Bida said this yesterday at a one-day consultative meeting on "Potential Food Scarcity and Nutrition Crises in the Sahel Region," held in Abuja.

He said so far, in an attempt to arrest the situation, his agency is on alert in its North West and North East zonal warehouses and is collaborating with State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs) in the would-be affected states.

He said Kebbi State and Katsina State committed over N100m and N50million respectively to address the situation.

He said it is important for every household to have adequate access to sufficient food to maintain an active and healthy life without depending on humanitarian assistance.

Audu-Bida said that improving nutrition and food distribution would help to better the overall health of children, combat disease, and help children do well in school.



U.S. Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Maria Otero (left), exchanging a copy of a signed agreement with Nigeria's Solicitor General Abdullahi Ahmed Yola in Abuja, yesterday.

PIC: AFOLABI SOTUNDE

Transport minister orders locking up of APM office

By Shehu Abubakar

TRANSPORT Minister Alhaji Yusuf Suleiman has ordered the immediate closure of AP Moller's office (APM) at the Lagos seaport and the relocation of the office to a more convenient place, Deputy Director of Press and Publicity to the minister Mr Kingsley Agha has said.

He said the minister ordered the company to relocate to a place where it will not have the opportunity to be locking up or trapping people that go to their premises to demand the timely clearance of their containers.

Agha also informed that a committee has been set up under the chairmanship of the minister to review the procedure followed in the concession of the port to the company.

The minister noted with great concern that even when the bill for the concession of the nation's seaport is still before the National Assembly, AP Moller has since been appointed a

concessionaire to the Lagos port and the company has since commenced operation.

Chairman of House of Representatives Committee on Marine Transport Rep Ifeanyi Ugwuani told Daily Trust that the bill on the concession of the ports in Nigeria is still receiving attention at the National Assembly. He refused to comment on the port concession to AP Moller before the passage of the bill saying he cannot comment on that as the issue is not yet before the National Assembly.

Crisis started at the port when importers and the National Council of Managing Directors of Licensed Custom Agents accosted the minister during an un-scheduled visit to the port threatening to go on strike.

President of the council Mr Lucky Amiwero told a news conference yesterday in Abuja that since the Lagos port was concession to AT Moller, business activity drastically dropped down at the port.

Mr Amiwero said the essence of the concession is to reduce the cost of operation at the port. "But rather than reduce the cost, it has gone up by over 500 percent. Before AP Moller took over the port, we used to pay N1,450 per day for demurrage in respect of a container. Now it is N9,000 per day per container. The law said incoming containers must be cleared within four days. But AP Moller will delay your container unnecessarily for weeks just to get demurrage from you," he said.

Mr Agha said when the minister visited the port last Monday and was confronted with the problems by aggrieved Nigerians, he was locked up for 35 minutes by officials of AP Moller in an attempt to prevent him from having access to the clearance area.

Chief consultant to AP Moller however denied the involvement of the company staff in the alleged locking up of the minister and blamed some agents for causing confusion at the port during the minister's visit.

ECOWAS: High temperature kills 520 Nigeriens

By Aisha Umar Agaie

PRESIDENT of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission James Victor Gbeho has said that about 520 Nigeriens were killed in the last three weeks by blazing heat occasioned by high temperature of 49 degrees.

Gbeho disclosed this yesterday while addressing a press briefing on the occasion of ECOWAS 35 years anniversary celebration. He said Niger, being the least developed country

in the region, is also experiencing food crisis, which has led to migration out of the country by Nigeriens in droves.

The ECOWAS president said in the last five weeks, the West African regional body has donated money for the purchase of food such as rice, millet and maize, which are already being dispatched to Niger.

He said out of the 15 ECOWAS countries, Nigeria, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire are the most developed.

"Each country has its poverty reduction programme, but

the rate of poverty in Niger is causing migration and ECOWAS is thinking of looking into migration strategy," Gbeho said.

He said the best-way of addressing poverty in the region is using the global principle of "food for all," adding that if everybody can feed himself then there would be relief in the food crisis.

He said in every country there are agric strategies and a participatory programme of food security, "so that if developed partners are to assist, they will know the priority programme."

Jonathan: My success depends on N/Assembly

By Muhammad S. Shehu

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan yesterday said the success of his administration would depend on the cooperation of the National Assembly.

Speaking when he received a delegation of the Senate led by the Senate President David Mark, Jonathan said the cooperation of the three arms of government was crucial to delivering dividends of democracy to Nigerians.

He urged continued support from the legislature especially in the areas of the budget, the management of the economy, cutting down on costs, blocking areas of wastage and getting "value for money spent."

Jonathan also attributed the democratic stability of the 4th Republic to the position the National Assembly took following the unfortunate health challenges suffered by his predecessor.

The senate president said the visit was based on a resolution during the valedictory session in honour of the late President to the effect that delegations be sent to Katsina to commiserate with the Yar'adua family, and another to console President Jonathan, the Federal Executive Council (FEC) and the Nigerian people.

Meanwhile, Jonathan yesterday also reaffirmed the commitment of Nigeria to work closely with the Republic of Cameroun to promote the interests of both countries. Receiving the Special Envoy of President Paul Biya of Cameroun, Prof. Maurice Kamko, Jonathan thanked him for the messages of condolence and congratulations on the passage of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua and his elevation to the post of President respectively.

Kamko, who is also Cameroun's Deputy Minister of Justice, thanked President Jonathan for personally attending the Independence Anniversary celebrations of Cameroon and pledged his country's commitment to resolving all outstanding issues relating to the Bakassi Peninsula.



DIRECTOR General, SMEDAN, Alhaji Muhammad Nadada Umar (left) receiving a certificate presented to him by CITAR-NGO team leader, Senator John Wash Pam (middle). With them is a member of the NGO, Dr. Yima Sen.

Gas price shoots up by 400%

Continued from page 1

in new supplies critical to both our aspirations for power, but also for other gas based industries," she said.

When the new price regime takes off, the PHCN and other independent power producers would have to up the tariff rate of electricity, industry operators said yesterday.

Speaking to *Daily Trust* by telephone last night, PHCN Managing Director Husaini Labo said when the increase in gas price takes off, the company would inform the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission to adjust electricity tariff.

He said already there is provision in the Multi Year Tariff Order template to adjust electricity tariff as a result of inflation, exchange rate fluctuation and gas price increase.

Reacting to news of the gas price hike, President of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), Alhaji Bashir Borodo, said the increase was outrageous. "At least 60 percent of our industries rely on gas to generate power especially in the Lagos-Ogun axis. This is going to be a very serious blow to them," he said.

"Take companies like NOTORE in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, that produces fertilizer and they rely on gas as a raw material. This increase will lead to very outrageous increase in the price of their final products which means you are putting them out of business."

"At the same time, the petrochemical plant in Eleme, Port Harcourt, again that produces chemical for plastic industry, very soon you will see the cost of plastic bags for bread and pure water going up. So it has a wide implica-

tion," he added.

Borodo said though his association was expecting gas price increase, they did not envisage this much increase.

At the moment the gas sector consumes about 700million metric cubic feet per day of gas, and government set a target to increase the consumption to about 2500 mcmf/d by 2014.

The petroleum minister said, "The current gas price clearly cannot support such investments. Similarly, whilst the revised price proposed last year enabled growth in supply, that growth was limited to supplies coming from existing sources. To grow supply significantly, brand new supply sources are required and the investment required for such is more significant hence the need for a new pricing."

Allison-Madueke said the new pricing regime was designed in a

way that at no time would PHCN pay more for gas than what export projects pay because the price would be capped by export parity.

She said the gas supply performance is now at all time high with about 700 mcmf/d supply for the domestic market, and that there was enough gas to power virtually all operational power plants.

"In fact there is a situation of slight excess supply capacity. There is also excess gas available at the Okoloma gas plant to fire additional PHCN turbines at Afam V whenever they are ready," she said.

The minister also reiterated government's resolve to deregulate the downstream petroleum sector, a policy labour groups say would lead to fuel price increase. She said government would soon come up with an implementation plan for the deregulation policy.

Goje's deputy denies report on 2011 presidency

GOMBE State deputy governor John Lazarus Yoriyo has denied saying that the president of Nigeria can come from any part of the country.

The deputy governor, who represented Governor Danjuma Goje at the second Obafemi Awolowo Free Education Lecture in Ile Ife, was reported by a newspaper (not *Daily Trust*) as saying on behalf of the Gombe State governor that, "I don't mind who become the president. What I am concerned about is a leader who can solve the nation's problems. If it is poverty that is worrying us, let us get a leader that will drive it away."

But in a statement, the Gombe state deputy governor said the publication was mischievous and "calculated attempt to put me on a collision course with my governor with whom I have continued to enjoy excellent relationship throughout my political career." He said as a loyal member of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), there was no way he could have gone against the party's policy.

The PDP, through its former national chairman Prince Vincent Ogbulafor, said the party's presidential candidate in the 2011 elections will come from the North. Yoriyo therefore called the newspaper to withdraw its publication and apologise or face court action.

24-yr-old to hang for raping mad woman

Continued from page 1

with the knife in his hand," Kellu Ali, one of the witnesses, told the court.

In his confession, Zira told the court that it was the second time that he was having sex with the mad woman, as he previously raped her along Biu road in Damboa. He said he killed her to "have rest of mind after he became tired of having sex with a mad woman while he was not mad."

Zira said the incident happened when he was staying in one of the sheds in the market after he was evicted from home by his brother.

"I saw a mad woman enter. I felt the desire to have sex with her. I grabbed her and threw her on the ground. I then removed her wrapper. After having sex with her, I became angry with her because she was still struggling with me. I removed my knife and stabbed her in her stomach. The woman was still shouting and struggling with me. I turned her to face downward and stabbed her again at the back of

her neck. So as she was shouting, a woman entered and on seeing us, the woman started shouting. Then, I feared people may come and kill me. So I started running," the convict said, according to his confessional statement.

In her judgment, Justice Patum Haruna Nggada said there was no provocation from the mad woman to have warranted such reaction from Zira. She said the claim of accident or mistake was not admissible as pleaded by the defense counsel, neither was the plea for lesser penalty premised on the youthfulness of the man nor that the offence was his first.

Justice Nggada said though the prosecutor proved beyond reasonable doubt that the accused was guilty, she could have been lenient with less penalty but for the fact that Section 221 of the Penal Code, under which the accused was charged, provided no alternative punishment.

"I hereby sentence you, Danjuma Zira, to death as prescribed by section 221 (1) of the Penal Code, and you are to be hanged until you die," she said.

Farmer freed over ward head's murder

By Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Maiduguri

FROM TAIYEA TUNUNG, BORNO STATE

A 38 year old farmer, Modu Mallam Kurna, of Ngubdo village in Kaga Local Government Area of Borno State, was yesterday freed by a Borno State High Court in Maiduguri 10 years after being accused of killing one Bulama Fannami, the Ward Head of the area.

Kurna was said to have committed the offence on the July 5, 2000 during a fight with Bulama, when he (Bulama) caught him with his wife. He was charged with culpable homicide not punishable with death under Section 224 of the penal code.

The suspect had earlier told the court that he knew the deceased's wife, Hauwa Kolo, because they were from the same village and when he approached her for sex, she agreed and they had sexual intercourse in a bush.

He said in an outing, Bulama suddenly appeared and started beating him with a stick, adding that he started running away and the deceased kept following and beating him and when he saw that he wanted to kill him, he turned back and stabbed him with a knife.

Counsel to the accused, Barrister M.M Bello, argued that there was no evidence that the accused committed the offence. He said there was no evidence aside the confessional statement as required by law.

After years of litigation, the presiding judge, Justice Abdullahi Sanya Yerima, yesterday discharged and acquitted the accused for lack of evidence.

Aminu Kano's wife to commission square

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

WIFE of the late Mallam Aminu Kano, Hajiya Aishatu Aminu Kano, is expected to commission a multi-billion naira square built and named after her husband by the Jigawa State government on Saturday.

The chairman of the organizing committee for the celebration of Democracy Day in Jigawa State, Dr. Junaid Muhammad told newsmen in Dutse yesterday that Dr. Magaji Dambatta and Alhaji Mudi Spikin would commission a multi-billion naira monument called SAWABA Monument.

Dr. Muhammad further explained that part of the event was the commissioning of nine houses dedicated to the nine founding fathers of the G-9, now known as the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

He pointed out that three major events are to be conducted in commemoration of the May Day, saying the first event is a round-table where eminent scholars would discuss on this year's theme of democracy day, 'Contemporary Nigeria; Where is the missing link?'

Pastor, others held over Fulani killings

From Mahmud Lalo, Jos

THE Special Task Force (STF) in Jos has arrested one Pastor Musa Davou and seven others in connection with last Saturday's killing of three Fulani herdsmen and assault on three soldiers in Tusung, Barkin Ladi Local Government Area of Plateau State.

Sixteen suspects including a councillor were earlier arrested

in connection with the incident.

STF spokesperson, Lieutenant Colonel Kingsley Umoh, told newsmen in Jos yesterday that the suspects were also arrested in connection with the discovery of some weapons following an investigation of the Tusung incident by the task force. A large cache of weapons suspected to have been used in the attack were recovered. "A large cache

of weapons, arms and ammunition including automatic weapons were recovered in Tusung. Most of the weapons had been moved out of the residences and were hidden in farms or buried in different places around the community. The incident in Tusung was a mob action that involved the entire community and even some neighbouring communities, women and children participated", he said.

According to him, the arrest and discovery of the weapons were as a result of series of investigations. Umoh said despite a meeting held in Barkin Ladi two days before the incident between the STF and all stakeholders with a resolution to work together for peace, the incident in Tusung retarded the peace process in the state.

PIC: AFOLABI SOTUNDE



PETROLEUM Minister Diezani Alison-Maduekwe (left) with Mr. Ishola Olajide (right) and Master Olatunde Kehinde, student of Wesley College of Science and winner of the NNPC National Quiz contest who is to represent Nigeria at the 50th anniversary celebration of OPEC Quiz in Austria.

30 condemned prisoners transferred to Kano prison

From Abdulgafar Oladimeji, Kano

SEQUEL to the recent Kaduna prison riot, 30 condemned prisoners have been transferred to the Kano prison. Seven of the condemned inmates are Kano State indigenes, the Controller, Nigeria Prisons Service, Kano State Command, Alhaji Ado Mohammed, has disclosed.

He further disclosed that 100 of the 903 awaiting trial inmates at the Kano Central

prison and Goron Dutse prison were yet to be charged before a competent court of jurisdiction, adding that the inmates had spent between three to 11 years in prison custody.

Ado Mohammed attributed the delay in the dispensation of justice to those held on awaiting trial to the delay in investigations by the police and the Ministry of Justice.

"It should be noted that long stay of prison inmates without trial has a devastating effect

on them as some experience mental disorder and eventually cannot withstand trial and as a result go free, even if they have committed the offence, a look at this situation will eliminate or greatly reduce prison congestion and jail breaks", he noted.

The Deputy Controller in charge of Kano Central Prisons, Alhaji Kabiru Umar Funtua, revealed that of the 1,260 held at the Kano Central Prison, 903 were on awaiting

trial before courts across the state.

He urged the state governor to direct the Ministry of Justice and the police to hasten their investigations.

Addressing the prison inmates, Governor Ibrahim Shekarau, who was at the prison as part of his schedules in marking the 2010 Democracy Day, spoke on the importance of good character, and urged the inmates to shun anti-social behavior.

No excuse for failed elections, ex-gov says

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

THERE will be no excuse not to hold credible elections next year, Second Republic Governor of Sokoto State, Alhaji Garba Nadama, has said.

He said at a dialogue on credible elections in Nigeria organised by the Shehu Shagari World Institute for Leadership and Good Governance in Sokoto yesterday

that there was need to shun money politics and ensure credible elections in the country.

"We have seen examples of countries that recently conducted elections, I don't think anyone will have an excuse to engage in elections that are not fair," Nadama, who was chairman of the occasion, said.

He said it was unfortunate that despite the level of enlighten-

ment, the nation still experienced incredible elections.

The ex-governor expressed concern that elections in Nigeria were a mockery of what they used to be, recalling that former President Shehu Shagari never gave anyone money in order to be elected. "People are now after money, not the good of the country," he noted.

He reminded Nigerians the

world is watching to see what happens in the elections in 2011.

Executive Director of the Institute, Dr. Muhammad Zaiyan Umar, said the event gave a renewed hope that the country's democratic process in spite of the pulls and strains to which it had been subjected over the last decade, remained on course.

"We at the SSWI recognize the utility of credible elections for

democracy building and its ultimate consolidation. Yet we share the anxiety of many Nigerians that given the turn of events in the last two elections conducted in the country and the near absence of tangible arrangements to obviate some bottlenecks identified during the previous elections, the horizon for the conduct of credible elections in 2011 is not yet clear," he said.

NEITI boss decries poor access to national wealth

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

NIGERIA is a victim of resource curse because it is a very rich country owing to its abundant natural resources, but its people are poor, Professor Assisi Asobie, the Chairman of Nigerian Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) said yesterday.

In his opening remarks at the NEITI North-west road show in Kaduna, Prof Asobie said NEITI was established to address an ailment known as the "Dutch disease", where the possession of abundant natural resources becomes a curse if not properly

managed.

According to him, abundant natural resources are sometime counterproductive for a country because earning huge amounts of foreign exchange drives up a country's exchange rate, making its traditional export commodities less competitive in the global market.

"When a country can finance much of its expenditure from revenues from natural resources, it tends to neglect income tax, thus breaking the fundamental bond between a state and its citizens," he said.

Asobie also pointed out that gov-

ernments which earn high revenues from natural resources that are produced by a few hands, tend to be very corrupt.

According to him, the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) movement was founded in 2002 to overcome the effects of the "Dutch disease."

"Nigeria indicated interest in EITI in 2004 and institutionalised it in 2007. Of the 31 countries that implement EITI in the world, 20 are in Africa", he said, adding that, the Dutch disease had since transmuted into a largely African disease.

"In spite of the nation's huge oil

revenue, Nigeria is a paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty", he added.

In the 2006 Human Development Index report, Nigeria ranks 159 out of 177 countries surveyed. The three geo-political zones of the north, he further said, had higher levels of poverty, with the North-east topping the list with 72.2 percent and the North-west zone follows closely with 71.1 percent. He added that the North-central comes a distant third with 67.0 percent.

Asobie also said that the South-east had the least poverty rate in the country with 26.6 per-

cent, the South-west and the South-South have 43.05 percent and 35.1 percent respectively. According to him, there is no correlation between the amount of money received from the federation account and the rate of poverty.

"Although the South-South receives the highest amount, it is the South-east which receives the least that has the lowest poverty level. The poverty level in the North-west is second to the highest in the federation, yet it receives second to the highest amount of money from the federation account," he added.

PIC: Kennedy Egbonodje

Number of vulnerable children worries Jonathan

From Aliyu M. Hamagam, Gombe

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan has expressed concern over the increasing number of orphans and vulnerable children, which is estimated at 17.5 million. The president expressed the concern in his speech read by Gombe State Governor Danjuma Goje yesterday at an event to mark this year's Children's Day in Gombe. He lamented that a large number of children were orphaned as a result of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. He said there was a need for all hands to be on deck to improve the health and nutrition of mothers and children, calling on the three tiers of government to collaborate with stakeholders to tackle the problem.

The state, Commissioner of Women Affairs Hajia Binta Bello said the theme of this year's Children's Day celebration couldn't have been better, considering the need for commitment towards ensuring a better life for women and children.



A cross section of members of the committees to review the Investments and Securities Act 2007 and to design the Code of Governance for Capital Market Regulators who were inaugurated by the Minister of State for Finance, Mr. Remi Babalola, in Abuja yesterday

Students seek school health policy in jigawa

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

STUDENTS in Jigawa State yesterday marked this year's Children's Day with a call on the state government to implement the National School Health Policy for them. The students made the call through banners and placards containing various pleas for the implementation of the health policy during the match past in commemoration of the day. Speaking at the event,

Governor Sule Lamido called on stakeholders to assist the administration towards improving the Tsangaya Educational system in the state with a view to making it formal, desirable and contributory to the lives of the people. Governor Lamido, who was represented by his Deputy, Alhaji Ahmad Mahmud said, "I wish to state here, that education is a collective responsibility because it is a cornerstone for development. To Tsangaya scholars

and community, I urge you to join hands with government to chart a new lease of life for this age old educational system with a view to improving the lives of the pupils/students".

Speaking earlier, the state Commissioner for Women Affairs Hajia Fatima Widi Jallo said the Almajirai were part and parcel of the society, hence deserved a good life. Hajia Fatima said instead of being neglected and subjected to

all forms of abuses, they should be incorporated into the government's system of education, saying they had roles to play in developing the society.

"It is in line with this, that the present administration plans to integrate the Tsangaya educational system into the socio-economic spheres of development with the aim of reducing hazards faced by orphans and vulnerable children in the state", she added.

Ohakim urges support for women, children

From John Kennedy Uzoma, Owerri

THE wife of the Imo State Governor, Barr. Chioma Ohakim has called on privileged members of the society to contribute to the welfare of women and children to ensure a better future for the nation.

Barr. Ohakim made the call yesterday in Owerri while addressing children at a lecture to mark the 2010 Children's Day. She said hardship should not be a barrier to the provision of nourished food for children, saying nutritious food could be grown locally by parents.

She said proper nutrition was one of the eight elements of primary health care, adding that public policy decisions

required knowledge on the extent to which people consume sufficient food. The governor's wife said the present administration in the state was doing its best to ensure better lives for women and children.

She added that Governor Ohakim's 14 point agenda which is anchored on addressing human development, especially children, had continued to ensure that all immunization exercises were successfully carried out. The Imo State Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Development Mrs Anagam Ononuju said the decision to organise the lecture was informed by their desire to create awareness on the need for proper nutrition.

Lamido revokes, re-awards Hadejia-Garun Gabas road contract

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

GOVERNOR Sule Lamido has approved the revocation of Hadejia-Garun Gabas and Sarawa-Gurgin Daho road construction contracts, according to a statement from the state Ministry of Works and Transport. The two contracts, according to the statement by the Commissioner for Works Alhaji Baba Sintali Aliyu were given to Messrs Techno Impex Nigeria Limited and Philko Limited. It added that the contracts had been re-awarded to Messrs De-Pacific Investment Limited and Al-Usaba Civil Engineering and Construction Limited respec-

tively.

The statement indicated that the revocation of the contracts was necessary as government was not satisfied with the way and manner in which the contractors were handling the projects.

The statement added that, the contractors were behind schedule and the level of job conducted at the site was not satisfactory.

The Hadejia-Garun Gabas road construction is among eight other road contracts awarded in 2008. Governor Lamido, in the statement charged the new contractors to work within the stipulated period, saying government would not tolerate any delay.



PIC: AKOR OJOMA

WOMEN protesting against the quizzing of Senator Ahmed Sani Yarima at the headquarters of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons in Abuja yesterday.

Women protest against agency's quiz of Yarima

By Akor Ojoma

TWO different women groups have protested against the quizzing of Senator Ahmad Sani Yarima over his marriage to an under-aged Egyptian girl.

The protesters stormed the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) yesterday saying Yarima should be left alone because he did nothing wrong.

Hajiya Fatti Dahiru who spoke on behalf of the first group said the attack on Yarima is an attack against Islam and Hausa-Fulani culture.

She said she married at the age of 9 and stayed with her mother in law for 4 years before consummating the marriage with her husband like most of the women protesters.

The second group led by President of the widows and less-privileged empowerment association Abuja, Mrs Rita Audu said Yarima has been the benefactor of widows in the country right from when he was governor of Zamfara State till now.

She said the moral bankruptcy in the society today makes it a good thing for girls to marry very early.

The women carried placards with messages like 'Leave Yarima Alone', 'Do not deny us our Islamic rights', 'Yarima friend of widows', etc.

Executive Secretary of NAPTIP Barrister Simon Egede thanked the women for the civil way they behaved and made their request known.

He however said that it is the National Assembly that makes laws and the agency is just enforcing it. He advised the women to address their grievances to the National Assembly which enacted the Child Rights Act and the NAPTIP Act.

While promising to look into the issue, Egede asked the women to take their case to the National Assembly if they want the law to be repealed or abrogated.

Forgery: Police ask Keyamo to produce client

By Adelanwa Bamgboye

THE police have asked Lagos-based lawyer Barrister Festus Keyamo to produce one of his clients, Olajide Ibrahim Oyewole, who is accusing the Comptroller of Customs Abdullahi Dikko Inde of allegedly forging his academic certificates.

Oyewole is accused of falsely parading himself as a student, a youth corps member and a civil servant.

Keyamo admitted that his client forged his certificate but challenged the police to also bring out the report of its investigation on the Customs CG.

Oyewole had in an affidavit deposed to in court, averred:

That I knew Alhaji Abdullahi Dikko, the present Comptroller-General of the Nigerian Customs Service since 1995, while undergoing the compulsory National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) scheme with the Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM) at Plot 22, Idowu Taylor Street, Victoria Island, Lagos.

That I obliged Alhaji Abdullahi Dikko of this request and secured on his behalf two (2) course participant certificates covering the years 1995 and 1996. (Copies of the certificates are hereby attached as Exhibits 'A and B'). He thereafter filled them himself and forged the signatures on them.

That on the completion of my National Youth Service Corp

(NYSC) programme in 1996, the Institute discovered these missing certificates from the booklet of certificates in my custody and when I could not account for them for fear of implicating Alhaji Abdullahi Dikko, my name was withdrawn from the list of corps members to be considered for employment.

All the allegations of Oyewole were found to be untrue by the police.

A police request for the certified true copies of Oyewole's educational background, which were obtained by our correspondent, reveal that he never did his youth service with the Nigerian Institute of Management.

The Polytechnic Ibadan also said that it has no record of the studentship or graduation of the Mr Olajide Ibrahim Oyewole, as he claimed.

Jonathan urges children to eschew vices

By Akor Ojoma

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan has advised children to eschew those vices that have the potential of compromising their future.

He gave the advice yesterday at the event marking the 2010 Children's Day Celebration in Abuja.

Goodluck who was represented at the event by the FCT Minister Senator Bala Muhamamad urged parents particularly mothers to adopt good feeding practices.

He said it is important to ensure adequate nutrition for infants and young children including early initiation of breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding

and timely introduction of supplementary foods.

He assured the children of government's commitment to those policies and programmes that will enable them to optimally realize their creative and productive potentials.

Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development Iyom Josephine Anenih said the wellbeing and survival of children is vital to the success of government efforts in developing its citizens.

She called on all MDAs responsible for working towards achieving goals 1, 2, 3 and 6 which have targets that directly impact on children's health to scale up response that could have dramatic effect on the lives and prospects of children.

Haulage of workers in trailers disturb FG

By Francis Okeke

MINISTER of Labour and Productivity Chief Emeka Wogu yesterday said the Federal Government is articulating a policy to check the continued transportation of Nigerians in trailers and other "goods-only" vehicles by construction and allied companies.

A statement signed by Chief Wogu's media aide, Mr. Emmanuel Aziken, said the minister stated this at the 53rd Annual General Meeting of the Nigerian Employers' Consultative Association (NECA) in Lagos.

Aziken quoted the minister as expressing government's disapproval of the discrimination of certain categories of workers in the workplace, "particularly the stigmatization of persons based on their health status or the discrimination against Albinos."

"I consider such an act as degrading, an abuse of human dignity and against international conventions. Above all it is also a violation of Fundamental Human rights as stipulated in the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria," Wogu said. He said albinos and people living with HIV/AIDS have inalienable rights like any other worker as embedded in the constitution.

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VACANCY

FOCAL POINT GROUP, Owners of Focal Point Dry cleaning & Laundry Company as well as Sardauna Magazine are desirous of recruiting dynamic ideas people to fill the following positions as part of our efforts to beef up our Team and strengthen operations.

(1) FOCAL POINT GROUP

CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY

Based in Abuja, the Confidential Secretary will perform advanced, diversified and confidential secretarial and administrative support for the GMD.

Qualification

- A good university degree or HND in Administration, Social Sciences, Secretarial studies or its equivalent
- Minimum of 5 years working experience, high sense of confidentiality and good shorthand skills
- Solid computer skills, abilities to present numerical data effectively, read and interpret written information, good phone skills and strong attention to detail with excellent follow up
- Demonstrate superior organizational and prioritization skills with the ability to manage multiple priorities and plan work activities efficiently to meet deadlines and high level goals

FINANCE & ADMIN MANAGER

Based in Abuja, the Finance and Admin Manager will coordinate the group's subsidiaries in executing daily, weekly and monthly accounting activities to ensure proper workflow and recording of all financial transactions for the group, including but not limited to G/L postings accruals, reclassifications, etc. The accountant must also be responsible for all payments and establish profit & loss statements, balance sheet, cash flow, capital expenditures, account receivables and other financial reporting tools while advising management on all needed actions. He/She will be responsible for the administration of the groups human resources

Qualifications

- A good University degree or HND in Accounting/ Finance or its equivalent
- 7 years minimum Accounting/ Finance experience, strong analytical skills, computing skills should include; basic word processing, spread sheet (Excel) formatting with the ability to set up a new accounting system

(2) FOCAL POINT DRY CLEANING & LAUNDRY LTD

GENERAL MANAGER

Based in Abuja, the GM will report to the GMD as the administrative head of the laundry division. The GM will be responsible for the execution of the short and long term plans of the laundry, responsible for profitability and ultimately responsible for brand positioning while driving the expansion process into key markets

Qualifications

- A good university degree with a minimum of 10 years experience. An MBA will be added advantage.
- Must be self driven, an ideas person. Pays attention to detail, ability to motivate team to deliver under high pressure and difficult circumstances. Experience in Marketing and Managing Start ups will be an added advantage.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT HEAD

Based in Abuja, the Head will manage and drive the marketing process of the laundry to ensure that set targets are met and surpassed. Conceptualize and propose product packages for consideration and implementation. Monitor competitors' activities with a view to ensuring that Focal Point Laundry maintains top of the range edge in the industry. Will be ultimately responsible for the entire marketing strategy and targets

Qualifications

- Candidate must possess a good University degree. An MBA and a minimum of 8 years experience in Business Development function will be an added advantage

- Must possess high level interpersonal skills. Ability to relate with high net worth individuals with a view to securing business relationships
- High analytical skills and must possess high energy and anxiety to make a definite mark on the industry landscape

MARKETERS

Will be responsible for ensuring that appropriate products are directed at appropriate consumers. Will go out daily to drive the marketing of various products in the organization. Target driven men and women looking to carve a niche.

Qualification

- A good University degree or HND with the ability to stand target pressure demands

CUSTOMER RELATIONS OFFICERS

Will perform daily customer interface functions. First point of contact with clients when they come to our office. Strong interpersonal skills and good telephone skills

Qualification

- Good University degree or HND with ability to stay calm under high pressure from clients, jovial and personable

CLOTHES BAGGING, SEALING & SORTING OFFICER

Clothes Bagging, Sealing & Sorting Officer; Will bear ultimate responsibility for bagging, sealing and sorting products. Will be responsible for compliance to deadline so as to guarantee timely deliveries and customer satisfaction at all times.

Qualifications

- Minimum of Ordinary National Diploma. Previous experience in a world class laundry will be an added advantage

FACTORY SUPERVISOR/ DRY CLEANING MACHINE OPERATOR

Will bear ultimate responsibility for the smooth operations of the factory and ensuring that the factory maintenance standards are met on an ongoing basis. Will ensure that delivery targets are met.

Qualification

- Ordinary National Diploma with 5 years experience in operating world class dry-cleaning machines.

LAUNDRY OPERATOR

Will be responsible for the efficient operation of laundry machines.

Qualifications

- Minimum of Secondary School Certificate with 4 years experience.
- Ability to operate shirt finishing machines, collar & cuff and unipress machines.

PRESSER

Will bear responsibility for accuracy in pressing and timely delivery of pressed materials so as to meet client delivery deadlines.

Qualification

- Minimum of Secondary School Certificate

DRIVER AND OFFICE ASSISTANT

Drivers will be responsible for the maintenance of company vehicles.

Qualification

- Minimum of Secondary School Certificate. Valid driver's license and minimum of 5 years experience driving in a reputable organization

(3) SARDAUNA MAGAZINE

MANAGING EDITOR

Based in Abuja, the Managing Editor will perform advanced diversified editorial and administrative management of Sardauna Magazine. He/she will be responsible for ensuring that high standards of stories and editorial quality are constantly met and will be expected to chart a new direction for the magazine in line with global trends.

Qualification

- A good university degree in Mass Communication or its equivalent with a minimum of 10 years experience

- Excellent writing and analytical abilities with ability to single handily produce a magazine. Fluency in Hausa Language is an added advantage.
- Must possess high energy, initiative good communication and interpersonal skills

DEPUTY EDITOR

Based in Abuja, the Deputy Editor will support the Managing Editor in ensuring that production deadlines are met without failure. Will contribute to lead stories and will be expected to make robust contributions to the different departments of the magazine.

Qualification

- A good university degree in Mass Communication or its equivalent with a minimum of 5 years experience
- Excellent writing and analytical abilities with ability to single handily produce a magazine. Must possess high energy, initiative good communication and interpersonal skills

ADVERT MANAGER

Based in Lagos the Advert Manager will be expected to deliver on the magazines' advert/ revenue targets on an ongoing basis.

Qualification

- A good University Degree from a reputable University or an HND from a reputable Polytechnic
- Experience in advert marketing either for newspaper or magazine will be an added advantage
- 6 years experience is required for this position

ASSISTANT CIRCULATION MANAGER

Based in Abuja, the Assistant Circulation Manager will collaborate with the Circulations Manager to ensure high level visibility and the eventual attainment of national footprint for Sardauna Magazine.

Qualification

- Good University Degree or HND from a reputable institution
- Experience in advert marketing in a magazine or newspaper institution
- 3 years experience is required for this position

(4) SARDAUNA MEDIA CHILD DESTITUTION ERADICATION FOUNDATION

DIRECTOR

Based in Kaduna, the director will report to the GMD as the administrative head of the foundation. The Director is to ensure the collaboration of international donor agencies, corporate organisations, individuals, federal, state and local government. Create a strategy plan to help achieve our goal of building a school and hostel in each Local Government of Northern Nigeria. Ensure proper running of our hostels.

Qualifications

- Candidate must possess a good University degree. An MPA and a minimum of 8 years experience in NGO administration will be an added advantage
- Must possess high level interpersonal skills. Ability to relate with high net worth individuals, public and private organisations and embassies with a view to securing funding
- Must be fluent in Hausa, a Muslim of Northern Extraction and must be passionate about the eradication of almajiranci.



Interested persons may send comprehensive resume with a brief cover letter as ONE MS WORD DOCUMENT to focalpointpublishing@yahoo.com not later than two weeks June 17th, 2010. Please specify the position for which you are applying in the subject line.

Kwara workers get pay rise

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

THE minimum wage for civil servants in Kwara State will now be N 9,050 as against the N7,500, they were receiving before, the state Head of Service Alhaji Dabarako Mohammed has said.

The state Head of Service who spoke with journalists shortly after the state's executive meeting Wednesday, said the new wage was a 20 percent increase of the former wage. Alhaji Dabarako added that the state had put in place measures to ensure that the tax deducted from the workers' salaries does not exceed N1,200.

"The total amount disbursed as workers pay per month was about N442million, but now workers salaries will gulp N523million monthly", he said. Alhaji Dabarako pointed out that the delay in the payment of pensions in the state was not a fault of the government, but due to the refusal of some of the pensioners to process their papers.

"Right now, only about 420 pensioners have processed their papers, at Tuesday this week, 120 were yet to process their papers. I won't stress this any longer. Whoever comes forward with his processed papers will be paid his dues", he said.

Kebbi govt to spend N1bn on electricity

From Isma'il Adebayo, Birnin Kebbi

OVER N1 billion has been approved by the Kebbi State government for the electrification of 21 towns and villages in five local government areas of Shanga, Bagudo, Gwandu, Danko Wasagu and Birnin Kebbi.

Part of this amount is to be used for the procurement of transformers and fertilizers for distribution to farmers in the state.

The Commissioner for Information and Culture Alhaji Sani Muhammed Kangiwa who said this while addressing newsmen after the state executive council meeting on Wednesday said the gesture was part of the state government's efforts at tackling the erratic power supply in the state.

The villages which benefited include, udoche, Unguwar Kibiya/Dudu, Tutunwada, Bena, mai Rimaye, Dankarawa in Danko and Wasagu Local Government Areas of the state. Others are Shanga, Samunaka, Dalijan, Sharabi Kurguwari, Tungar Bata, Fanfaru and Sabon Garin Zagga in Gwandu, Bagudo and Birnin Kebbi Local Government Areas.

The commissioner added that the electrification projects were awarded to Sonyana Construction and Trading Company, Amaniko Nig. Ltd. And Alhaji Shamaki Gado, Birnin Kebbi respectively with a life span of one year and three months. He maintained that N366 million was also spent on the procurement of 75 No. 500KVA, 30 No. 300KVA transformers to boost the distribution of power supply in the state while another N3million was used for the purchase of assorted fertilizers for distribution to farmers.

5 held for re-repackaging Dangote cement

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

THE Kogi State Police Command yesterday paraded five suspects for allegedly re-packaging Dangote cement. They are Sikiru Adeshina, Simon Christopher Martins, Ariyo Joseph and two foreigners, Joseph Leon and Emmanuel Nestoy from Meko town, the boundary between Nigeria and the Republic

of Benin.

The state Commissioner of Police Magaji Abdullahi said the suspects were arrested at Irepe village along Obajana-Kabba expressway while mixing filtered sands with cement to produce a large quantity for distribution.

According to him, the suspects have unregistered depots at Obajana road in Kogi State and Sango Otta in Ogun State, where

they produce fake cement.

The commissioner said investigations were on to arrest others involved in act and assured that the suspected would be charged to court for prosecution. One of the suspects, Sikiru Adeshina, confessed that their leader was in Lagos and admitted that Dangote Cement Company did not permit them to re-package its products.



FROM left: Dean, Faculty of the Initiatives, Esemey Eyiboh, former president Gen. Ibrahim Babangida and Akwa Ibom State Governor Godswill Akpabio, during the inauguration of the group's governing board in Akwa Ibom State, yesterday.

Zamfara trains 1,200 agric workers

From Sadeeq Aliyu, Gusau

THE Zamfara State government is training about 1,200 extension workers in Gusau. Speaking at the workshop, Governor Aliyu Shinkafi said his administration would continue to lay emphasis on staff capacity building and empowerment of farmers to sustain agricultural productivity in the state. He said priority would be accorded

to any activity that would improve agriculture as a greater percentage of people of the state earn their living from agriculture. He said it was in line with that, that the state government introduced agriculture as one of the areas of specialization for youths in the skills acquisition programme, so that they could be taught modern agricultural practices.

The governor stressed the importance

of training extension workers, taking into account the pivotal role they play in educating farmers on modern farming techniques. He said all over the world, extension workers were considered as handy tools and principal means through which the new agricultural innovations are passed from research centres to farmers. He urged the participants to be committed to the training.

Doctors threaten strike over colleague's kidnap

From John Kennedy Uzoma, Owerri

THE Nigerian Medical Association (NMA), Imo State chapter, has threatened to embark on a warning strike to protest the kidnap of one of its members, Dr. Nwabueze Polycarp. In a statement by the state chairman of NMA, Dr. Jide Egwim in Owerri yes-

terday, the doctors said the association would embark on strike if Dr. Polycarp was not released within 48 hours. He added that Polycarp, who is the Medical Director of Chika Medical Centre, Osina in Ideator North Local Government Council of the state was abducted on Friday, May 21, 2010. Egwim said the resolu-

tion was reached at an expanded emergency state executive council meeting of the association held on Tuesday.

He warned that any other kidnap of the association's member would result in indefinite withdrawal of clinic services by all medical and dental practitioners in the state. While commending

government's effort at ensuring security in the state, he said a lot still needed to be done to ensure the security of lives and property. He appealed to the kidnappers to unconditionally release their member alive and in a healthy condition, adding that holding him hostage was not in the interest of anyone.

Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON www.dailytrust.com



LARS Lagerback

Lagerback's Eagles are disheartening - Bassey

ALL those in the Glass House should be held responsible should the Super Eagles perform poorly in South Africa. The ill-treatment of Coach Shuaibu Amodu and the decision not to allow him to take the team he qualified for the World Cup and the top performance he put up at the African Cup of Nations may spell doom for the Super Eagles. The former coach had predicted that the Eagles' performance in South Africa will be woeful and so do I. The handwriting on the wall is clear. Lagerback cannot perform magic. The truth is somebody has been wronged because of primordial sentiments and God is not happy with that.

Vincent Bello

vinceobe@yahoo.com

Oga Bassey, you are right. They will be eaten up by Messi, Milato and Tevez. Kanu at his age is holding the country to ransom. He is far older than Okocha and Oliseh but both have since retired and are the best anyone can think of. Kanu should be careful or he might soon be disgraced off the National team. If Lagerback includes him in the 23-man team, then we are finished.

Uche

u_chukwu@ndsu.edu

Robbers kill bus driver along Abuja-Lokoja road

WHAT sad news. I suggest the government should set up a joint task force to curb the menace of these robbers on our highways

Musa

ms68shuaib@yahoo.com

We hope naive Nigerians who plead with the authorities to spare the life of caught robbers are reading this. The driver might also be a family man and fathers, mothers, uncles, sons, daughters, & wives have lost a loved one. This is not to mention the innocent female passenger who was raped. Let us not use sentiments to judge armed robbers and kidnapers.

Gasky

gaskytruth@gmail.com

4 Kaduna radio staff suspended over Sambo's gaffe

WELL I think suspending the staff is not the solution unless the vice president is saying negative things against the good people of Kaduna state who before his present appointment are the ones that voted for him to rule them. Our leaders should learn how to govern their people with transparency in all their affairs.

Abubkr Badru Jkamshi

damurna@yahoo.com

The reason this thing happened is because security operatives handle people as if they are criminals whenever there are dignitaries are around. I am sure the newsmen were pushed out and that was why they forgot the microphones were on. Surely if they had been spoken to nicely they would have left in an orderly fashion.

Samira

sdegoshie@yahoo.com

The incident was unfortunate. I am sure they did not mean any harm. It is human to err but divine to forgive. Sir, tamper justice with mercy.

Abimiku Builus

abimikytina@yahoo.com

Well these are some of the hazards of the profession, but it was unprofessional of them because this could bring disharmony between the Vice-President and the other politicians who the Vice-President was referring to. The management should still reconsider them though. I think they have learned their lessons.

Adams

beshedsadams1@yahoo.com

So what?! In advanced democracies, things like this happen and give the people an opportunity what senior officials are discussing when they think the masses are out of earshot but here in Nigeria, because most of our leaders don't have the interest of the people at heart, it is an offense. These staff could have been promoted if it is in another democracy.

Usman Santuraki

usbaturaki@yahoo.com

They should not have been sus-



VICE President Namadi Sambo

ended because I am sure they didn't do it intentionally. As Mrs. Samira said, maybe the security operatives rushed them out of the conference room and they forget to put off the micro phones.

Mansur

mansurmyb@gmail.com

I wonder how this suspension can take effect in a democratic state.

CNN aired the secret plan by the former governor of New York to meet with a prostitute which cost him his office. Almost the same thing happened with Clinton and Brown's recent case was also aired by the Britain's own broadcasting corporation. Although Nigeria is different, the NUJ must do something.

Usman Ahmed Danbaba

danbaba1986@yahoo.com

Foreign firm locks up minister in lift

I called this "an affront" to the Nigerian Authorities. Let this firm be chastised so as to serve as a lesson to other foreign firms because I don't think there is any country in the world that can tolerate this claptrap attitude towards a high ranking government officer.

Yahaya Ibn Idris

ibnidrees@gmail.com

...Really? It is surprising that the culprit was not immediately arrested and charged with wrongful imprisonment, obstruction and whatever the law says about this. If the offender has diplomatic immunity he should be declared persona non-grata by now and be chased well outside our shores. Unfortunately, this incident shows how low we have fallen before the foreign interests operating in our own country. This is largely due the unbelievable level of complicity by our elites. We hope this will be the last time anyone tries this on a Nigerian on Nigerian soil!

Muhammad Nalya

naiyamd@yahoo.com

AP Moller should be sent packing. The company has insulted the whole nation. Locking a minister in the lift for 35 minutes will never be tolerated anywhere in the world especially if the company is working under the ambit of a government ministry. This company must be made example of especially when since there are many other foreign companies taking the country for a ride in different other ways.

I. Haruna

haba_yaro@yahoo.co.uk

This company should be closed and banned from operating in this country. If they can humiliate a minister like this, one can only imagine the treatment they can mete out to other Nigerians. We should not continue to tolerate foreigners who have no respect for our government.

Adams

adamgambo48@yahoo.co.uk

Court orders halt to Pfizer DNA test

UNFORTUNATELY, in all this it is the poor victims who bear the brunt and will continue to bear it. If truly the list of claimants differs substantially from what Pfizer has, then a neutral party - agreed to by both sides - can authenticate the list. But there is no way the authentic claimants can all be identified without a conclusive proof and DNA testing is one of the choices available. We still feel, HRH, the Emir of Kano can play the Good Samaritan by getting the two sides to sit and resolve this issue. Going to

court only escalates the costs to the real victims and their survivors.

Muhammad NaIya

naiyamd@yahoo.com

Please this report lacks the following details:

1. Which high court in Abuja gave the order?
2. Which judge gave the order?
3. Why was it a High Court in Abuja when the matter is domiciled in Kano?

Usman

shehudal@yahoo.com

FG: No plan to jettison 7-point agenda

MY own position here is this: what positive things has this 7-point agenda done for us apart from the feeling of self pity (which quite strangely gives some few people comfort)? Therefore, cutting this agenda from seven to one, and that one should preferably be the power sector, is something that this administration should do without any contemplation.

Abubkr Badru Jkamshi

damurna@yahoo.com

Mr Yakowa, it's advisable that you embark on proper and effective consultations over whom you will run the affairs of your state together with because we, the masses, are tired of all the existing political palaver decorated by deceptions and adorned with verbal diarrhea that abound. I am sure this delay in picking your deputy will result in a choice that is not in our favor.

Umar Saidu

abuayman1213@yahoo.com

Senate approves 50% pay raise for assembly staff

What is good for the goose is also good for the gander. The staff of the National Assembly should also have their own share of the booty

the legislators are sharing among themselves.

M. D. Yusuf

mdyus2002@yahoo.co.uk

Siemens: EFCC grills Olanrewaju

IF Nigerians will toe the path of Germany by fast-tracking the investigation and prosecuting the accused persons our country will

be a better place for all. Let's join hands and kill this unwanted child.

Abubkr Badru Jkamshi

damurna@yahoo.com



By Hassan Nasir Achida

Objective look-back at the Abacha years

Admittedly, the late General Sani Abacha was one of the most misunderstood leaders ever to rule Nigeria. One of the interesting ironies of Nigeria is the fact that we appreciate the achievements of our leaders many years after they are gone. The late General Abacha is no exception to this reality of the contradictions that characterize our country. He was painted in the darkest colours of hate and prejudice by enemies and critics that didn't have the slightest humanity to allow charity rule their hearts in their assessment of him.

While he was in office, his acerbic critics branded him a "maximum dictator", a "brutal ruler" and "enemy of democracy." Twelve years after his death, however, we are now being compelled to re-evaluate and redefine our attitude towards the late military ruler. If we blamed Abacha for "brutal dictatorship", who do we blame for the do-or-die politics in Nigeria today, which is characterized by political repression and assassination of perceived opponents that constitute imagined threats to our power?

If, indeed, political repression was exclusively in the nature of Abacha as alleged by his enemies, why is our

Do we blame Abacha for the shameless rigging of election that brings discredited individuals to power who rule the people against their will?

politics still dominated by violence, repression of dissidents, intolerance and criminal suppression of voters' sovereignty? Do we blame Abacha for the shameless rigging of election that brings discredited individuals to power who rule the people against their will? Looking back, we may be tempted to forgive Abacha's perceived weakness against the atrocities committed in the name of politics today.

Even on economic matters, the late General Abacha deserves more credit than his critics are ready and humble enough to acknowledge. Throughout his brief but dynamic tenure, General Abacha resisted the temptation of collecting foreign loans, which is an instrument of economic slavery. In fact, one of the reasons the Western nations hated his regime was his refusal to take dictation. He managed to tackle inflation and ensured the exchange between the naira and Western currencies didn't harm our own domestic economy. He refused to throw the naira to the Western sharks and thus, he became the target of Western hostility.

It is to General Abacha's enduring credit that petroleum subsidy withdrawal brought concrete benefits to Nigerians. During Obasanjo's presidency, we witnessed frequent fuel price increases that hit N75 per litre. Despite the charade that the increases

were in our interest, Nigerians ultimately swallowed the bitter pills of disappointment. Proceeds of subsidy withdrawal were mismanaged and in some cases diverted to private pockets. Cases like this have made Nigerians to re-define their attitudes towards Abacha and appreciate him better than they previously did.

According to Professor Sam Aluko, the Chairman of late General Abacha's National Economic Intelligence Committee, the former military ruler was a stickler for financial discipline. He recalled how the late Abacha sacked a minister when he discovered that the cabinet member wanted to defraud the government to the tune of 500 million dollars for the importation of bitumen.

Abacha discovered that with 50 million dollars, the bitumen could have been locally produced but the minister opted for importation for private gain at the expense of the public. Professor Aluko recalled that the late General Abacha had no hesitation sacking the minister for attempting to defraud the government. If General Abacha hadn't acted decisively, public interest would have been sacrificed for someone else's private gain. Many of these facts were not known to Nigerians until Professor Aluko spoke up to expose the hypocrisy of Abacha's critics.

Professor Aluko repeated that he had no regrets serving under Abacha because, according to him, the late military ruler was more patriotic than his critics are willing to admit. Throughout Abacha's five-year rule, insecurity, poverty, despair and poor health standards didn't decline dramatically as they did years after Abacha was no more in power. Years after Abacha's exit, Nigerians became captives of fear. We now live on our nerves and the level of assassinations under Obasanjo had confirmed the hopeless state of insecurity.

General Abacha should no longer be a pretext for someone else's failures. If his vision 2010 blueprint, led by Chief Ernest Shonekan, was honestly sustained and implemented, Nigeria would have been far ahead of where it is now. Former Finance Minister, Dr. Shamsuddeen Usman, once admitted at a public function that he couldn't understand why the former Obasanjo administration jettisoned the economic blueprint conceived by Abacha.

The late General Abacha assembled experts from all fields of knowledge to produce the vision 2010 economic blueprint. Either out of jealousy or sheer hatred, the former Obasanjo administration threw the document overboard and didn't provide a better alternative in its place. Nothing destroys or slows down the progress of a nation worse than allowing the whims and caprices of leaders to become official policies. Since the abandonment of vision 2010, Nigeria is back into the cul-de-sac.

Railway rehabilitation is another area where Nigerians will continue to hail the memory of General Abacha.

Achida wrote from No.26, Federal Housing, Runjin Sambo, Sokoto.



By Tunji Ajibade

ATM inventor: Leaving the world a better place

He couldn't withdraw cash from his bank. He was late by one minute. That made all the difference. It led to the difference he made to the world. And it was on a Saturday night. The year was 1965. John Shepherd-Barron had trekked back home, worried. His mind trekked too. There must be a better way to get cash when I wanted it, he thought. He thought of what the chocolate dispenser could do. Then he went to work on his idea. It took all of two years. That included time spent at the kitchen table discussing his idea with his wife.

She said she could only remember four figures, not six, so because of her, he configured four figures into his machine. His invention was installed at a branch of Barclays bank in north London on June 27, 1967. And so the world had the predecessor to ATMs. But the inventor had no patent. Now no one visiting one of the 1.7 million cash machines around the world recalled Shepherd-Barron until he died recently.

The manner many of the news report on his death announced it tells much. One of such says: "John Shepherd-Barron, a Scotsman credited with inventing the automated teller machine in the 1960s, died on Sat-

This intensely very private woman died on January 5, 2003 at the age of 77. Her passing was largely un-noticed

urday in Scotland. He was 84 and lived in Portmahomack, a Scottish coastal town." It was as if he was never there, breathing, until he passed on, largely unsung. The man had added to a world that added practically nothing to him. Many who came and perpetuated greater immorality in the world got better ovation. The lot of Shepherd-Barron has been the lot of some great minds. They, often, didn't bother to leave their signatures on their works. But they did leave the world better than they met it.

Daphne Oram was a fellow like Shepherd-Barron. Without her, the world might never have known some of the quality radio programming at the time it did. She started work at the BBC in 1943 as a sound engineer. She was aged 18, and she had passionate interest in sound, music and electronics. She was initially in charge of ensuring sound levels were right for broadcast, and she helped to make sound effects for plays. She tried to encourage her

employer to take the idea of electronic sounds with some seriousness.

She gave attention to her hobby for long hours after hours in the course of the war. She failed to persuade her bosses to create an electronic studio, but she stayed late in office, assembled the BBC's first tape recorders together and built a studio. She had to disassemble it every morning. But in 1957, her effort to get the BBC to open a radiophone workshop became fruitful. The workshop provided background music to programmes, and she was its first director.

This intensely very private woman died on January 5, 2003 at the age of 77. Her passing was largely un-noticed. She had been quiet for years, and her legacy was mostly unheard. A colleague of her had said "she lived music. She was as poor as a church mouse, because any money that came to her went into her music gadgets."

There is something to be picked from the life of John Shepherd-Barron and Daphne Oram. And it may be for all out there. One known Nigerian came to Abuja and spoke recently. She was asked how she managed to rise to prominence at such, relatively, tender age.

This lady is a writer, and she had mentioned every other thing before she added 'and of course, I made my choice; the choice to write, and be committed to writing.' She had written a book in her early twenties while she was here in Nigeria. And she had spent her money to pay in part for its publication to a publisher. She would later leave for the United States of America where she began to write another book. That book later won a Commonwealth Prize. Another book that came shortly after it won the Orange Prize, and thus by the time she was about thirty years of age, hers had become a famous face all over the world. Her name is Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

There can't be much to be added to the above, except to state the obvious, that the importance of being committed to a vision. Great mind that went unsung shared the same traits with minds that were sung, such as the Albert Einsteins, the Adichies.

There is no way up except to look up, making most of time, opportunities, and be committed to a vision. Names of such people are written not only on marble but in gold. And, of course it is not what a man takes from the world that makes him great. It is, rather, what he adds to it in his own little corner - the John Shepherd-Barron way, who in 2004 was awarded an Officer of the Order of the British Empire by the Queen of England. It was in recognition of his contributions to banking.

Ajibade wrote from Abuja (tunjioa@yahoo.com)



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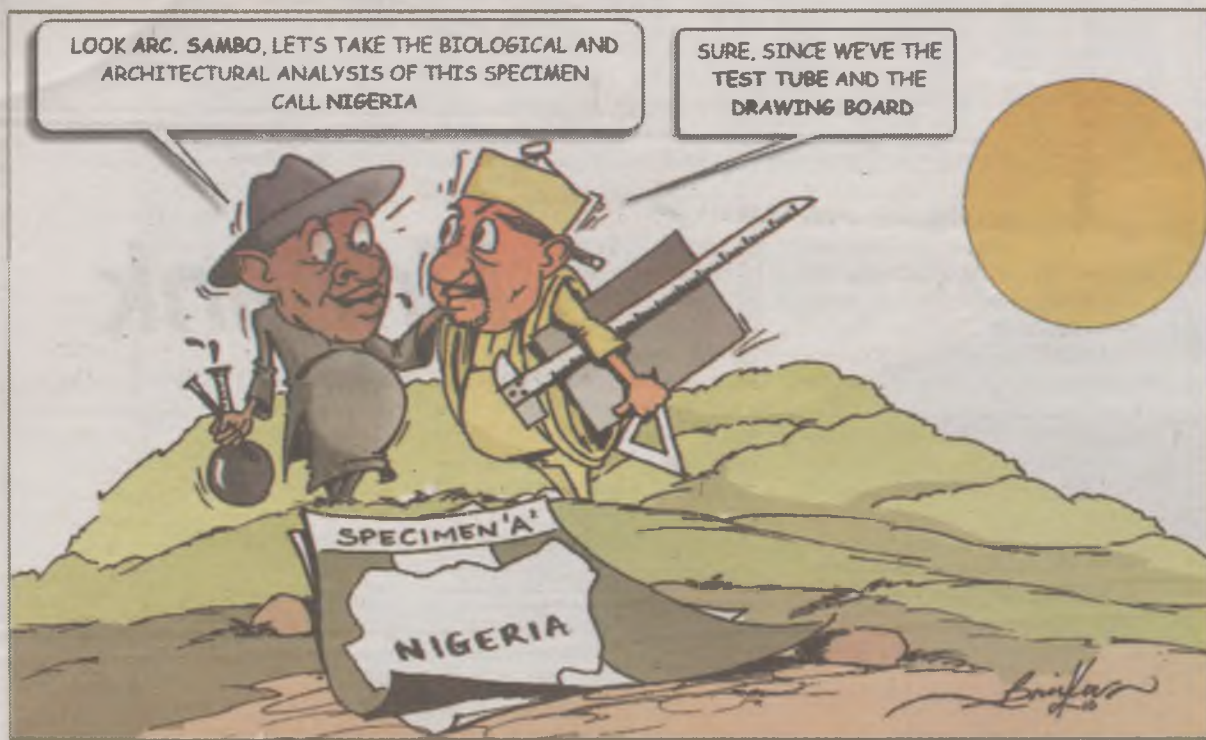
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Your Letters

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Re: Katsina PDP in the news again

May I, bring to your notice the publication of a story that appeared in the Tuesday, May 25, 2010 edition of *Daily Trust* entitled "Katsina PDP in fresh crisis"

In the said story, your Katsina State correspondent who never runs out of such reports about the state indicates that a "PDP change 2011" office has been opened and a "few days later, thugs allegedly loyal to the state government attacked the office complex destroying every structure within the premises."

Your correspondent also spoke with one Dr. Mustapha Inuwa who tried to rationalize the opening of that office, quoting him as saying the group did not need the consent of the State PDP leadership to open such office. Yet the correspond-

ent did not think it professionally expedient to speak with either the new PDP EXCO or the state government's spokesperson to get their reaction to the story.

This is unfortunate, to say the least. How can the former PDP EXCO members who tenure expired and were removed from office in place of newly elected officials attempt to set up a parallel office and your correspondent attempted to rationalize it by not questioning its legality?

Even when it was glaring that the illegal office is used to, once again, breed hoodlums with the intent to use them to foment trouble and destabilize the peaceful Katsina state. A parallel party office has never been known to exist in any state of the federation. Why would this happen in Katsina?

Did the group apply and obtain the PDP National Headquarters' approval to set up this office? If answers to these questions are in the negative, then the Nigeria Police in Katsina should take note

of this clear breach of the peace in the state.

If this is an attempt by the former PDP executives who served for 11 years in office instead of eight to remain in the office through the back-door everyone should beware of the trouble those behind this amorphous group want to foment not long after the passing away of the former party leader in the state.

The claim that the illegal party office is for a candidate cannot be supported by any evidence. This is because no candidate's poster or signage is on the building.

Finally, I strongly recommend that your Katsina State correspondent should to balance his reports to avoid damaging the reputation your newspaper has built over the years as an impartial arbiter on public issues.

I thank you for giving me this opportunity to air my views on this issue.

Abdullahi Halilu, 10A Yarinci Quarters, Katsina.

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

Zoning arrangement

ZONING is not in the constitution and the president is not mandated by anybody or anything to tow that line. Sani Zanon Daura's statement that the north has given much to keep Nigeria united is ultimately false. The north has ruled this country for far longer than any other part of the country, but what can we show for it? Instead we are still regarded as the most backward region of the country. It is said that charity begins at home; if we haven't been able to give back to our people by the way of better school system and lifestyle, what then can the north give to Nigeria?
AGNES Adamu Chidawa, 08069127445.

Rotation

LET the south remember that the rotation issue is to their favour; they are shooting their own leg-

Let's all come out to vote and see what happens next.
ABDU Birma, Maiduguri, 08038888896.

On power

THE federal government should please stop wasting taxpayers' money on this stubborn sector, spare or channel it to some other developmental projects instead. After all, the United Nations recently scored the whole of Africa as low on power generation. What a shame on African leaders!
KASIM, Yola, 07032143998.

Who cares?

WHETHER Governor Obi is popular or not, is immaterial. I just want to advise him to release the names of the successful candidates in the post-primary teachers' recruitment exercise done two weeks before the gubernatorial

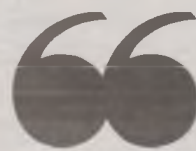
election in Anambra State.
UCHE Sunday, Awka, 07037674745.

Attention, Gov Yakowa

IS Goni Gora across the rail not part of Kaduna State? We don't have water, no light, and no good road. Let the new governor do something about it please.
PHILIP Osondu, Kaduna, 07065994364.

Re: Partisan Daily Trust

DR Aboh should know that the *Daily Trust* editorial of Tuesday, 25th May, 2010, he complained about is on the contrary quite convincing and elaborate, NOT a partisan as you said. If you are not convinced with it and against PDP zoning formula that started not today, then it is you that are into partisan politics, and would be a shame!
BAGUDU, Minna, 07034943575.



By Nnamdi Akaleme

Are we the Igbo a cursed people?

Cont'd. from yesterday.

Note that all of them fell out nearly within the first four year tenure as Senate President and none completed his tenure as the Senate President. The question again is; are the *Ndi-Igbo* under a curse? This was so disturbing and shameful that one paper wrote about inventing an Igbo man to hold the office of the Senate President; if that would be possible any way. This call to a serious question which every one would like to avoid, were the Igbo to hold the number one office in the land how many of them will be falling and rising before the tenure is over. An unsteady polity it is, indeed!

Between 1999 and 2007 a span of eight years, the political heat was at its peak in Anambra, where Governor Ngige and his mentor Chris Uba held sway. Before them, there was Governor Chinwoke Nbadinuju versus Chief Arthur Eze (the godfathers and their pickings) who almost brought the state to standstill. Take the statistics of politicians with confused ideologies crisscrossing and cross-carpeting to other parties, the *Ndi-Igbo* are in the lead.

During the political crises in Anambra State, one expected Ojukwu to play a mediatory role between the contending parties. No, rather he released a bombshell "another civil war was imminent". The Nigeria Senate took exception to that statement and asked the old man to guide his tongue. Why won't Ojukwu sound so; by the way has any of his family members ever died of malnutrition and Kwashiorkor? When he returned home, his father's house at 29 Queens Drive, Victoria Island, Lagos was handed back to him intact by the federal government. This contrasted with the situation where many houses in the then Eastern region including my own father's house at Isuikwuato, Abia state were reduced to rubble as a result of heavy artillery and mortar bombardment. Today many of such houses remain desolate heaps. If war is sweet, Ojukwu should stay put to finish the one he started.

Furthermore, some years back Ojukwu's mouth was wide open again on some topical issues, betraying a lack of common logic. Now again Ojukwu is quoted as supporting Ibrahim Babangida for 2011 general election. The issue which Ojukwu failed to understand is that if Aso Rock Villa is to be occupied in turn for four years among all able bodied Nigerians, then I think that IBB had had his turn twice QED! Whoever that is supporting IBB should be examined. This same IBB stepped aside and left Nigeria halfway to disintegration in a manner that would have doubled Liberia, Somalia and others; and which would turned over hundred million Nigerian into refugees pouring into neighbouring countries and beyond. Many thanks to the Almighty, who has kept Nigeria together to this day. People like IBB are supposed to have been tied with a millstone on the neck and drowned in the River Niger.

Of late, one other Igbo lad by the name of Ikenga who has been going about in the manner of Kalu, singing the IBB praise. IBB's home state is predominantly Nupe, Gwari Hausa/Fulani, why would IBB not pick his town-crier from his side of the country? One may ask, must *Ndi-Igbo* sell off their conscience for monetary gain?

Does it not border any rational thinker that within the second quarter of this year, two notable prominent Igbo sons fell out of power and out of grace? Think of Professor Maurice Iwu the INEC Chairman and Vincent Ogbulafor, the chairman of the ruling Political Party People Democratic Party (PDP). These offices are the only two prestigious ones to be occupied by any Igbo in this dispensation. Prof. Iwu whose removal was acclaimed both in Nigeria and beyond was accused of gross incompetence, while Ogbulafor had to bow out on corruption charges. If the Igbo are so untrustworthy, if they are so unstable, how will the generality of the Nigerian people entrust their future in their hands.

The situation now has become somewhat shameful that even the *Ohaneze Ndi-Igbo* has gradually lost its voice. It is equally painful that in this political era there is no one Igbo personality whose voice could be accorded with respect and candour.

In the interim, all hopes are not lost. We need such Igbo persons devoid of corrupt practices, one with frankness, openness, truthfulness and sincerity of purpose and love to unite the already fragmented people. The *Ohaneze Ndi-Igbo* should come out tough to sanction any Igbo personality who will indulge in the roles Kanu and Nzeribe played in times past.

Concluded.

Akaleme wrote from Isuikwuato, Abia State (nnamdi-akaleme@yahoo.com)

DAILY TRUST

EDITORIAL

No. 20 P.O.W. Mafemi Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way,
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The Nigerian child

Yesterday was marked across Nigeria as in other parts of the world as "International Children's and Youth Day". Children who are privileged to be in school were engaged in different activities, including march-past and other social events to mark the occasion. But not every child is celebrating, or is aware of this special occasion. Too many of them suffer from deprivations such as poverty, hunger, illiteracy, disease and squalor. Every May 27 is set aside by the United Nations Children's Education Fund (UNICEF) for the entire world to appreciate children, recognise their needs and plight. In our clime, it is a day on which to soberly reflect on the dismal state of Nigerian children especially the millions that are disadvantaged.

The many indices about the state of the Nigerian child have prompted many to ask whether there is anything to cheer by most Nigerian children. Many school-age children are not in formal schools, swelling the population of illiterates in a country that should have wiped out illiteracy before the close of the twentieth century given its resources. Efforts by government to educate Nigerian children through the Universal Basic Education (UBE) scheme launched 11 years ago have so far failed to achieve the two principal goals of making education free and compulsory.

Access to qualitative education, which is a basic right, is out of the reach of many of them. Capacity is low; access limited. Children who manage to make it to public schools do not usually have good stories to tell as most of the schools are eyesores, lacking basic infrastructure necessary for effective teaching and learning to take place. School buildings are dilapidated; libraries, where these exist, are ill-equipped; vital laboratory equipments are obsolete or non-existent; when parents cannot provide classroom furniture, children squat on bare floor or share seats to learn. Teachers at the basic level of education are on strike for most parts of the academic calendar due largely to poor remuneration or unpaid salaries. Yet, we expect the Nigerian child to compete favourably with his counterparts from other parts of the world where education is given the utmost priority.

In some parts of the country, children move in hordes in the street, begging for alms, as we see in the intractable *Almajiri* syndrome. They become easy prey to unscrupulous persons who use them as tools to foment civil unrest. All these are happening in Nigeria, a developing country that should consider it a matter of priority to invest optimally in its children and their future. Nigerian leaders should be reminded that the continuing failure to adequately address the needs of children has grave repercussions for the nation.

Parents too share some blame for the plight of the Nigerian child. Many have put their business interests above the education, care and love due to their children, thus exposing them to all forms of social abuse. The high prevalence of broken homes in some parts of the country has had its negative consequences on the moral upbringing of children and youths. The alarming rate of poverty ravaging parents of most Nigerian children occasioned by unemployment has brought hunger and diseases to bear upon the children's population in Nigeria.

Appropriate agencies of government and other stakeholders should take steps to ensure that the Child Rights Act passed by the National Assembly is adopted by all the states of the federation and implemented faithfully as a way of protecting and promoting the rights of the Nigerian child. In addition, the government should consider re-engineering the UBE scheme in order to guarantee that the nation's future leaders receive, at least, basic education. Agencies responsible for combating child-trafficking, child labour, prostitution and other forms of child abuse should ensure that these children are not exposed to these dangers at this stage of their lives. Therefore, Children's Day celebration should be occasion for serious soul-searching on the plight of the Nigeria child.

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Joy Emodi and the Anambra cabal

By Nathaniel Onyemelukwe

Though the word "Cabal" came into popular usage in Nigeria's political discourse in the dying days of late President Yar'adua, cabalism, also known as kitchen cabinet and clique has always been entrenched governance in Nigeria, whether under the military or democracy. Under the IBB Regime, we had the IBB Boys which remains a politico-social interest group till date despite a few defections. Under Abacha, we had the kitchen cabinet comprising people like Almustapha (the de facto Head of State), General Useni, etc. This democratic dispensation has also had an unfair share of cabalism and *godfather-ism*. Both have also become gravely entrenched as the two leprous fingers of Anambra politics since 1999.

For Joy Emodi, it has been a long and raw battle with the Anambra cabal. And it is against this backdrop that outsiders to Anambra politics can best appreciate the tussle over the Anambra North Senatorial seat between Senator Joy Emodi and Chief Alphonsus Igbeke. It is simply a continuum of the long struggle between her and a tiny number that has been constituted and oiled by interests outside Anambra State to continue to reproach the Igbo nation and Anambra. It is a cabal that has broken the wings of the high and mighty, kidnapped a serving governor, and therefore feels bitterly slighted by Emodi's audacious political ambitions and exploits.

But Emodi's "sins" against the cabal began before 1999. Having shown the stuff she was made of at the Constituent Assembly in Abuja that produced the 1995 Draft Constitution, ordinary Anambrians readily embraced her candidacy when she declared interest in the Governorship of the State during the Abacha transition programme. But the cabals would have none of that. They could not bear the thought of a woman ruling over them. Unfortunately, she had generated so much grassroots followership that only Abacha's death which truncated that transition could torpedo her quest for the governorship seat.

She returned to the governorship race on the platform of the APP during the Abdulsalami Abubakar transition programme in 1998. Hell was however let loose as the cabal mobilized against her, descending even to the most ridiculous. I remember one of the cabalists told Emodi to her face at a forum that it was abominable for

a woman to break kola nuts in Igbo land and that he wondered how she could handle such task if she should become No. 1 Citizen of Anambra. I also remember she asked the godfather how military Administrators of northern origin who had ruled the State were handling the task, but in any case, that they should not worry as she wouldn't mind appointing a Commissioner for Kola nut breaking. They nevertheless ganged up and rigged her out. It was only when the cabal fell out with Chinwoke Mbadinaju (even before Mbadinaju's inauguration) that they prodded her to file a petition at the tribunal promising to supply all necessary evidence against Mbadinaju. She told them she wasn't desperate about power

buy PDP forms for the primaries, let alone campaign and run at senatorial elections. Emodi fought back and reclaimed her mandate along with Ben Obi. The rest is history.

But Emodi also shot herself in the foot by refusing to touch the N50m Tenure Elongation largesse in 2006. Not even all the threats that those who refused to back Third Term (which her refusal to collect the N50m implied) would not be allowed to return could shake her principle. Expectedly, the 2007 election was a payback time for her "insubordination". Anambra North was the only Senatorial Zone PDP conducted free and fair primaries, hoping to undo her with their resources, but the woman was solidly on ground. During the campaigns, resources such as campaign

Not even all the threats that those who refused to back Third Term (which her refusal to collect the N50m implied) would not be allowed to return could shake her principle

and that in any case, she could not be used as a cannon fodder. Emodi's principled rejection of their gesture has continued to hunt her as they vowed she would never smell any elective position in the state. The cabal nevertheless tried every other means possible to sack Mbadinaju, turning Anambra to a theatre of war of attrition in their bid.

Then came 2003 when Emodi sought PDP Senatorial ticket for Anambra North which she won. They actually needed her followership to win the elections, but they had other plans she didn't know. Ben Obi and Nicholas Ukachukwu also won their PDP senatorial primaries. The trio eventually won at the general elections and were duly issued with Certificates of Return. But seven days later, the godfathers reared their ugly heads in tandem with their promise never to allow her exercise any elective position. They simply got the super godfather sitting in Aso Rock to commander Abel Guobadia (INEC Chairman at the time) to strip the trio of their Certificates of Return and confer same on Ugochukwu Uba, Emmanuel Anosike, and Ikechukwu Abana who did not even

subventions and buses meant for her were diverted by the cabal to her opponent. Even at that, they cancelled the Anambra North Senatorial elections on the 21st April over frivolous excuses when they saw, to their surprise, that she was victory bound. They cancelled the election again on April 22nd midway and shifted it to April 28th. Even at that she won and they resorted to withholding the results for over a day. Results that were supposed to be announced around 6-7am waited till 1am of Monday 30th April when they saw that the red in the eyes of Anambrians who were no longer ready to tolerate the hide and seek game.

Having trounced the people they sponsored against her even at the tribunals because her victory and political career are rooted in the people, it is not surprising that the evil cabal, a nest of monstrous traducers of democracy resorted to using Chief Igbeke, a man who never ran for the election in the real sense of it, and on the platform of a party that is nonexistent in Anambra to try to undo her through a nest of corrupt judicial cabal.

But whatever happens, Anambra, not Emodi, first Igbo female Senator will be the loser. Other states try to put their best foot forward, but the cabals of Anambra displace our eagles with the vultures, light with darkness, integrity with fraud, and people of conscience with the conscienceless. What a sordid legacy we are bequeathing to our children. May this evil smoke trail only those with the smoky firewood.

Elder Onyemelukwe wrote from Ogbaru, Anambra State.

Other states try to put their best foot forward, but the cabals of Anambra displace our eagles with the vultures, light with darkness, integrity with fraud, and people of conscience with the conscienceless



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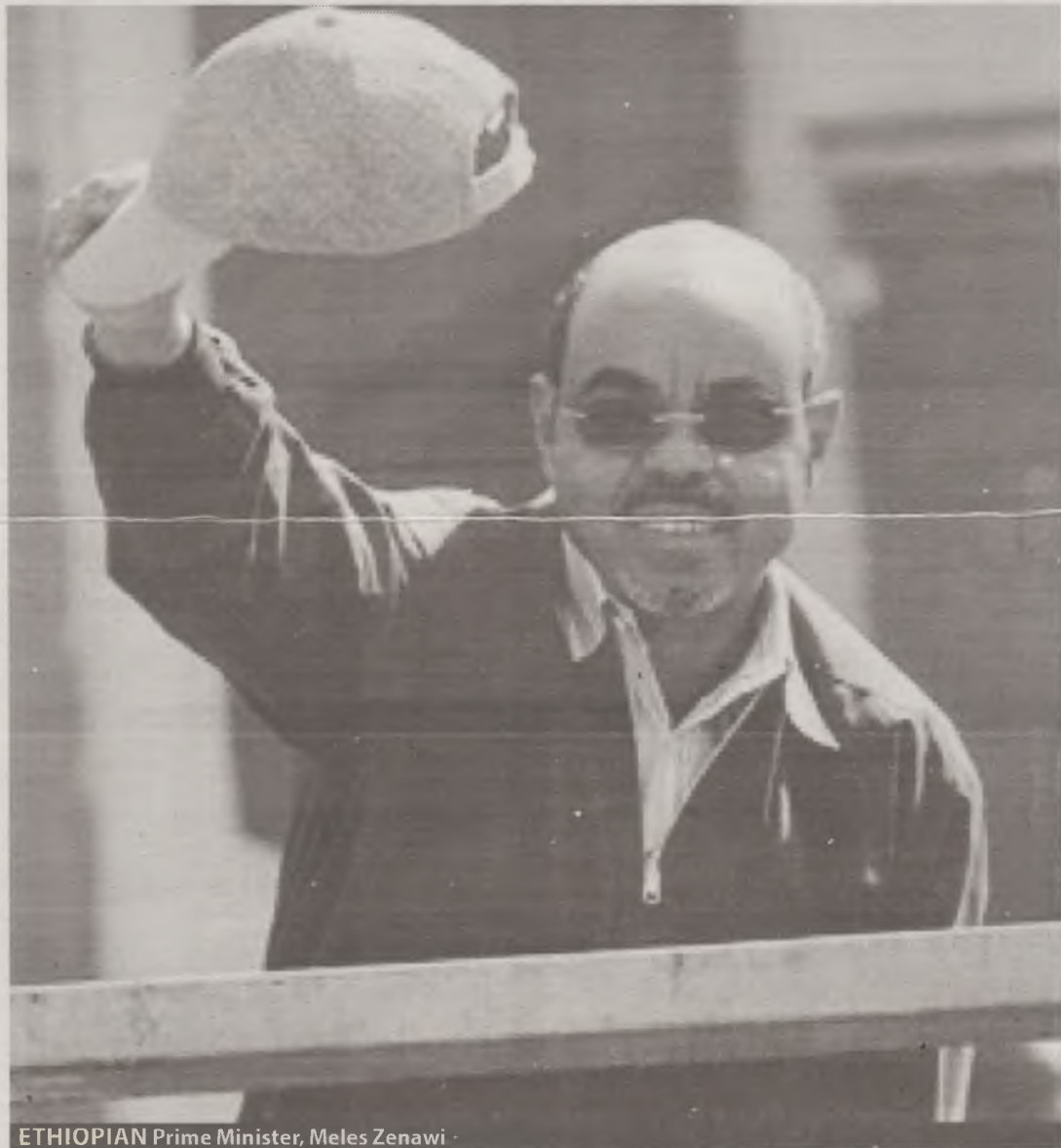
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MIDWEEK AFRICA

Ethiopia: A landslide victory and controversy for Meles Zenawi



ETHIOPIAN Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi

By Is'haq Modibbo Kawu

THE Ethiopian Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi, on Tuesday this week addressed a huge rally, following the massive victory recorded by the ruling party, the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) in last weekend's general election.

Meles told his opponents that "even if you don't have seats in parliament we promise to consult you on issues of national concern. We consider you an important part of this renaissance".

Thousands of supporters took to the streets of Addis Ababa, the capital, celebrating the success. Meles Zenawi told the crowd "the people's vote will not be overturned by foreign forces".

He added that the opposition "must accept the decision of our great and proud people, and not become tools of external forces that don't have the right to act as the ultimate judges of our elections".

On the eve of the polls, Prime

Minister Zenawi had expressed optimism that his party would win the elections, thanks to its record on economic development. Meles Zenawi asked REUTERS to "imagine a government which has delivered double-digit growth rates for over seven years losing an election anywhere on earth."

It is unheard of for such a phenomenon to happen. The landslide victory announced on Tuesday, seemed to have confirmed Zenawi's confident prediction, with his party capturing at least 534 of the 546 seats declared in a 547 seat parliamentary, according to an announcement by the electoral body.

International election observers are however lukewarm in their reception of the results. A statement by European Union election observers said the elections were marred by "a narrowing of political space and an uneven playing field".

It added that the election fell short of international standards,

"notably regarding the transparency of the process and the lack of a level playing field for all the contesting parties".

But there were even harsher criticisms, with Human Rights Watch claiming that the government used repressive tactics to ensure its victory. "Behind an orderly façade, the government pressured, intimidated and threatened Ethiopian voters".

Human Rights Watch added that government officials and militia members went house to house in recent weeks to warn Ethiopians to vote for the ruling party or face reprisals that could include loss of their homes and jobs, according to the international human rights organization.

A leading opposition figure, Hailu Shawel was also skeptical about the results declared. He said the result was "ridiculous" because it was completely controlled by the ruling party. "They just want power"; "they want to be there forever".

The EU observer team which also included five Canadian observers said the ruling party was boosted by unfair assistance from local officials in many regions of the country.

Observers witnessed many cases where resources of the state were used "for ruling party campaign activities", adding that "such misuse of state resources can give the incumbent an unfair advantage in the campaign and reflects an uneven playing field".

In a statement in the lead to the elections, Canada's Foreign Minister, Lawrence Cannon, had also said that he had "concerns about the electoral environment leading up to the elections, which has hampered the ability of all political parties to participate in a full and unfettered manner".

Ethiopia's ally in the "war on terror" and supporter of its invasion of neighbouring Somalia, the United States, also expressed reservations about the weekend elections.

Spokesman for the United States National Security Council, Mike Hammer, said in Washington that "an environment conducive to free and fair elections was not in place even before election day". He added that "in recent years, the Ethiopian government has taken steps to restrict the political space for the opposition through intimidation and harassment, tighten its control over civil society, and curtail the activities of the independent media".

Yet despite the criticisms, AllAfrica.com reports that neither the US nor the EU have suggested that their concern will seriously threaten relations with Ethiopia.

They had even accepted that the elections were peaceful, compared to the 2005 polls that were attended by protests and the killing of 193 protesters and seven policemen.

The EU's foreign affairs chief, Catherine Ashton, issued a statement recognizing "the challenging environment in which these elections took place", while stating that "the EU stands ready to work with Ethiopia to address these challenges and to further deepen our relations with the government and the peoples of Ethiopia".

In Washington, Hammer also reminded that Ethiopia and the US have "a multifaceted relationship and share a number of important interests". Hammer added that "we will work dili-

gently with Ethiopia to ensure that strengthened democratic institutions and open political dialogue become a reality for the Ethiopian people".

Stripped of diplomatic niceties, it means business as usual by the international community in its relationship with Ethiopia. Ethiopia is far too important in the strategic calculations of the Western countries for them to be unnecessarily over-worried about a flawed election or the fact that Meles Zenawi, a key ally in the wars against Islamist groups in the Horn of Africa, has been in power since 1991.

Ethiopia is a country of 85 million people, and is one of the most important countries in the Horn of Africa as well as the continent in general.

So despite constant criticisms of the human rights records of the regime, Ethiopia continues to receive billions of dollars of foreign aid, a significant portion of which comes from the United States.

In the years since seizing power from the brutal military dictator, Mengistu Haile Mariam, Meles Zenawi has wrestled with challenges of persistent droughts; he fought a bitter border war with Eritrea and has continued to face rebel movements around the country.

He got Ethiopia sucked into the Bush administration's "war on terror", by invading Somalia to prevent an Islamist government in the country. Yet, Meles Zenawi has also achieved a higher international profile in recent years, being made the representative of the African continent during the climate change negotiations in Copenhagen.

Most of the actors in the international arena look at the strategic importance of Ethiopia and its huge population as too important to ignore. Added to that is the image of Meles Zenawi as an economic reformer who has also brought political stability and a bulwark against Islamic radicalism in a region of the world, the Horn of Africa, which the Western world dominate because of the important sea routes through which oil is conveyed from the Arab world to Europe and America.

Meles Zenawi seems to have achieved an overwhelming mandate which will keep in the saddles for another five years and he seems unfazed by the criticisms trailing his recent electoral victory.



CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA (CBN)

REQUEST FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL FOR THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF THE SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES EQUITY INVESTMENT SCHEME (SMEEIS)

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) is planning to undertake a performance evaluation of the Small and Medium Enterprises Equity Investment Scheme (SMEEIS). The scheme was initiated by the Banker's Committee in 2001 as an intervention to improve access to finance by the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). However, due to a number of challenges, the scheme was discontinued in 2009. As at the time of its discontinuation, 333 projects were funded under the scheme.

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SENATOR AHMAD IBRAHIM LAWAN

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ABUJA

APPRECIATION

On behalf of myself, my humble family and the entire people of Yobe North Senatorial Zone, wish to express my profound gratitude and appreciation for the massive turnout of well wishers and supporters on my historic solidarity and courtesy visit on his Excellency, Governor Ibrahim Gaidam on Tuesday 25th May, 2010 at the Government House Damaturu and the Grand Rally held in my honour at the Damaturu Stadium.

I want to particularly extend my gratitude to His Excellency the Executive Governor of Yobe State Alhaji Ibrahim Gaidam FCNA, CNA, the Deputy Governor Engineer Abubakar D. Ali (Jarman Pataskum), Honourable Speaker, Yobe State House of Assembly Alhaji Usman Adamu, Honourable members of National and State Houses of Assembly, Yobe State ANPP chairman Alhaji Inuwa Nguru (Kowa Ya bi), Honourable Commissioners, local government council chairmen, traditional rulers, ANPP chairmen of Yobe North Senatorial Zone consisting of Jakusko, Bade, Karasuwa, Nguru, Machina Yusufari and all other local government ANPP chairmen in the state.

Similarly, my profound gratitude goes to party elders, ward party executives, various youth associations, women groups, the business community, our esteemed electorates and many others too numerous to mention.

I also want to assure His Excellency, the executive governor of Yobe State Alhaji Ibrahim Gaidam of the loyalty and support of myself and my supporters to your administration and the success of 2011 elections.

I am indeed touched by the show of solidarity and support given to me and my entourage. I equally wish to assure the good people of Yobe North of true and purposeful representation at the National Assembly.

I therefore call on my supporters across the zone for their continued support and loyalty to the administration of Governor Ibrahim Gaidam as he continue to take our state to greater heights.

Allah Ya Maimaita Mana, AMIN
Long Live Yobe North Senatorial Zone,
Long Live Yobe state

Signed
Senator Ahmad Ibrahim Lawan

World

Zuma condemns arrest of gays in Malawi



JACOB Zuma

SOUTH Africa's leader, in a rare rebuke of a fellow African nation, yesterday condemned Malawi's sentencing of a gay couple to 14 years in jail but said he would not press the country to change its laws.

The statement from South African President Jacob Zuma, a Zulu traditionalist, was believed to be the strongest from an African head of state against the anti-gay clampdown in Malawi.

A Malawi court last week sentenced a gay couple to 14 years each in jail for sodomy and indecency charges, a decision that human rights groups condemned and the United States called "unconscionable."

The case has highlighted discrimination against homosexuals in Africa, the

world's poorest continent. Kenyan police in February halted a gay wedding and arrested several suspected homosexuals.

"We have condemned the action taken to arrest people in terms of our constitution," Zuma said about the arrests in Malawi, in response to questions in parliament.

While homosexuality is illegal in most of Africa's 53 nations, including Malawi and Kenya, South Africa in 2006 passed laws recognising same-sex marriage.

"We need to persuade, we need to make people understand, we need to move with them. We have never adopted a confrontational stance on matters," said Zuma, a polygamist with five wives and 19 children, some with women other than his wives.



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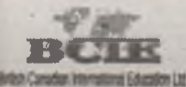
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DATE: TUESDAY 1ST JUNE, 2010.

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VENUE: SHERATON HOTEL & TOWERS
DATE: FRIDAY 4TH JUNE, 2010
TIME: 11AM - 5PM (LAGOS & ABUJA)
TICKET: N1500 AT THE DOOR,
N1200 IF BOUGHT IN ADVANCE
(NO RE-ADMISSION ALLOWED)

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www.bcie.co.uk



MUSLIM LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA

Suite 2, 2nd Floor, Plot 464 Constitution Avenue, Central Business Area, P. O. Box 5386, Garki, Abuja.
Tel: 08023401356, 08032070534, 08033587312, 08033118891.

BISMILLAHIR RAHMANIR RAHEEM .COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF MUSLIM LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (MULAN) NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD BETWEEN 7TH-9TH JUMADA THAANI 1431 A.H (21ST - 23RD MAY 2010) AT SOKOTO GUEST INN, SOKOTO

Members of the National Executive Committee of Muslim Lawyers' Association of Nigeria (MULAN) having discussed and exhaustively deliberated on issues touching the "State of the Nation" at the meeting of its National Executive Committee held from 7th-9th Jumada Thaani, 1431 (21st - 23rd May 2010) at Sokoto Guest Inn, Sokoto, unanimously resolved as follows:

1. The Association notes with heavy heart the death of Former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Umaru Musa Ya' Adua on the 5th of May, 2010 and commiserates with President Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan (GCFR) and the entire people of Nigeria and prays Allah (S.W.T) to forgive him and grant him Aljannat Firdaus.
2. The Association congratulates their Excellencies, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan and Arch. Muh' d Namadi Sambo on their assumption of offices as President and Vice President of Federal Republic of Nigeria, respectively; and join other well-meaning Nigerians in urging their Excellencies to intensify the fight against corruption, improvement of power generation and supply, electoral reforms and conduct of credible elections. The council further urges them to use the God given opportunity to write their names in gold in the heart of Nigerians as it is not how long but how well.
3. The Association also received, with total submission to the will of Allah, news of the death of the Chief Judge of Osun State, Hon. Justice Fasasi Ogunsola and Grand Kadi of Adamawa State Shariah Court of Appeal. While praying Allah (S.W.T) to forgive them and grant them Aljannat Firdaus, the Association commiserates with the government, the judiciary, the Muslim Ummah and the entire good people of Osun and Adamawa States over this irreparable loss

UNFETTERED CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF MUSLIMS TO PRACTICE THEIR RELIGION AND NOT TO BE INSULTED

4. The Association noted with greatest displeasure the comments, condemnation and actions of the National Assembly, Federal Government Agencies particularly the National Human Rights Commission and NAPTIP NGO's, the Media as well as other uninformed individuals on the marriage of Senator Ahmed Sani Yarima to an alleged 13 year old girl.

The Association wishes to reiterate that the right of every Nigerian to practice his/her religion is generally recognized and protected under the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999. The Association therefore deprecates in the strongest terms the comments of these Federal Government Agencies, NGOs, the media and other individuals which tend to attack the religion of Islam and the Holy Prophet Muhammed (PBOH) as a result of the alleged marriage.

We do not think it is proper for anyone to attack the religion of Islam or the Prophet of Allah because of the alleged marriage.

The attention of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR and the Hon. Minister of Information is hereby called to this dangerous trend which if not immediately nipped in the bud may cause disharmony within the polity.

5. The National Assembly and the State's Houses of Assembly that have adopted the child's Rights Act are hereby called upon to take immediate necessary legislative steps to re-examine the act and amend those provisions that are apparently in conflict with the constitution and derogatory of the fundamental rights of Nigerians to practice their faith freely and without hindrance.
6. The association noted, with dismay, the spate of rampant nudity in our society, especially in institutions of higher learning. The Association therefore calls on the concerned authorities to take necessary measures to curtail the ungodly act.

Adekola Mustapha Esq.
National President

JOB VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the under listed positions in a USAID funded project in Bauchi and Sokoto States.

PROJECT: Nigeria Northern Education Initiative (NEI)

Background:

NEI is a USAID-funded project whose aim is to strengthen state and local government capacity to deliver basic education services by addressing key issues in the management, sustainability, and oversight of basic education. The project will also increase the access of orphans and vulnerable children to basic education and services such as health information and counseling in Nigeria's two northern states of Bauchi and Sokoto.

JOB TITLES/ POSITIONS

- 1. Senior Teacher Training Advisor -- Bauchi
- 2. Grants Manager -- Bauchi
- 3. Grants Manager -- Sokoto
- 4. Monitoring and Evaluation Officer -- Bauchi
- 5. Reporting and Communication Officer -- Bauchi
- 6. IT Specialist -- Bauchi
- 7. Finance Assistant -- Sokoto

1. Position Summary: Senior Teacher Training Advisor -- Bauchi

The Senior Teacher Training Advisor (Bauchi) will be responsible for providing technical leadership for all teacher education activities, including leading and coordinating the teacher education and systems support activities at the state level. The position requires experience with teacher training policy and practice, designing programs for data collection and analysis, and personnel management.

Reporting & Supervision:

The Senior Teacher Training Advisor will report to the Deputy Chief of Party in the Bauchi Office.

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Lead integrated state-level technical working groups and steering committees in the following tasks:
 - a. Identification of teacher education priorities
 - b. Assessment of teacher education standards
 - c. Review and strengthen instructional quality and teacher performance assessments
 - d. Strengthen instructional quality standards
 - e. Review pre-service literacy and numeracy curricula
2. Ensure technical coordination of state-level activities and obtain support from state government counterparts and local government authorities as needed.
3. Work closely with the Deputy Chief of Party (Bauchi) to manage support staff and consultants as needed to ensure the smooth implementation of project activities in Bauchi State across technical areas.
4. Ensure the timely production, coordination, and reporting of all state-level data: quarterly reports, M&E data, financial information, etc.
5. Participate in regular meetings and maintain regular communication with state level team counterparts, and with the Deputy Chief of Party (Bauchi), to ensure coherent planning, M&E practices, and project troubleshooting.
6. Represent the project in major state meetings and events as appropriate.
7. Perform other duties as assigned.

Educational and professional qualifications

- i. Master's degree in Education with at least 5 years cognate experience in running teacher education programs (PhD will be an added advantage)
- ii. Highly experienced in teacher training policy and practice and ability to design programs for data collection and analysis as well as possession of high personnel management skills.
- iii. Thorough knowledge of MS office application, including power point and Excel

2. Position Summary: Grants Manager -- Bauchi

The Grants Manager will be responsible for oversight of all grants activities, including ensuring efficient and proper controls for USAID grant compliance and reporting; coordinating training and grants administration with NGOs and their sub-grantees; and review and submission of financial reports as required for each grant.

Reporting & Supervision:

The Grants Manager will be based in Bauchi and will report directly to the Director of Finance and Grants.

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Develop or adapt and implement procedures and templates to be used for formulating, negotiating, executing, monitoring, and closing grants according to USAID regulations.
2. Design/revises mechanisms to solicit applications, award grants, negotiate terms of reference, and monitor and report on financial activities as appropriate.
3. Conduct educational and training workshops on proposal preparation and/or financial monitoring, as necessary.
4. Document the process by which NGOs and public institutions are selected for awards, and notify applicants and other stakeholders of awards granted.
5. Assist NGOs with monitoring progress, tracking expenses, and preparing financial reports. Develop mechanisms for making payments and monitoring/reporting financial performance, in accordance with USAID guidelines.
6. Administer the grants according to criteria and guidelines set forth by USAID and Creative Grants Management Program Manual and guidelines.
7. Ensure that grantees comply with all USAID reporting requirements.
8. Assist large NGOs to convey grants-management requirements, processes, and skills to their local affiliates as necessary.
9. Coordinate and support OMB A-133 Audit, grantors audit, or monitoring visits.
10. Perform other duties as assigned.

Educational and professional qualifications

- i. Bachelor's degree/Higher National Diploma (HND) in Accounting and with at least 3 years cognate experience in general accounting, including financial analysis.
- ii. Thorough knowledge of MS office application, including power point and Excel

3. Position Summary: Grants Manager -- Sokoto

The Grants Manager will be responsible for oversight of all grants activities, including ensuring efficient and proper controls for USAID grant compliance and reporting; coordinating training and grants administration with NGOs and their sub-grantees; and review and submission of financial reports as required for each grant.

Reporting & Supervision:

The Grants Manager will be based in Sokoto and will report directly to the Director of Finance and Grants.

Primary Responsibilities:

Same as in Grants Manager, Bauchi above.

4. Position Summary: Monitoring and Evaluation Officer -- Bauchi

Reporting & Supervision:

The M&E Officer will be based in the Bauchi office and will report to the Deputy Chief of Party/State Coordinator (Bauchi).

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Based on project results and standard, develop appropriate models and tools for data collection, analysis, and synthesis.
2. Train staff in the use of these M&E models and tools.
3. Work with the Senior M&E Advisor to develop and implement project level performance monitoring plans for gathering, reporting, and analyzing performance data.
4. Work closely with the management team to ensure that plans capture the scope and content of NEI results and objectives.
5. Ensure technical coordination of state-level M&E activities and obtain support from state government counterparts and local government authorities as needed.
6. Work closely with the DCOP and Senior M&E Advisor to manage support staff and consultants as needed to ensure the feasibility, appropriateness and timeliness of all M&E plans and interventions in Bauchi state.
7. Ensure the timely production, coordination, and reporting of all state-level data: quarterly reports, M&E data, financial information, etc.
8. Participate in regular meetings and maintain regular communication with state level team counterparts, and with the DCOP, to ensure coherent planning, M&E practices, and project troubleshooting.
9. Represent the project in major state meetings and events as appropriate.
10. Perform other duties as assigned.

Educational and professional qualifications

- i. Bachelor's degree/Higher National Diploma (HND) in Accounting and with at least 3 years cognate experience in general accounting, including financial analysis.
- ii. Thorough knowledge of MS office application, including power point and Excel

5. Position Summary: Reporting and Communication Officer, Bauchi

The Reporting and Communications Officer will be responsible for leading, directing, and managing the public affairs and information operations of the NEI project.

Reporting & Supervision:

The Reporting and Communications Officer will report directly to the Chief of Party in the Bauchi Office.

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Creates and implements comprehensive communications outreach programs for the dissemination of information on project activities
2. Creates and implements a comprehensive public relations program to release positive publicity about the program through various media
3. Advises and counsels program on public relations techniques impacting program activities including potential problems and opportunities in the various communities served
4. Promotes communication to the USAID Mission about the project for dissemination on Mission web pages or to other USAID Missions and to HQ for publication in quarterly newsletters and web
5. Writes and supervises the writing and disseminating of news releases, daily reports, USAID quarterly reports, and project documents
6. Supervises and arranges taking, processing and disseminating photographs; prepares and disseminates radio and television material; produces posters, signs, displays, media campaigns, etc.
7. Implements the USAID Branding and Marking Plan as contracted
8. Supports the COP in coordinating and consolidating the project's reporting requirements
9. Ensures that reports are submitted to USAID in a timely fashion
10. Perform other duties as assigned

Educational and professional qualifications

- i. Bachelor's degree/Higher National Diploma (HND) in Mass Communication or related fields such as English with at least 2 years cognate experience
- ii. Thorough knowledge of Desk top publishing, highly skilled in the use MS office application, including CorelDraw, power point and Excel

6. Position Summary: IT Specialist Bauchi

The IT Specialist will be responsible for overseeing the installation, usage, and maintenance of the Bauchi office IT system, as well as troubleshooting and being involved in ICT solutions.

Reporting & Supervision:

The IT Specialist will report directly to the Deputy Chief of Party in the Bauchi Office and will work in close collaboration with HQ field office support and HQ Help Desk on office IT issues.

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Provide technical set-up and needed support on all IT related issues to the Bauchi office, including installation and testing of workstations, printers, client software, upgrades, and configuration
2. Implement and document network operations, processes, and procedures
3. Deploy and implement office network according to HQ specifications
4. Serve as the Bauchi office Network Administrator
5. Identify and solve possible problems in the network
6. Supervise installations performed by third parties such as cabling, Internet connection, etc.
7. Supervise and follow-up on equipment maintenance performed by other contractors
8. Support and troubleshoot users in the Bauchi office on their daily work
9. Implement and enforce security on the network and prevent misuse of the IT resources
10. Participate in writing IT office policy
11. Responsible for IT inventory; work closely with the DCOP and procurement team to monitor distribution and location of IT equipment by performing a yearly inventory check-up
12. Set up, implement, and maintain hardware firewall
13. Keep the network healthy by applying all required security patches and monitoring the correct delivery of all antivirus updates
14. Implement and document a disaster recovery plan and offsite storage of backed up data
15. Perform other duties as assigned

Educational and professional qualifications

- i. Bachelor's degree/Higher National Diploma (HND) in Computer/IT or related fields with at least 2 years cognate experience
- ii. Thorough knowledge of ICT installation, usage, and maintenance as well as troubleshooting and being involved in ICT solutions.

7. Position Summary: Finance Assistant -- Sokoto

The Finance Assistant will be responsible for working under the Director of Finance and Grants to manage project expenditure and accounts for the NEI project in line with CAIF's Washington DC financial systems.

Reporting & Supervision:

The Finance Assistant will report directly to the Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) in the Sokoto Office.

Primary Responsibilities:

1. Responsible for overall maintenance of project financial documents and records.
2. Scrutinize all invoices for accuracy before passing them on for payment.
3. Ensure that payment request documents are duly filled out and signed by the appropriate persons with the necessary and required supporting documents attached in compliance with all project and CAIF financial/accounting functions, procedures and policies including contractual requirements.
4. Write checks and journalize check transactions.
5. Assist in the cash management and work in conjunction with the Senior Accountant in the implementation of their financial duties and responsibilities whenever necessary.
6. Issue receipts for refunds from staff and others. Review all invoices pertaining to procurement of goods and services before executing payment transactions.
7. Assist in the review and processing of the staff monthly payroll and related payroll taxes including the staff timesheets.
8. Assist in the posting and updating of transactions with appropriate budget and account codes. Review transactions at the end of the month before transmission of database to Washington, DC.
9. Assist in the maintenance, updating, and reconciliation of staff/consultant advances.
10. Assist and participate in the periodical inventory process of the project assets at office and residences, including the onward submission of the asset report to the Director of Finance.
11. Assist in the filing and retrieval of financial documentation whenever necessary.
12. Handle administrative functions of the finance unit such as drafting correspondences related to financial/accounting functions, maintaining project administrative files, and undertaking other administrative management functions such as photocopying, scanning and filing of documents.
13. Compile monthly reports and ensure that all financial documents are ready and packaged for onward transmission to Washington, DC.
14. Assist in the training workshops, specifically handling of cash payments.
15. Perform other related duties as required.

Educational and professional qualifications

- i. University degree in accounting/business administration or Higher National Diploma or equivalent with a minimum of 2 years experience in accounting.
- ii. Experience in administrative and resources management functions.
- iii. Strong knowledge of accounting principles and skills, financial systems.
- iv. Thorough knowledge of MS office, Excel, computerized accounting systems.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

1. All applicants must possess the following qualities in addition to those stated under the various positions they are applying for:-

- i. Working knowledge of USAID funded projects and/ or other donors.
- ii. Good English communication skills (oral and written). Fluency in Hausa Language will be an added
- iii. Required good interpersonal skills, flexibility in work and a team player attitude.
- iv. Evidence of NYSC discharge/exemption certificate.

2. Applicants should send their Curriculum Vitae (CV) with an application letter as a single file addressed to, **The Chief of Party, Nigeria Northern Education Initiative (NEI) within 10 days of this publication through the relevant e-mail for the position and location you are applying for as stated below:**

- i. Senior Teacher Training Advisor -- Bauchi send to: staneivacancyinbauchi@yahoo.com
- ii. Grants Manager -- Bauchi send to: gmvacancyinbauchi@yahoo.com
- iii. Grants Manager -- Sokoto send to: gmvacancyinbauchi@yahoo.com
- iv. Monitoring & Evaluation Officer -- Bauchi send to: meovacancyinbauchi@yahoo.com
- v. Reporting and Communication Officer -- Bauchi send to: rrvacancyinbauchi@yahoo.com
- vi. IT Specialist -- Bauchi send to: itneivacancyinbauchi@yahoo.com
- vii. Finance Assistant -- Sokoto send to: faneivacancyinbauchi@yahoo.com

ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED, FEMALES AS WELL AS INDIGENES OF BAUCHI AND SOKOTO STATES WHO QUALIFY FOR THESE POSITIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

Now Dredged, River Niger Unleashes a World of Boundless Opportunities ...

...Everyone's invited

We are pleased to report that the dredging of River Niger, Nigeria's most important geographical and perhaps economic landmark, is nearing completion. It is poised to deliver significant benefits to the economy and improve quality of life.

The dredging has created an aquatic highway, teeming with economic activities and making the river navigable all-year round. There is now tremendous improvement in the carrying capacity of the Niger: a single 1000-ton barge steaming down the Niger is an equivalent of more than 33 trailers of 30 tons each.

Carrying goods on a dredged River Niger is now cheaper and safer. A 1000-ton barge carrying goods

from PH to Onitsha consumes less than half of quantity of fuel than a trailer with 30 tons of goods over the same distance.

With the dredging of the Niger and the improved navigability it has now engendered, Nigerian roads will enjoy some measure of stability.

The Niger holds a large fish stock and food species; the completion of the dredging is guaranteed to stimulate a boom in fishing.

Expect growth in virtually all key sectors of the economy: transportation, recreation/sports, tourism, boat construction, oil and gas exploration, oil and gas services, water supply, hydropower generation, dockyard services and management, irrigation, sand-winning, fishing, etc.

All these will in turn create sustainable jobs, add value to life and strengthen the social fabric.

But we would especially like to call the attention of investors to the fresh investment opportunities that have already been unleashed, and invite you to take advantage of them.

The navigable channel is being complimented with supportive infrastructure/river ports for effective handling of Goods and Services. NIWA is providing right of ways on the Waterfront to investors for development of private jetties, tank farms, hotels, etc.

“With the dredging now behind us, River Niger is set to deliver significant benefits to the economy and improve the quality of life ... but we need investment partners like you to be a part of this process.”

Arc. Ahmed Yar' Adua, mni
Managing Director/CEO NIWA

We're Open for Business

The dredging of the Lower River Niger has been a resounding success. The nation's waterways are teeming with opportunities. Local and Foreign investors are invited to take advantage of it and invest in it. We welcome investment and partnership options such as:

- ROT (Rehabilitate Operate and Transfer)
- BOT Build, Operate and Transfer
- Concessioning

Incentives

NIWA has put together a package of incentives to encourage as well as ease investment. These incentives are tailor-made to suit the requirements of investor. We would be glad to discuss all these with you.

NIWA's commercial and investment professionals are waiting to work with you to realize your investment objectives. Join the Federal Government in its determined drive to improve the quality of life for Nigerians. Talk to us today.

Please Contact us today:

Honourable Minister of Transport
Federal Ministry of Transport,
Bukar Dipcharima House, Central
Business District, P.M.B. 336, Abuja,
Nigeria
Tel: 09 2347451
Website: www.fmt.gov.ng
E-mail: info@fmt.gov.ng

Managing Director/CEO
National Inland Waterways Authority
Adankolo New Layout
PMB 1004, Lokoja Kogi State, Nigeria
Tel: +234 58 221011
Website: www.niwaonline.com

Assistant General Manager
(Corporate Affairs)
National Inland Waterways Authority
Adankolo New Layout
PMB 1004, Lokoja Kogi State, Nigeria
Tel: +234 58 221011



National Inland Waterways Authority



A world of Opportunities

We invite you to invest in this exceptional range of viable opportunities:

- **Transport business**
 - Ferry services,
 - Barge for bulk cargo services,
 - Barge container services,
 - Barge oil tanker services,
 - Inland mail services, and
 - Regulated floating counter transport are also investment opportunities in IWT
- **Tourism/Recreational site**
 - Hotels,
 - Boat clubs/Yatch,
 - Sailing and other water borne games.
- **Establishment of private jetties**
- **Production industries**
 - tanneries
 - ginneries
- **Pipeline network laying**
 - Oil field services
- **Agro-Allied linkages**
 - Fisheries development
 - Irrigation
- **Cargo handling Services**
- **Dockyard/Ship repair services**
- **Real estate/housing dev.**



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PREQUALIFICATION/TENDERING EXERCISE FOR THE VARIOUS PROCUREMENTS IN 2010 STATUTORY BUDGET FOR ASO RADIO SERVICES

Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), through ASO Radio services has provisions in the 2010 Budget and intends to use part or whole of it for the under listed projects. Competent and interested companies are hereby invited to submit technical and financial bids accordingly

(A) PROJECTS

The works comprise of the following.

- 1 Provision of Water Supply System
- 2 Supply of Office Equipment
- 3 Supply of Office Furniture
- 4 Supply of Utility Vehicles
- 5 Construction of Cable Trunk for power cable to transmitter
- 6 Supply and Installation of Standard Digital Library Equipment, including partitioning
- 7 Equipping & Furnishing of Listening Booth, including partitioning
- 8 Provision of Street Lights from gate to transmitter hall
- 9 Provision of Fire Service Equipment
- 10 Provision of ICT Facilities & Local Area Network (LAN) for all units
- 11 Provision of Cover for Staff Car Park
- 12 Landscaping & Beautification of ASORTV
- 13 Erection of Standard Billboard
- 14 Construction of Four Restrooms for shift staff & GMR
- 15 Supply and Installation of Wire Guyed Tower(Mast) and Antenna System
- 16 Supply and Installation of FM Radio Transmitter
- 17 Provision of Studio Transmitter Link(STL)
- 18 Supply and Installation of Audio Processor
- 19 Supply and Installation of Uninterrupted Power Supply(UPS)
- 20 Supply and Installation of Automatic Voltage Regulator(AVR)
- 21 Supply of Complete Radio Outside Broadcast Van(OBVAN)
- 22 Supply and Installation of Digital Audio Workstation
- 23 Supply of Spare Parts for Transmitter
- 24 Erection of Electronic(Digital) Billboard
- 25 Construction and Furnishing of Staff Canteen

PREQUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interested companies shall forward copies of the following documents and the originals to be made available for sighting during the Tender opening.

- i. Evidence of Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) and Articles of Memorandum of Association.
- ii. Tax Clearance for the last three years.
- iii. Interested Companies should have up to date returns with the CAC and be informed that due diligence could be conducted.
- iv. List of verifiable documentary evidences of similar jobs successfully executed within the last three years.
- v. Evidence of Audited Account from a chartered accounting firm for the last three years.
- vi. Sworn affidavit in line with the provisions of part IV, section 16, sub section 6(c-f) of the Public Procurement Act, 2007.
- vii. List of key personnel/officers to be attached to the project stating their roles, designation, qualification and experience. Enclose photocopies of professional certificates where applicable.
- viii. List of equipment and plants to be deployed for the project, where applicable, stating their location and whether the equipment is owned or on lease.
- ix. Bank reference and statement of account for the past 12 months.
- x. Provide evidence of registration and remittance of contributory pension funds in line with section 16, sub-section 8 Clause (d) of the Public Procurement Act, 2007

(C) COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS:

Interested companies should collect tender documents from the **Office of the General Manager, ASO Radio Services, Katampe hill- Abuja**, upon the presentation of evidence of payment of N 10,000.00 non-refundable Tender fee into FCT Treasury Account at Fidelity Bank (Central Area) No. 051503010000426.

(D) SUBMISSION

The Technical and Financial documents should each be sealed and labeled (Technical and Financial bids as appropriate) separately, and the two envelopes be put in another envelope that should also be sealed and labeled as appropriate and indicate the Project. The Tender documents (financial bid) should be submitted in three [3] copies [one original and two other copies] and all pages are to be duly endorsed by an authorized principal officer of the bidding company. The document is to be dropped in: **The Tender Box at the office of the Secretary, FCT Tender Board, FCT Tender Board Secretariat, Room 043, Block B (Former Public Building Offices Block), Area 11, Garki, Abuja** not later than 12:00pm on 24th June, 2010.

The representatives of the bidding companies are invited to witness the opening of the tenders on the same day at 2:00pm in **Room G9, Archives Building near AGIS, Area 11, Garki, Abuja**

NOTE

- i. Successful companies shall provide **PERFORMANCE BOND** whose value should not be less than 10% of the contract sum before signing the contract.
- ii. A bid bond, in conformity with Tender form G-6 (Bank Guarantee for Tender security) of a value equal to 2% of the bid figure would be required where the bid is in excess of N50m.
- iii. Bidders are to ensure full comprehension of the bidding documents, non compliance or partial compliance of the various instructions could lead to disqualification.
- iv. The Management is not bound to accept the lowest or any of the bids.
- v. Attendance of opening by Civil Society Organizations or the public shall be in line with the code of conduct issued by the Bureau of Public Procurement
- vi. For items Nos. 15 – 23, Tenders are invited from Broadcast Equipment Manufacturers or their Representatives.

Signed
MANAGEMENT



**BAUCHI STATE GOVERNMENT
STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD (SUBEB)
AJIYA ADAMU ROAD, NEAR AWALAH HOTEL ROUND ABOUT
P.M.B. 0109 BAUCHI**

**INVITATION FOR
PRE-QUALIFICATION**

The State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) Bauchi, intends to carry out the under listed projects under the 2007/2008 (Merged) ETF Intervention in Library Development.

Reputable and interested Contractors with relevant experience are hereby invited to bid in the following categories.

- A. Procurement of Assorted Textbooks
 - B. Provision of Library Furniture and Security
2. To qualify for the bidding, the following documents are required:
 - i) Certificate of incorporation of Company with the Corporate Affairs Commission
 - ii) Evidence of Registration as a Contractor with the Bauchi State Government
 - iii) Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years.
 - iv) Evidence of Financial Strength of the Company.
 - v) Professional qualification of key personnel of the company.
 3. Pre-qualification document should be sealed and marked CONFIDENTIAL and addressed to the Executive Chairman, Bauchi State Universal Basic Board, Ajiya Adamu Road, Near Awalah Hotel Roundabout, P. M. B. 0109, Bauchi, Bauchi State.
 4. This is only an invitation for pre-qualification and not for tender and is valid for two (2) weeks from date of this publication.
 5. Only successful contractors will be contacted for tender after screening, please.

Signed
KABIR ALI KOBI (Public Relations Officer)
For: EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN

**BAUCHI STATE FADAMA COORDINATION OFFICE AND
FADAMA III COMPONENT IV OFFICE. (BSADP). BAUCHI
THIRD NATIONAL FADAMA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
CREDIT No. 4494 UNI**

**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR ADVISORY
SERVICES ACTIVITIES**

The Federal Government of Nigeria has received a credit from the International Development Association IDA towards the cost of implementation of the Third National Fadama Development Project (NFDPIII). Part of the credit has been on-lent to the Bauchi State Government who intends to apply part of the proceeds to eligible payment for contracts to be awarded for Advisory Services Activities (ASAs) in the twenty (20) Local Government Areas of the State with over 75 Fadama Community Associations (FCAs) and 963 Fadama User groups (FUGs).

The Advisory services component, which has as its goals to enable Fadama User Groups participating in the project to adopt productivity enhancing techniques and appropriate marketing on increased productivity of their Fadama enterprises and increase income.

This will be achieved through demand responsive advisory services to be provided by a wide range of private and public service providers.

The following categories Advisory Services activities envisaged under the project are:-

- I. Evaluation of Advisory Services activities providers submitted to FCA by Advisory Services Provider (ASP)
 - II. Providers of Advisory Services to user group in an (FCA) Fadama community association
 - III. Providers for design or appraisal of cross FCA/ASA proposals
 - IV. Providers to implement cross FCA/ASAs in collaboration with affected FCAs/LGAs
 - V. Provider of training services training materials and linkages
 - VI. Provider for rural infrastructure investment
 - VII. Provider of Pilot productive Asset Acquisition
- Advisory service for component IV (support to ADP) will include (but not limited to) the following areas
- I. Adaptive Research, Technology Development and Transfer Support
 - II. Agro-processing and storage technologies
 - III. Agro-business and market linkages
 - IV. Agricultural technologies and facilitation skills
 - V. Water management and conservation systems/practices
 - VI. Irrigation water management and conveyance system/practices
 - VII. Soil conservation practices/systems
 - VIII. Sound use of Agro-chemicals
 - IX. Agro-forestry and sustainable Ecosystem management
 - X. Inputs and Extension Service Providers
 - XI. Fisheries technologies
 - XII. Sustainable Pasture Management
 - XIII. Livestock Production and Management
 - XIV. Training Services, Training Materials and Linkages
 - XV. Crop production (Integrated Pest Management)
 - XVI. Nutrition and Health
 - XVII. Any other/others

The Bauchi State Fadama Coordination Office in conjunction with the Bauchi State Agricultural Development Project (BSADP) now invites sealed "Expression of interest" from interested firms, persons, NGOs, or public agencies and institutions.

All service providers whose responses satisfy the requirements will be selected and allowed to bid for Advisory Services activities contracts under the project. Ability to communicate with the local languages and familiarity of the area will be an added advantage

The 'Expression of Interest' should state clearly the field of interest and the qualification for such sole(s), backed with documentary evidence.

Prospective Advisory Services providers may be required to show original copies of submitted document during the course of the selection process.

Interested firms, persons, NGOs or public agencies and institutions may obtain further information from the office of the State Training and Technical Assistant Officer (TTAO) in the SFCO during office hours (9:00am – 4:00pm from Monday to Thursday) and (9:00am – 1:00pm Fridays). Expression of interest in sealed envelopes marked "Expression of Interest" for Advisory Services Activities to the State project Coordinator Bauchi State Fadama III Coordination Office, BSADP Headquarters, P.M.B 0050 Gidan Gona Dass road, Bauchi, Bauchi State Email-bauchifadama@yahoo.com within three weeks from the date of this advertisement

**State Fadama Coordination Office,
BSADP Gidan Gona, Dass road.
Bauchi State**

Attention:

**Ahmed Wakili
(Training and Technical Assistant Officer)
Bauchi State Fadama Coordination Office,
BSADP Gidan Gona, Dass road.
Bauchi State.**

**Signed:-
Dr. Ali Garba
State Project Coordinator**

**NIGERIA ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
(Federal Ministry of Science and Technology)**

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Nigeria Atomic Energy Commission (NAEC), an Agency under the aegis of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST), Abuja, hereby invites interested, reputable and competent contractors/suppliers to submit documents for pre-qualification bid for the following projects:

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF WORK:

2.1 Construction and procurement of equipment for a Nuclear Thermal Hydraulics Laboratory at the Centre for Nuclear Energy Studies, University of Port Harcourt, Port Harcourt.

2.2 Construction of a Gamma Irradiation Facility (GIF) Products Warehouse at the Nuclear Technology Centre, Sheda Science and Technology Complex, Sheda – Abuja.

3.0 PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

The following are the pre-requisites for qualification for the projects:

1. Evidence of Company Registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC)
2. Evidence of Tax Clearance for the past 3 years (2007, 2008 & 2009)
3. Evidence of VAT registration/certificate
4. Verifiable evidence of similar contract(s) recently executed
5. List of key employees, CV and professional certificate, as applicable

3.0.1 In addition, all indigenous contractors wishing to be pre-qualified must show evidence(s) of compliance with the provisions of the Pension Reform Act, 2004, as it relates to his/her Company's (ies) employees.

3.1 SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Pre-qualification documents should be enclosed in sealed envelopes and clearly marked at the top left corner as to which project it is intended. Envelopes must be addressed to "The Secretary, Procurement Committee, Nigeria Atomic Energy Commission, No. 9, Kwame Nkrumah Crescent, Asokoro, Abuja. All documents should be dropped at the Tenders Box at the Nigeria Atomic Energy Commission, not later than 12:00 noon, two (2) weeks from the date of this publication.

3.2 OPENING OF PRE-QUALIFICATION:

Pre-qualification will be opened on the 16th June, 2010 in the Commission's Conference Room. All prospective bidders are expected to be present.

PLEASE NOTE

Late submission will not be entertained.
Only short-listed Companies will be contacted.

**SIGNED
BY MANAGEMENT**

**FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION PANKSHIN,
PMB 27, PANKSHIN, PLATEAU STATE**

**RE-PRE-QUALIFICATION TO TENDER – CAPITAL
PROJECT 2010**

ADDENDUM

Reference to our earlier advertisement of 20th May 2010 on the above subject matter in the Daily Trust and Vanguard Newspapers respectively, interested contractors or Companies are requested to note the following additional requirements for the pre-qualification please.

- i) A sworn affidavit indicating that all documents submitted are genuine and verifiable.
- ii) A sworn affidavit that none of the Directors has been convicted in any country for any criminal offence including fraud or financial impropriety.
- iii) Bidders should accordingly include in their bid, a sworn affidavit indicating whether any officer of the FCE Pankshin is a former or present Director, shareholder or has any pecuniary interest in the Company.
- iv) Evidence of Company's commitment to staff on NHIS and Pension contribution.

VERIFICATION OF CLAIMS

Note that the Federal College of Education Pankshin reserves the rights to verify claims made in the pre-qualification documents submitted by interested Contractors.

Please note that closing date for the submission and opening of Tender remains Thursday, 3rd June, 2010 two weeks from the earlier date of publication. (20th May, 2010) by 12 noon at the College boardroom.

**Signed
Istifanus Kyakmut, Mnipr
Public Relations Executive
For: Secretary
Procurement Planning Committee**



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Your pension for the month of May 2010 has been transferred to your bank account.

Find below the number of paid Retirees in various banks for the month.

S/NO	NAME OF BANK	NO. OF RETIREES
1	Access Bank Nigeria Plc	43
2	AfriBank Nigeria Plc	785
3	Citibank Nigeria Limited	1
4	Diamond Bank Nigeria Plc	270
5	Ecobank Nigeria Plc	190
6	ETB Plc	42
7	Fidelity Bank Plc	68
8	First Bank of Nigeria Plc	8,234
9	First City Monument Bank Plc	94
10	Fin Bank Plc	122
11	Guaranty Trust Bank Plc	383
12	Intercontinental Bank Plc	369

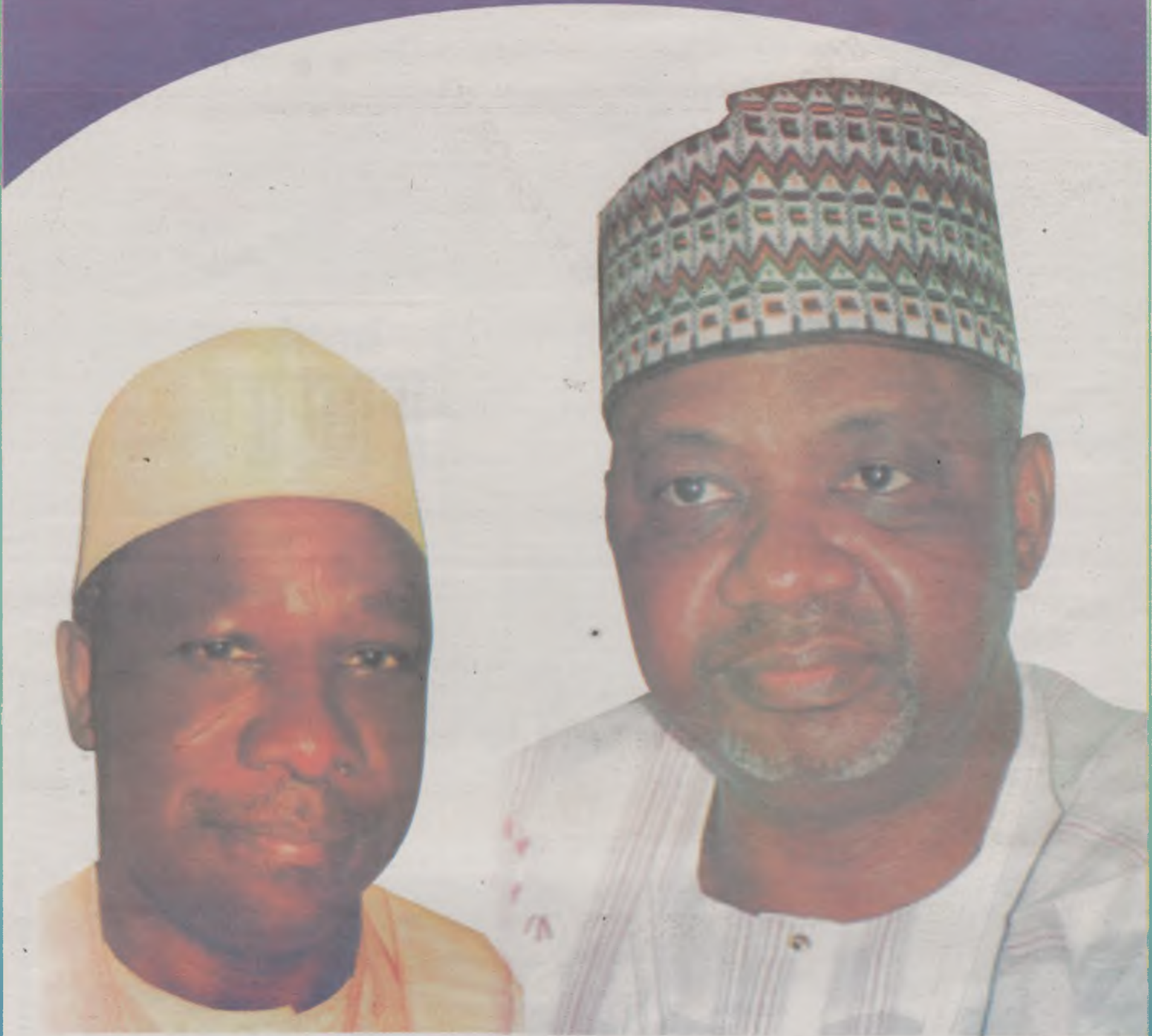
S/NO	NAME OF BANK	NO. OF RETIREES
13	Oceanic Bank International Plc	290
14	Bank PHB Plc	174
15	Skye Bank Plc	349
16	Spring Bank Plc	109
17	Stanbic IBTC Bank Plc	688
18	Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria Plc	10
19	Sterling Bank Plc	27
20	Union Bank of Nigeria Plc	1,764
21	United Bank for Africa Plc	1,982
22	Unity Bank Plc	471
23	Wema Bank Plc	579
24	Zenith Bank Plc	447
		17,491

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Congratulations to our Beacons of Hope



His Excellency

Mr. Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa (Dan Masanin Gwong)
The Executive Governor, Kaduna State

His Excellency

Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo GCON, FNIA
Vice President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Kaduna State Markets Development and Management Company Limited salute our beacons of hope on their meteoric rise to corridor of power.

The elevation of our illustrious sons, His Excellency Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo and His Excellency Mr. Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa to the positions of Vice President and Governor respectively, is indeed a dual blessing by Almighty God that will be entrenched in the annals of the State for a long time.

Your brilliant example and visionary leadership will undoubtedly steer the entire nation to greater heights.

CONGRATULATIONS YOUR EXCELENCIES



Signed:

AMBASSADOR SULE BUBA
Executive Chairman

Kaduna State Markets Development & Management Company Limited



The Nigeria Export Promotion Council (N.E.P.C) and the Manufacturers' Association of Nigeria (MANEG) in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission, Nigerian Association of Small Scale and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (SMEDAN) and the Nigerian Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (NASME) cordially invite the Business Community to a one -day Workshop on the Effective use of the ECOBIZ and NEXPORTRADE initiatives to grow businesses.

- **Theme:** "Harnessing Business Opportunities in Regional and Global Markets"
 - **Topic:** Presentation/demonstration ECOBIZ, as a West African Business Opportunities management system.
 - **NEXPORTRADE** initiative as a tool to facilitate regional trade in West Africa
 - **SME**, a new Financing window for Small and Medium Enterprise in Nigeria
- **Workshop Objectives:** Facilitating the Management and exchange of information on Business Opportunities in the Goods and Services among Exporters and Importers of the ECOWAS Region
- **Who should attend:** Manufacturers, Exporters, Importers, Service providers, other Businesses and the media

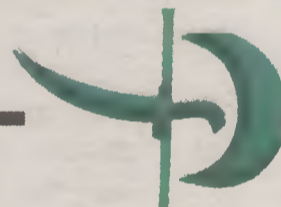
The sensitization workshop is slated to hold in the three locations below:

Venues:	Dates:	Time:	
International Hotel, Maiduguri – Borno State	Wednesday, 2 nd June 2010	9.00am - 4.00pm	
For further details contact:	ECOWAS Commission:	Limane Barage	08022085260
	NEPC :	Tijani K. Zakari	08033496409
	MANEG :	Gabriel Ekpo	08032204667
	NASSI :	Rose Gyar	08036253839
	NACCIMA :	Sale Ya'u	08059615883
	SMEDAN :	Tunde Oloyede	08035042220
	NASME	Garba Ibrahim. FR,mni	08065901832

Note: Participation is free and Registration starts by 8.00am in each of the three locations.



KATSINA EMIRATE COUNCIL



APPRECIATIONS



ALH. DR. ABDULMUMINI KABIR USMAN CFR

Emir of Katsina

The Emir of Katsina, Alh. Dr. Abdulmumini Kabir Usman CFR wishes to on behalf of himself, members of the Katsina Emirate Council and the good people of Katsina State register his profound appreciation to Mr. President, and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. Good luck Ebele Jonathan, the Senate President, Rt. Hon. David Mark, the Speaker House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Oladimeji Bankole, the Chief Justice of the Federation, former Presidents and Heads of State, Members of the Federal and Legislative Councils, Lords, the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Alh. Yayale Ahmed, their Excellencies, State Governors, Service Chiefs, His Eminence, the Sultan of Sokoto, Alh. Sa'ad Abubakar CFR, other Royal Fathers, Members of the Diplomatic Corp, Respective Heads of extra Ministerial Agencies, Distinguish Personalities for their heartfelt condolences over the death of our beloved Brother and President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Alh. Umaru Musa Yar'adua GCFR (Mutawallen Katsina) and the prayers you have offered for the repose of his soul. The entire good People of Katsina State are grateful for sparing your valuable time to console us throughout the mourning period.

We will continue to pray to Allah S.W.T. to grant the soul of our departed President, Alh. Umaru Musa Yar'adua, GCFR (Mutawallen Katsina) perfect rest in Jannatul Firdausi. We pray to Allah to bless his family and grant all of us the fortitude to bear the great loss.

SIGNED

MALLAM UMAR KABIR USMAN

*Secretary
Katsina Emirate Council*



The Nigerian Institute of Architects Kaduna State Chapter CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE



His Excellency

Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo GCON, FNIA
Vice President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

With great cheer and heartfelt felicitations, the entire membership of the Nigerian Institute of Architects Kaduna State Chapter joyfully congratulates you on your appointment as Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Indeed, your appointment is well deserved given your giant strides as Executive Governor of Kaduna State; and as Vice President, we pray that such antecedents manifest even more.



His Excellency

Mr. Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa (Dan Masanin Gwong)
Executive Governor, Kaduna State

The members of the Nigerian Institute of Architects Kaduna State Chapter rejoices with an astute, hardworking and sagacious personality, on your ascension to the office of Executive Governor of our dear Kaduna state.

We believe the brunt of your matchless experience, humility and empathy will continue to take our great Kaduna state to heights of developmental excellence.

Long live the new Vice President
Long live the new Executive Governor of Kaduna State
Long live the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Signed:

Arc. A.O. Odeyemi, Chapter Chairman



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CONGRATULATIONS!



His Excellency,
Dr. Ibrahim Shehu Shema, fnim
 Executive Governor, Katsina State

On behalf of Members of Katsina State Executive Council and Special Advisers, we wish to felicitate with our Leader, the Executive Governor of Katsina State, His Excellency, Dr. Ibrahim Shehu Shema, fnim, on the conferment of Honourary Doctorate Degree (Honaris Causa), Humane Letters, on him by Shaw University Raleigh, North Carolina, USA.

Indeed, the conferment of the Honourary Doctorate Degree by the Shaw University, an Institution with over 145 years of educational achievements in the USA, on our Leader is well deserved. It is a recognition and re-

affirmation of His Excellency's sterling qualities in leadership. We are proud to be associated with His Excellency's great strides in prudence and accountability, in his monumental accomplishments in education, health, agriculture, provision of infrastructures and other fields of endeavours.

Your Excellency, keep up the good work as we and the Good People of Katsina State are solidly behind you as you receive more and more recognition and accolades.

Once more, congratulations to our leader!

Signed:

Arc. Ibrahim Sayyadi

For and on behalf of Members
 of Katsina State Executive Council
 and Special Advisers.

BUSINESS

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New rules for capital market out July

By Idris Ahmed

A new code of governance for regulators of the capital market which would prevent the recurrence of the recent crisis in the market would be out in July, the Minister of State for Finance said yesterday.

Remi Babalola said this in Abuja at the inauguration of two committees to review the Investments and Securities Act (ISA) 2007 and design a code of governance for capital market regulators. He said with the new code in place, investors would be protected by the regulators of the market.

He said government will also hold regulators to "non-negotiable minimum standards of conduct in order to build a capital market that is strong, fair, efficient and robust." The committee to design code of corporate governance for capital market regulators is headed by the former Chairman of the National Pension Commission (PenCom) Mr. Fola Adeola, while Dr. Konyinsola Ajayi (SAN) is the chairman of the committee to Review ISA Act 2007.

The terms of reference for the committee include to review current ethical and corporate governance practices of capital market regulators and to review international best practices regarding code of corporate governance for capital market regulators. Others are to draw appropriate and relevant code of corporate governance for capital market regulators in Nigeria, covering all relevant areas including their roles, principles, ethics, guidelines and relevant implementation and operation of the governance plan.

The committee is also expected to describe how such rules on governance have effect on all the board members, employees, commissioners and relevant stakeholders in terms of gifts, financial conflicts, personal conflicts, misuse of position, disclosure of information, unfair market practices, confidentiality, employment, appointments, terminations, compliance, and breach of code. For the committee to review ISA Act 2007, its terms of reference include: To review the ISA 2007 and draw out areas requiring amendment; to review international best practices regarding statutes governing the operations of the capital market; and to prepare a draft Investments and Securities Bill for presentation to the National Assembly. The two committees have one month to submit their reports for consideration by the Ministries of Finance and Justice as well as for onward submission to the Federal Executive Council.

Babalola said that regulatory and enforcement framework must be strong enough to avoid future breaches in securities law as contained in the Act. He said: "Globally, regulatory lapses have been highlighted as a downside risk for the unusual market downturn. Inevitably, these regulatory procedures have now become the subject of examination and criticism.

"Nigeria is no exemption. We must ensure adequate steps are taken to sustain investor confidence and build a market hinged on integrity and full disclosure. As we emerge from a traumatized investor period, we must position our regulators to protect investors," he said.



BRIEF

'CBN can't pay tax to states'

By Idris Ahmed

CENTRAL Bank of Nigeria (CBN) cannot pay tax to states because it is a non-profit making federal government agency, a source in CBN said yesterday. The source said that recent sealing of CBN branch in Cross River State for not paying tax was meant to embarrass the apex bank.

The Board of Internal Revenue Service (BIRS) of Cross River State sealed the CBN office in the state on Wednesday for refusing to remit pay-as-you-earn tax from 2005 to 2008. BIRS said the power to seal up the Bank was derived from Section 104 Personal Income Tax Act Chapter eight Laws of the Federation 2004. "Why should federal government pay tax to state government? Why don't you go to other parastatals to collect money? CBN is a non-profit making organisation", the source said. A telephone call to the spokesperson of CBN Mohammed Abdullahi to comment on the issue did not go through.

STOCK MARKET INDEX

Date:	Thursday, May 27, 2010
Index:	25,849.42
Deals:	9,696
Volume:	689,265,110
Value:	N 4,814,884,732.30
Cap:	N6,287,591,515,165.62

TRUST INDEX

Inflation	12.5%
GDP	6.68%
Budget	N4.6tr
Ext. Reserves Acct	\$40.1bn
Excess Crude Acct	\$4.3bn
Poverty Ratio	54.4%
Monetary Policy Rate	6%
Banks	24
Oil Price	\$70 a barrel
Power Supply	3,600MW
Oil output per day	2.6mbd
Broad Money Supply	N11,010,063.6m
Credit to Private Sector	N10,037,422.5m
Inter-Bank Rate	1.2200%
Reserve Bills	113%
Deposit Rate	7.51%
Prime Lending Rate	18.00%

FirstBank earnings up 28.8%

FIRSTBANK of Nigeria Plc said it has recorded growth of 28.8% in gross earnings in the financial year ended 31 December 2009, a statement from the bank said. "FirstBank's earnings rose to N196.4 billion compared with N152.5 billion recorded in the corresponding nine month period to December 2008. However, the result when compared to the full year ended March 31, 2009, which had 12 months, witnessed a slight drop of 9.9% from NN217.6 billion," it said.

At the Bank's 41st Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Abuja, the bank declared profit before tax of N11.6 billion, representing an annualized decline of 71.3% from the NN53.8 billion made for the 12 months ended 31 March 2009 as the bank managed the impact of deteriorating credit quality and the exceptional audit by the Central Bank, which it passed on all accounts.

25/05/2010	Percentage (MG/N)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)
CFA	0.2596	0.2696	0.2796
DANISH KRONER	21.2836	21.3657	21.4478
EURO	189.8006	181.412	182.0233
POUNDS STERLING	212.1343	212.8516	213.5689
RIYAL	39.432	39.5654	39.6987
SDR	216.9349	217.6883	218.4417
SWISS FRANC	126.8399	127.2688	127.6977
US DOLLAR	147.87	148.37	148.87
WAUA	217.1708	217.9052	218.6395
YEN	1.6516	1.6572	1.6628

BUYING	
Dollar	N153
Euro	N190
Pound	N223
SELLING	
Dollar	N134
Euro	N193
Pound	N228

Source: SB-1 Bureau de Change, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.

Business



FROM left: Malam Mohammed Aliyu and Zulkifli Abba represented Adamawa State at the one-day investment forum at the Wembley Stadium in London.

Adamawa takes investment drive to UK

By Jibrin Abubakar

THE administration of Governor Murtala Nyako of Adamawa State has taken a leap into the United Kingdom to woo investors to come down and explore the vast natural resources abound and other investment potentials in the sunshine State.

The state on Tuesday participated in a one-day investment forum at the Wembley Stadium in London, organized jointly by the United Kingdom Departments of Business and Foreign Office, aimed at promoting investments in Africa to UK companies with partici-

pants drawn from several countries including Nigeria.

The four-man Adamawa delegation which was led by the Governor's Principal Special Assistant on Investment, Malam Abubakar Yerima, show-cased the State's investment potentials to the Forum and had productive discussions with a number of firms that indicated their interest in either direct investment or through public private partnership (PPP), in such sectors as agriculture, energy, rail transportation and health.

Nyako's administration places high priority in developing the state

through industrialization, especially in the agricultural sector which he believes will ultimately take the people out of poverty.

Two weeks ago, the governor returned from an investment-drive tour of the United States of America, where he met with officials of World Wide Sires (WWS) one of the World's largest research centers in cattle production and development, located in Visalia, California; as well as meeting with the Dean and Management of College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, California State University, Fresno.

Stakeholders decry poor warranty regime in Nigeria

From Yunus Abdulhamid, Lagos

STAKEHOLDERS have decry what they described as poor warranty regime in Nigeria where consumers are exploited by manufacturers and traders at will.

Speaking at the 7th edition of Lagos Consumer Forum, President of the Consumer Advocacy Forum of Nigeria (CAFON), Ms Sola Salako said it was only in Nigeria that consumers' right were violated because of inadequate legislations and poor implementation. The CAFON event was co-hosted by the Lagos Television. Until the Nigeria consumers stand up for their rights, the situation may never change, she said.

She identified the writing of contract agreement at the back of bank pay-in slips in legalese and which is one sided in favour of the bank without the customer's interest as well as the refusal to compensate or replace bad products to customers by retailers as good examples of poor warranty in the country.

She said: "labels of goods are usually written in vague languages, which are confusing to the Nigerian consumers. We urge the Consumer Protection Council (CPC) and the Standard Organisation of Nigeria (SON) to push for the simplification

of same with the interest of consumers also considered."

Barrister Kunle Ajayi, a legal practitioner said consumer/customers' rights include right to assume the seller of a product has a title of ownership to it, right to quite possession of item after purchase without interference and that goods must meet the basic required need of the customer upon which he should be compensated.

According to Kunle, these rights are basic implied warranties which do not necessarily have to be written down but they are serially abused in Nigeria.

Mrs Musumola Samuel from the SON berated most Nigeria consumers who do not read accompanying labels of products they purchase which contains warranty information. She said this attitude portend danger for the consumer as usage of a product contrary to direction given could be fatal. 458 companies were certified by SON in 2007 and 1,930 products were certified having met the SON standards, she said.

Mrs Samuel said in the past years, 87% of breaches of consumers' rights brought to the attention of SON were resolved through compensation by the companies via repair or refund while six percent went to court.

Bravo!!! Chief Servant

In our current political landscape, eight is the sacrosanct number, but His Excellency/Chief Servant, DR. MU'AZU BABANGIDA ALIYU, (Talban Minna) The Executive Governor of Niger State has demystified that figure by cutting it to three years of unparalleled achievements.

Even before the end of his expected eight-year-rule (Insha Allah), the Chief Servant has taken the delivery of democracy dividends to the next level within just three years. It is for this that the University of Uyo is recognising the Chief Servant's Excellence and His Excellency is being rightly honoured with LL.D Honorary Degree

Bravo!!! Chief Servant,
Congratulations!!!

Signed:

Muhammad Ahaji Yakubu, MNM

Jakan Wakil

Executive Secretary

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His Excellency/Chief Servant
DR. MU'AZU BABANGIDA ALIYU, OON, LL.D
(Talban Minna)
Executive Governor, Niger State

Northern Business

'I make N15,000 a day'

By Zainab Shehu Saminaka

MALAM Akilu Lukman is humble and has business acumen. He thinks of what he can do to contribute his quota to his community. He has no passion to work for people or government.

He had always wanted to be free from the bullying of an employer against the employee right from childhood. Though he has no western education, he however acquired Islamic and Arabic education.

"I am not an illiterate," he says courageously and adds, "because I have Islamic and Arabic education, so I am educated."

Today, after spending 35 years in the business of brass pot making, the 55 year-old investor says he is fulfilled, though not without some challenges. He learned the work in Maiduguri three decades ago.

In his shop at Lugbe, Abuja, the reflection of his ready-

made pots, pans and other cooking utensils tell the story.

One of his challenges is that he wants to grow and modernise his business, but there seems to be no way yet. His five staff work assiduously to manufacture the pots on daily basis. With more support from the government, he says, he can employ more hands.

"My major challenge is capital. I can produce more if I have capital," he adds.

But despite the challenges, he says business is booming and that he rakes in an average of N15,000 a day. He says he produces up to 25 units in a day, and some pots are sold at N1,000 and some are lesser than that.

He has a marketing strategy. One of his workers takes the products to some neighbouring states in Nigeria. He says he uses aluminium waste as by products.

He says he is fulfilled because his job enables him to carter for his five children. He is a man of few words; he would rather concentrate on his business. To him, time is money.



STAGE 3: Screwing the designed pot.



STAGE 4: Removing the pot from its original place.



STAGE 5: Finished product.



STAGE 1: Melting the aluminium waste (raw material).



STAGE 2: Designing the pot.



STAGE 6: Ready for sale

Business

Winding up rural electrification



By Fidelis Mac-Leva

THE Rural Electrification Agency, REA, was set up in 2005 to promote rural electrification in Nigeria; set up and manage the Rural Electrification Fund as well as to coordinate rural electrification activities in the country. In September last year, the federal government ordered that the Agency be wound up. No official reason was given but it was generally perceived that the failure of the Agency to live up to its mandate, coupled with alleged corrupt practices that emanated from award of contracts may have informed the presidential decision to shut the place.

On June 10, 2009, the late President Umaru Musa Yar'adua sent to the National Assembly a bill for an act to amend the Electric Power Sector Reform Act 2005 to repeal the Rural Electrification Agency. In a letter addressed to House Speaker Dimeji Bankole, the late President had stated: "I forward herewith for your kind consideration and passage into law, the attached draft Bill for an act to amend the Electric Power Sector Reform Act 2005 to repeal the Rural Electrification Agency..." The bill seeks to repeal the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) and to transfer its functions and liabilities to the power ministry.

But even as the draft bill seeking to repeal the REA, and transfer its functions to the Minister of Power has barely gone through the first reading at the Senate, the Ministry of Power last year shut down the gates to the Agency, thus raising public concerns. According to a directive from the ministry, the agency ceased to exist on its own with effect from September 15, 2009.

Section 88 (1) of the Electric Power Sector Reform Act of 2005 established the REA which started operation on March 16, 2006. It was set up as an independent public company with capacity to mobilize capital for sustained private-sector driven investment in rural electricity development in Nigeria for improved living conditions in the rural areas through enhanced agricultural, commercial, industrial and domestic activities.

A major goal of the agency was to increase rural and semi-

urban access to electricity from its current estimate initially put at 35 per cent level to 75 per cent by the year 2020. Current statistics show that less than 50 per cent of Nigerians are connected to the national grid. Specifically, the REA was set up to provide access to reliable and affordable electricity supply for rural dwellers irrespective of where they live and what they do, in a way that would allow for reasonable return on investment through economically responsive tariff on investment, which is supportive of the average rural customer.

Although public perception over the performance of the Agency seems unfavourable, many have questioned the hasty manner in which the Power Ministry has handled the winding up process of the disbanded Agency.

Responding to inquiries on why his ministry issued a memo asking the REA to wind-up, the Minister of State for Power, Mr. Nuhu Wya said: "The memo to the REA is an internal administrative process of the ministry. There are a number of internal problems which we have noticed and which we are addressing. The fact that there is a bill at the National Assembly does not stop us from taking administrative measures.

While accusing the media of blowing the development at the REA out of proportion, the minister said: "Indeed, we have a bill at the National Assembly to repeal the REA Act, but what we are doing is an administrative work which is routine."

The ministry's memo addressed to the Interim Administrator of REA, signed by the Permanent Secretary, I. B. Sali, indicates that the Agency was scrapped with effect from September 15, 2009. It read: "Further to the meeting held with the Honourable Minister of State for Power on Thursday, September 10, 2009, on the above subject, I wish to draw your attention to the following decisions for your information and immediate implementation where applicable: that the REA is hereby closed; and that all outstanding rents due for payment should be compiled and forwarded to the ministry and that no further tenancy agreement is to be renewed on any rented property;

among others."

The memo further directed that all signposts of the defunct Agency be removed wherever they existed while also requesting that all correspondences to the Agency be addressed to the Power ministry.

About ten months after the memo, activities at the Agency have virtually come to a standstill. A visit to the Zone 4 headquarters of the REA confirms that government has shut down the place, even while the bill is pending at the National Assembly. Some of the Agency's staff are said to have left in frustration to look for work elsewhere while those available were seeing idling away and discussing their plight.

This development has drawn reactions from analysts and observers who are wondering why government is hasty about the winding up of the REA.

One of the casualties of the REA's closure is the Association of Rural Electrification Contractors, AREC. In the wake of the closure, the contractors had dragged the power ministry and the REA to court over unsettled contractual debts amounting to N11.5 billion. The case was later withdrawn due to a proposed out-of-court settlement agreement between the aggrieved contractors and the Power Ministry.

But the ministry allegedly failed to sign the memorandum of understanding [MoU] that would have sealed the out of court settlement, a development that prompted the AREC to resume their court action.

Engineer Noel Keyen, Secretary of the Association said: "We have been waiting patiently for the Power Ministry to sign the MOU but until date that has not been done. Therefore we are in doubts about the sincerity of the out-of-court settlement, hence the resumption of our court case."

The REA has also had a regime of controversies bordering on alleged shoddy deals. For instance, the Chairman, Senate Committee on Power, Nicholas Ugbade, his House of Representatives counterpart, Ndudi Elumelu, and eight others were last year arraigned at a Federal Capital Territory (FCT) High Court sitting in Gudu, Abuja, over alleged fraud in the rural electrification contracts. They were alleged to have withdrawn N5.2 billion from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in December 2008 in respect of alleged phony contracts.

Others accused of the same allegation were Muhammed Jibo; Chairman, House Committee on Rural Development, Paulinus Igwe; the Managing Director of the REA, Samuel Ibi Gekpe; Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Power and Steel, Dr. Aliyu Abdullahi; Simon Kirdi Nanle; Lawrence Kayode Orekoya; Abdulsamad Garba Jahun; and Kayode Oyediji. All of them are facing a 156-count charge.

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), which preferred the charges against them, said the accused as public servants breached public trust and conspired among them to defraud the country and thereby committed a criminal offence.

Reactions have trailed the decision to shut down the REA. An official of the Agency who wouldn't want to be named said: "The reasons advanced for scrapping REA are flimsy. The concept for setting up the REA was borrowed from America. The Minister is ignorant of our main mandates. Grid expansion, which he is talking about, is only one of our three core mandates."

The source further said: "Let me tell you that the whole issue started because some people felt that they were not carried along in the much-talked about 2008 contracts. Out of anger and vendetta, they took the matter to President Yar'adua, blowing it out of proportion."

The Electricity Workers' Union said it was wrong for the Minister of State to have taken over direct control of the agency for over one year, rendering the place inactive. An official of the Union said: "For the past one year, the Agency has been applying to the minister to even buy stationery. Has the minister become an accounting officer for an Agency?"

The REA has also had a regime of controversies bordering on alleged shoddy deals. For instance, the Chairman, Senate Committee on Power, Nicholas Ugbade, his House of Representatives counterpart, Ndudi Elumelu, and eight others were last year arraigned at a Federal Capital Territory (FCT) High Court sitting in Gudu, Abuja, over alleged fraud in the rural electrification contracts.

Business/Finance

Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)

Thursday, May 27, 2010

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)
2ND-TIER SECURITIES				
ADSWITCH PLC	2	1.90	28,812	54,742.80
SECTOR TOTALS	2		28,812	54,742.80
AGRICULTURE				
FTN COCOA PROCES. PLC	44	0.86	1,445,304	1,252,937.54
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	11	0.90	96,207	89,085.42
OKOMU OIL PALM COY PLC	17	14.60	70,136	1,048,978.18
PRESCO PLC	15	6.01	8,619,576	51,596,191.32
SECTOR TOTALS	87		10,231,223	53,987,192.46
AIR SERVICES				
AIRL/SERVICES/LOGIST. PLC	45	3.33	832,500	2,764,605.00
NIG/AVIAT. HAND. COY PLC	62	11.40	319,828	3,817,138.10
SECTOR TOTALS	107		1,152,328	6,581,743.10
AUTOMOBILE & TYRE				
DN TYRE & RUBBER PLC	5	0.50	188,038	94,019.00
R. T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC	23	4.83	224,605	1,084,383.16
SECTOR TOTALS	28		412,643	1,178,402.16
BANKING				
ACCESS BANK PLC	295	7.75	24,049,795	186,377,508.02
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	57	2.03	1,887,947	4,024,299.08
DIAMOND BANK PLC	80	7.40	11,939,757	88,631,724.08
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	33	5.29	433,542	2,288,742.78
FIRST CITY MON. BANK PLC	50	8.15	3,249,771	26,234,122.78
FIDELITY BANK PLC	101	2.87	254,934,188	721,715,860.89
FIRST BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	694	14.21	12,641,914	179,808,509.86
FINBANK PLC	49	0.54	5,641,998	3,164,738.92
GTBANK PLC	527	17.01	11,302,282	191,528,380.12
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	75	11.00	4,464,003	48,097,780.65
INTERCONT. BANK PLC	65	1.79	1,419,748	2,564,799.56
OCEANIC BANK INT. PLC	87	1.60	9,738,733	15,564,858.56
BANK PHB PLC	63	1.57	61,189,126	92,125,834.09
SKYE BANK PLC	141	8.05	73,871,253	592,262,353.51
SPRING BANK PLC	15	0.86	148,341	121,793.48
STERLING BANK PLC	34	1.99	926,917	1,778,283.64
UNT BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	293	11.00	26,525,370	296,632,093.35
UNION BANK OF NIG. PLC	113	5.30	2,009,436	10,535,282.24
UNITYBANK PLC	4	1.11	220,402	244,646.22
WEMA BANK PLC	43	1.12	2,666,620	2,986,614.40
ZENITH BANK PLC	453	13.50	22,070,954	297,513,247.49
SECTOR TOTALS	3,272		531,332,097	2,764,201,473.72
BUILDING MATERIALS				
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	82	20.00	1,437,195	28,330,635.07
BENUCE CEMENT COY PLC	31	63.10	293,869	19,149,944.46
CEMENT CO. OF N/NIG. PLC	40	19.95	264,622	5,249,018.90
LAFARGE WAPCO PLC	55	40.42	881,380	35,424,613.38
SECTOR TOTALS	208		2,877,066	88,154,211.81
CHEMICAL & PAINTS				
BERGER PAINTS NIGERIA PLC	18	7.00	217,965	1,586,832.85
CHEM/ALLIED PROD. PLC	8	27.04	29,750	841,931.60
I. P. W. A. PLC	1	1.09	5,000	5,200.00
NIG.-GERMAN CHEM. PLC	1	14.29	500	6,790.00
SECTOR TOTALS	28		253,215	2,440,754.45
CONGLOMERATES				
A. G. LEVENTIS (NIG.) PLC	1	4.18	9,800	39,004.00
PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	47	30.45	2,694,828	81,940,130.73
SCOA NIGERIA PLC	15	8.71	5,990	49,597.20
TRANSN. CORP. OF NIG. PLC	8	0.50	275,878	137,939.00
UAC OF NIGERIA PLC	87	41.94	1,593,576	63,953,914.72
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	62	24.47	893,131	21,567,874.81
SECTOR TOTALS	220		5,473,203	167,688,460.46
CONSTRUCTION				
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	36	8.00	672,889	5,267,128.10
JULIUS BERGER NIGERIA PLC	19	52.55	401,077	21,106,915.23
MULTIVERSE RES. PLC	2	0.50	6,000	3,000.00
SECTOR TOTALS	57		1,079,966	26,377,043.33
ENGINEERING TECH.				
CUTIX PLC	3	3.80	36,642	138,506.54
NIG. WIRE AND CABLE PLC	10	1.15	531,900	616,342.86
SECTOR TOTALS	13		568,542	754,849.40
FOOD/BEVERAGES & TOB.				
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	28	47.02	501,981	23,828,452.12
BIG TREAT PLC	25	0.72	933,912	632,556.92
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	90	29.40	850,554	24,070,714.12
DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC	204	21.07	1,405,711	29,477,235.48
DANGOTE SUGAR REF. PLC	60	19.11	2,481,149	47,289,445.27
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	113	68.20	1,255,517	85,326,492.81
HO/WELL FLOUR MILL PLC	26	8.50	1,000,001	8,522,298.73
NAT. SALT COY NIGERIA PLC	49	9.08	867,229	7,840,619.22
NIG. BOTTLING COY PLC	14	36.75	30,506	1,078,463.75
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	86	350.00	292,895	100,161,708.08
N/NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	6	33.58	23,308	743,758.28
TANTALIZERS PLC	31	0.85	1,387,703	1,149,687.50
UNION DICON SALT PLC	3	4.44	5,000	21,100.00
UTC NIGERIA PLC	4	1.38	67,463	93,098.94
SECTOR TOTALS	739		11,102,929	330,235,631.22
HEALTHCARE				
EVANS MEDICAL PLC	4	1.48	80,000	112,800.00
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	9	3.10	342,000	1,060,081.60
GLAXOSM. CONS. NIG. PLC	18	27.55	39,645	1,079,520.85

MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	27	6.01	7,846,678	47,078,814.03
NEIMETH INT. PHARM. PLC	2	3.08	46,310	135,688.30
UN/DIAG. & CLIN. SERV. PLC	21	0.71	1,444,885	1,028,632.45
SECTOR TOTALS	81		9,799,518	50,495,537.23
HOTEL & TOURISM				
IKEJA HOTEL PLC	17	2.20	539,600	1,183,463.00
SECTOR TOTALS	17		539,600	1,183,463.00
IND/DOMESTIC PROD.				
B. O. C. GASES NIG. PLC	9	10.18	1,856,533	18,943,474.67
NIG. ENAMELWARE PLC	1	43.06	500	20,455.00
FIRST ALUM. NIG. PLC	3	0.50	55,874	27,937.00
VITAFIOM NIGERIA PLC	26	6.61	297,131	1,968,818.63
SECTOR TOTALS	39		2,210,038	20,960,685.30
INF. & COMM. TECH.				
CHAMS PLC	50	0.70	2,655,744	1,827,323.89
MASS TEL. INNOV. NIG. PLC	1	0.50	60,000	30,000.00
STARCOMMS PLC	34	2.37	4,646,009	11,219,840.88
SECTOR TOTALS	85		7,361,753	13,077,164.77
INSURANCE				
AFR. ALLIANCE INS. PLC	1	0.50	1,500	750.00
AIICO INSURANCE PLC	86	1.34	6,870,023	9,036,246.88
CONTINENTAL REINS. PLC	53	1.11	7,218,712	8,043,557.95
C/STONE INSUR. CO. PLC	12	0.77	566,000	432,460.00
CUST/ALLIED INSUR. PLC	13	3.80	2,429,900	9,283,124.00
EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC	3	0.50	88,400	44,200.00
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	22	0.67	1,803,321	1,203,012.67
GUAR. TRUST ASSUR. PLC	30	2.40	1,913,400	4,515,702.00
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	5	0.50	104,020	52,010.00
CONS. HALLMARK INS. PLC	3	0.50	290,000	145,000.00
INT. ENERGY INS. COY PLC	23	0.56	5,251,654	2,946,385.70
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	9	0.50	596,750	298,375.00
L/UNION & ROCK INS. PLC	2	0.57	100,000	57,000.00
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	5	0.50	85,556	42,778.00
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASS. PLC	16	0.50	4,089,000	2,044,500.00
N.E.M. INS. CO. (NIG.) PLC	30	0.59	1,455,594	847,909.18
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC	14	1.18	1,389,901	1,539,376.30
OASIS INSURANCE PLC	1	0.71	30,000	20,400.00
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	3	3.80	5,500	19,855.00
SOV. TRUST INSUR. PLC	8	0.50	850,348	425,174.00
STACO INSURANCE PLC	39	0.50	14,957,098	7,497,064.98
STAND. ALLIANCE INS. PLC	47	0.50	4,101,762	2,051,758.62
UNIC INSURANCE PLC	4	0.68	65,296	44,401.38
UNITY CAPITAL ASSUR. PLC	9	0.60	6,017,500	3,459,975.00
UNIVERSAL INS. COY PLC	2	0.50	113,398	56,699.00
INTERCONT. WAPIC INS. PLC	10	0.63	713,323	449,390.79
SECTOR TOTALS	450		61,107,956	345,577,106.45
LEASING				
C&I LEASING PLC	34	2.99	861,215	2,600,385.93
SECTOR TOTALS	34		861,215	2,600,385.93
MARITIME				
JAP/OIL & MARIT. SERV. PLC	293	1.70	11,693,099	19,061,268.65
SECTOR TOTALS	293		11,693,099	19,061,268.65
MEDIA				
AFROMEDIA PLC	6	0.57	226,162	128,912.34
DAAR COMMUNIC. PLC	12	0.73	353,834	258,298.82
SECTOR TOTALS	18		579,996	387,211.16
MORTGAGE COMPANIES				
ASO SAVINGS/LOANS PLC	14	0.50	353,289	176,644.50
UN/HOMESAV/LOANS PLC	15	0.82	307,333	246,024.07
SECTOR TOTALS	29		660,622	422,668.57
OTHER FINANCIAL INST.				
CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC	8	0.83	384,985	320,592.20
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	2	0.80	200	160.00
SECTOR TOTALS	10		385,185	320,752.20
PACKAGING				
NIG. BAG MANUF. COY PLC	3,067	2.80	2,269,545	6,612,737.10
SECTOR TOTALS	3,067		2,269,545	6,612,737.10
PETROLEUM (MARKETING)				
AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC	34	39.80	232,935	9,066,381.11
BECO PETROL. PROD. PLC	20	1.11	1,267,985	1,396,215.85
MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC	5	76.93	4,229	341,576.33
CONOIL PLC	23	49.86	37,260	1,773,704.03
ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC	19	7.35	196,100	1,417,082.00
MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC	16	150.90	6,308	977,413.37
OANDO PLC	168	80.00	869,615	69,057,018.14
TOTAL NIGERIA PLC	28	242.00	95,166	22,986,110.57
SECTOR TOTALS	313		2,709,596	107,015,501.40
PRINTING & PUBLISHING				
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC	10	6.84	155,651	1,065,509.65
SECTOR TOTALS	10		155,651	1,065,509.65
REAL ESTATE				
UACN PROP. DEV. CO. PLC	21	20.79	250,450	5,154,643.75
SECTOR TOTALS	21		250,450	5,154,643.75
ROAD TRANSPORTATION				
ASSOCIATED BUS COY PLC	8	0.85	55,711	46,616.19
SECTOR TOTALS	8		55,711	46,616.19
THE FOREIGN LISTINGS				
ECOBANK TRANS. INCORP.	27	17.70	7,091,530	125,195,396.90
SECTOR TOTALS	27		7,091,530	125,195,396.90
OVERALL TOTALS	9,696		669,269,110	4,814,884,732.30


What is income stock?
A security with a solid record of dividend payments and which offers a dividend yield higher than the average common stock.

GAINERS

OANDO	3.05
FLOURMILL	2.48
UACN	1.99
WAPCO	1.92

LOSERS

GUINNESS	3.47
NB	2.55
7UP	2.47
J/BERGER	2.45



2nd Annual Late Capt. Ismail Auwalu Yadudu Liver Disease Workshop

Theme:
**Burden of Liver Diseases in Nigeria
and Challenges of Prevention**

Guest Lecturer: Prof. Y. M. Fakunle	Chairman: Prof. S. S. Wali
Co-Hosts:	
Prof. Attahiru Jega Vice Chancellor, Bayero University Kano	Dr. A. I. Dutse The Chief Medical Director AKTH

Venue: Mambayya House, Gwammaja, Kano
Date: Saturday 29th May, 2010 Time: 9:00 a.m.

NB: Free Screening for Hepatitis B and C Virus Infections will be available at the venue for interested member of the public.

Signed:
Dr. M. M. Borodo
Chairman LOC



2010 TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY AWARD

FOUNDATION FOR TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY (FTA) is a nonprofit, Non Governmental organization with a vision to have a developed and a corrupt free Nigeria and a Mission to ensure transparency, accountability and sustainable development towards a developed Nation (Nigeria).

FTA, has instituted an annual transparency and accountability award. This is to promote the fight against corruption, reward and recognize the most transparent and accountable Nigerians, Government and public institutions who have shown, encouraged and promoted transparency and accountability in the discharge of their selfless duty towards the development of our dear country Nigeria.

NOMINATION

Nominations are hereby open for the following award categories;

- i. Most transparent and accountable Governor
- ii. Most transparent and accountable Senator
- iii. Most transparent and accountable Member House of representative,
- iv. Most transparent and accountable Federal Government parastatal,
- v. Most transparent and accountable State House of Assembly,
- vi. Most transparent and accountable Local Government Chairman,
- vii. Most transparent and accountable News paper,
- viii. Most transparent and accountable TV station
- ix. Most transparent and accountable Insurance company,
- x. Most transparent and accountable Bank.
- xi. Most transparent and accountable Pension fund.
- xii. Most transparent and accountable University.

Nominations should be sent to FOUNDATION FOR TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY (FTA)

Suite 006, APC plaza, plot 12, cape town street, off IBB way Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.

Or make your nomination online on our website on: www.ftanigeria.org, for more information - call: 08036205122, 08053217026 or send e-mail to info@ftanigeria.org

NOMINATIONS BACKUP WITH C.V'S AND PROOF OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES TOWARDS PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY WOULD BE OF ADDED ADVANTAGE TO NOMINEE.

PLEASE, NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES IS 30TH JULY 2010; NO LATE ENTRY WOULD BE ENTERTAINED.

Signed:
Management



FEDERAL SCHOOL OF STATISTICS (IBADAN/KADUNA/ENUGU) CAMPUS

ADMISSION FOR 2010/2011 ACADEMIC SESSION

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the underlisted courses at the Federal School of Statistics, Ibadan, Kaduna and Enugu campuses for the 2010/2011 session. The school runs three programmes and it has the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) as its sponsor.

1.0 FOUNDATION COURSE IN STATISTICS

The Foundation Course in Statistics is designed to equip candidates with the required background in Elementary Statistical techniques and related subjects necessary for efficient performance of their duties.

1.1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The minimum entry requirements for admission into the Foundation Course in Statistics is the senior school certificate or its equivalent with passes in at least four (4) subject including mathematics and English language and any two from the following: Government, Geography, Economics, Physics, Chemistry and or Biology.

2.0 STATISTICAL ASSISTANT MIDDLE LEVEL COURSE I

The Statistical Assistant Middle Level Course I is a one-session course of nine-months. Programme leading to the award of Statistician Assistant Middle Level Course I certificate. The programme is the first level of a series, designed primarily for junior officials of Federal State, Local Government, institutions as well as private candidates who desire to acquire the necessary attitude, skills and knowledge required to perform statistical duties competently at the technician level of GL OS in the public service and its equivalent.

2.1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- (a) The minimum entry requirement for candidates seeking admission to the Statistical Assistant Middle Level Course I is four (4) credit level passes in the senior secondary school certificate examination or its equivalent in not more than two sittings. The subjects must include mathematics and three of the following: Statistics, Geography, Government, Chemistry, Biology, Agric Science and or Economics. At least a pass in English language is required.
- (b) A candidate who may wish to proceed to Statistical Middle Level Course I after completing the foundation course must have remedied all the deficiencies for the minimum academic qualification as in 2.1(a)

3.0 NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN STATISTICS

The aim of this programme is to produce assistant statisticians and the programme is a 4-semester course leading to the award of ND Statistics.

3.1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For the ND (Statistics) the entry requirement is 4-credit level passes in the West African Examination Certificate, Senior Secondary School Certificate or General Certificate of Education (GCE) ordinary level and National Examination Council (NECO), TCII, NCE, ND from any other recognized institution in not more than two sittings. The subjects must be as in 2.1(a)

4.0 METHOD OF APPLICATION

Application forms for the programmes are available at each campus of the Federal School of Statistics. Each application form is obtainable with a non-refundable fee of N3,000.00. The sales of forms commences immediately in all the campuses.

Completed application forms should be returned to the Principal of the school with 2 passport photograph and 3 self-addressed envelopes with postage stamp not later than 30th July, 2010.

Entrance examination would come up at the various campuses of the school on Saturday 7th August, 2010 by 9.00am. Candidates will be examined in English Language and Mathematics.

F. E. OMAKOBIA
For: Statistician-General
National Bureau of Statistics

DIGEST

Scientist is first man to be 'infected' by computer virus



DR Mark Gasson

A British scientist has laid claim to being the first man to be infected by a computer virus, after he used a contaminated chip implanted in his hand to attack a lab security system.

Dr Mark Gasson programmed the micro-chip, similar to those used to "tag" pets, to remotely open his lab's security doors and unlock his mobile phone before having it inserted under his skin.

But he also infected the implant with a

virus, to prove it could be transferred as the chip and the security system wirelessly exchanged electronic data.

The virus could then have been passed on to other devices interacting with the control system, such as colleagues' swipe cards, in the same way viruses are able to spread across computer networks.

The results raise the possibility that in the future, increasingly advanced medical

devices such as pacemakers and inner ear implants could become vulnerable to cyber attacks from other human implants.

Dr Gasson said: "Our research shows that implantable technology has developed to the point where implants are capable of communicating, storing and manipulating data. "This means that, like mainstream computers, they can be

infected by viruses and the technology will need to keep pace with this so that implants, including medical devices, can be safely used in the future."

He stressed it is not currently thought possible to exploit medical devices such as pacemakers because they have not been analysed for flaws, but said they could theoretically be vulnerable.

He said: "We do not know of any medical device that can be exploited in this way yet but we are very much on the cusp of it being possible.

"It is possible that you could create a virus that completely corrupts the device to the point where it does not work any more." Implanted technology has become increasingly common in the United States, where medical alert bracelets can be scanned to bring up a patient's medical history.

Dr Gasson said the technology is likely to become more widely used in the future, even for non-medical purposes such as increasing someone's memory.

He said: "Our next evolutionary step may well mean that we all become part machine as we look to enhance ourselves, either because it becomes as much of a social norm as say mobile phones, or because we'll be disadvantaged if we do not."

In a separate project by Reading University scientists in 2008, experts created a robot that used cells from the brain of a rat to make decisions, in order to help design treatments for diseases such as epilepsy, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's.

The robot, known as an "animat", interpreted electrical signals from the cells to navigate itself around a laboratory without bumping into obstacles.

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

Babies are 'helped by delay in clamping umbilical cord'

CLAMPING the umbilical cord in newborns should be delayed for a few minutes to allow more vital stem cells to flow from mother to baby, researchers said yesterday.

This would allow more blood to be transferred to the child, meaning physiological 'gifts' are handed over in 'nature's first stem cell transplant', it was claimed.

During childbirth, the placenta and umbilical cord start contracting and pumping blood to the newborn.

Once the blood has reached an equilibrium, the cord's pulses cease and the blood flow stops.

A research team from the University of South Florida said that in western culture the umbilical cord may be clamped too soon -- typically between 30 seconds and a minute after birth.

Dr Paul Sanberg, of the university's Centre of Excellence for Ageing and Brain Repair, said: "Several clinical studies have shown that delaying clamping the umbilical cord not only allows more blood to be transferred but helps prevent anaemia as well.

"Cord blood also contains many valuable stem cells, making this transfer of stem cells a process that might be considered the original stem cell transplant."

His co-author, Dr Dong-Hyuk Park, said a review of previous research found that "in pre-term infants, delaying clamping the cord for at least 30 seconds reduced incidences of haemorrhage, anaemia and decreased the need for blood transfusions."



TOO soon? Researchers say that clamping the umbilical cord in newborns should be delayed for a few minutes

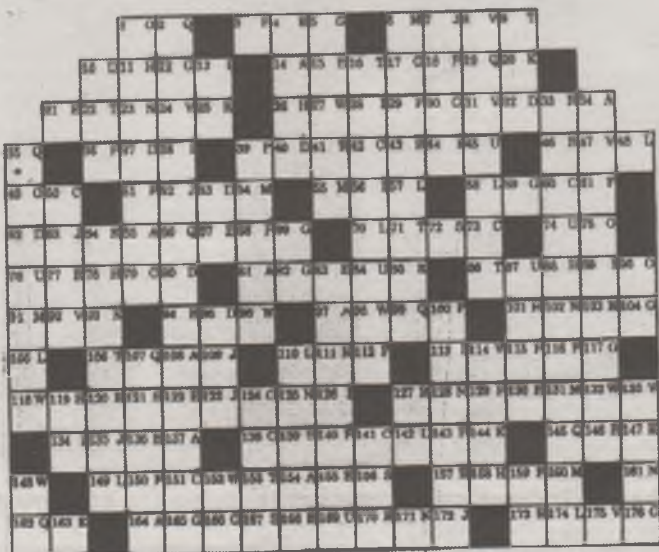
Sign Language



Vote for KNOWLADGE, sorry Knowledge
Photo location: San Jose, California, by Nick George.
Culled from www.signspotting.com

ANACROTIC 4

DEFINITIONS	WORDS
A. Department of naval affairs	14 184 137 154 65 108 34 97 81
B. Place on either side of	94 43 120 15 46
C. Appears (to be)	50 151 73 141 60
D. City on the Nile	53 37 32 80 62 95 10 40
E. Not called into question	83 168 130 122 67 21 173 136 163
F. Instrument for gauging distance	61 112 150 116 100 159 51 29 140
G. A body politic	30 59 17 176 82 117 138 165 12
	5 104 69
H. It determines a skirt's length	158 26 11 119 88 101 78
I. Give a ring to	134 126 89 38 28 56 113 13 44
J. English satirical painter (1697-1764)	135 7 172 52 123 109 63
K. Occupy fully	147 155 144 111 64 20 103
L. Unlucky happening	58 142 105 149 174 110 48 70 57
M. Eventually: 2 wds.	91 6 55 131 160 54
N. More shipshape	171 128 161 125 102 23
O. Early spring bloom	90 124 166 75 1 49 79 42
P. Become foul through lack of movement	39 115 3 68 143 18 36 129
Q. While in a hurry: 3 wds.	66 162 145 107 99 2 19 35
R. Blackout need	127 33 41 25 77 4 170 85 146 157
S. Alms seeker	121 167 93 156 139 72
T. Occupy	16 153 9 71 86 22 106
U. Fairly plump	45 74 76 87 84 169
V. Characteristic	24 175 114 31 92 47 8 133
W. Union general	27 98 118 96 148 152 132



SOLUTION TO ANACROTIC 3

- A. Jovial
- B. Succor
- C. Wishful
- D. Affluence
- E. Noted
- F. Tense
- G. Hampton
- H. Essence
- I. Tacitly
- J. Refines
- K. Identical
- L. Umbrella
- M. Miscasts
- N. Physical
- O. High jinks
- P. Overdrawn
- Q. Famished
- R. Persist
- S. Isthmus
- T. Echelons
- U. Rhubarb
- V. Reeds
- W. Occident
- X. Totem pole

SUDOKU

The Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 square grid made up of smaller 3x3 square grids (regions). The numbers already present within the puzzle are "given"- these are there to start you off. The aim is to complete the puzzle by filling the empty cells. Every digit from 1-9 needs to fit in each row, column and region of 9 squares. Each row, column and region must contain just one instance of each number, 1-9.

158

					4	2		5
2								6
	1	6		7				9 3
3		1					6	
	6			5				4
		5				7		1
6	7			3		9	2	
	3							6
9		2	6					

Solution to Sudoku 157

3	5	7	9	2	4	8	6	1
4	6	8	1	3	5	9	7	2
1	9	2	8	7	6	3	4	5
9	1	3	7	6	8	2	5	4
2	7	4	3	5	9	6	1	8
5	8	6	2	4	1	7	3	9
7	3	9	5	1	2	4	8	6
6	2	1	4	8	3	5	9	7
8	4	5	6	9	7	1	2	3

THE HOME FRONT

In Today's
Edition

Facts about halitosis

By Ogechi Ohalee

HALITOSIS also known as Oral Malodor is an extremely common health problem that causes bad breath. It is thought to be a minor health condition, with its only symptoms being bad breath.

According to Dr. Adio Lukman of Regal Dental clinics Abuja, halitosis can result from poor dental health habits and a sign of other health problems. "Bad breath can also be made worse by the type of food you eat and other unhealthy lifestyle habits. During your sleep you do not produce saliva or flush out your mouth, because of this, you are more likely to wake up with halitosis, usually known in this situation as "morning breath".

Causes

Dr. Adio said the cause of bad breath can be classified into two categories, internal and external. Internal has to do with gum disease and other health problems, such as sinus infections and digestive or liver problems, respiratory tract infections like pneumonia or bronchitis, chronic sinus infections, post-nasal drip, diabetes, chronic acid reflux, and liver or kidney problems. Other internal causes of bad breath include poorly fitting dental appliances, yeast infections of the mouth, and dental caries.

The medical condition dry mouth also called xerostomia can also cause bad breath. Saliva is necessary to moisten and cleanse the mouth by neutralizing acids produced by plaque and washing away dead cells that accumulate on the tongue, gums, and cheeks.

If not removed, these cells decompose and can cause bad breath. Dry mouth may be caused by the side effects of various medications, salivary gland problems, or continuous breathing through the mouth.

Dr. Adio said external causes of halitosis are usually as a result of the intake of potent food such as onion, garlic, or fish. These foods contain chemicals which are not easily cleaned out of your bloodstream, therefore remain in your lungs and mouth. Other causes include smoking and drinking alcohol. Smoking can be even more of a problem because these smelly chemicals find their way straight to the lungs, with almost no filtering. Halitosis also tends to occur in pregnant women, for reasons



believed to be hormonal. "In addition, food particles over time can promote the growth of bacteria, which can also cause foul odors. The bacteria can also lead to tooth decay and gum disease", he said.

Symptoms

The doctor highlighted the symptoms of Halitosis as follows:

- White or yellow film on the tongue, which is caused by bacteria and nasal mucous accumulating. These are usually the heaviest in the latter areas of your tongue. Unfortunately, simply removing this food does not usually completely do away with a person's Halitosis problem.

- Chronically dry mouth, which will actually make your bad breath become more concentrated in your saliva and thus become stronger and more obvious at further distances as your mouth becomes more conducive to oral bacterial growth.

- Experiencing bitter, sour or metallic in the mouth. These are usually caused by sinus drainage, medications that you are taking, dental infections and leakage from dental restorations.

- Sinus conditions or allergies are one of the symptoms. This usually contains a large amount of bacteria from your sinuses, which are broken down into amino acids that can become

foul smelling.

Risk factors

- Poor oral hygiene can put you at risk for Halitosis.

- High protein foods, lactose intolerance and the consumption of coffee can all put you at an elevated risk for Halitosis because of the high acidic levels in these foods, which take longer to break down.

- Use of tobacco can also put you at a higher risk for developing periodontal disease, a decreased sense of taste and gum irritation. All of these things can also lead to Halitosis.

- There are also some underlying medical conditions that can cause Halitosis such as respiratory infection (nose, windpipe or lungs), chronic bronchitis, having a chronic cough, Sinusitis, diabetes, a liver disorder, a kidney disorder.

Prevention

Good oral hygiene is the best way to prevent bad breath. Brush your teeth after every meal or twice a day. Use a soft toothbrush. A medium or hard toothbrush is too hard on your gums. It can cause receding gums, which allows food particles to get stuck between your gums and your teeth. When these food particles begin to rot, they are a bad breath cause as well as other problems.

Brush your tongue as well as your teeth. You can also purchase a scraper for your tongue. This will remove any bacteria coating your tongue. If your tongue is not clean, it can be one of the causes of halitosis. Proper oral hygiene can go a long way toward preventing bad breath.

Drink plenty of water. This will keep your mouth moist. Chewing gums (preferably sugarless) or sucking on candy (preferably sugarless) also stimulates the production of saliva, which helps wash away food particles and bacteria.

Eating regular meals can also help. Skipping meals is not a good idea, because regular chewing and swallowing helps to prevent a dry mouth. Avoid smoking tobacco and ask your dentist for tips on leaving the habit.

Treatment

Dr. Adio emphasized that practicing good oral hygiene may be all you need to do in order to cure bad breath.

It is the first thing you should try. If you have sinus trouble, see your doctor about getting it cleared up. If you suspect digestive trouble, you will want to see your doctor as well.

Use mouthwash twice a day and avoid foods with strong smells such as onions and garlic to avoid bad breath situations.

Health
Interactive
with
Dr Aminu
Magashi

Page 45

FEATURE

What re-
ally turns
men off
some

WOMEN!

Page 46



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Advice by Dr Aminu Magashi



Causes and remedy of nose bleeding

I am interested in knowing about the causes of nose bleeding and its remedy. Thanks for always being there for your readers.

Fatima

The nose is a part of the body rich in blood vessels (vascular) and is situated in a vulnerable position as it protrudes on the face. As a result, trauma to the face can cause nasal injury and bleeding. The bleeding may be profuse, or simply a minor complication.

Nosebleeds can occur spontaneously when the nasal membranes dry out and crack. This is common in dry climates, or during the winter months when the air is dry and warm from household heaters. People are more susceptible to bleeding if they are taking medications which prevent normal blood clotting such as warfarin, aspirin or any anti-inflammatory medication. In this situation, even a minor trauma could result in significant bleeding.

The incidence of nosebleeds is higher during the colder winter months when upper respiratory infections are more frequent, and the temperature and humidity fluctuate more dramatically. In addition, changes from a bitter cold outside environment to a warm, dry, heated home results in drying and changes in the nose which will make it more susceptible to bleeding. Nosebleeds also occur in hot dry climates with low humidity, or when there is a change in the seasons.

The following factors predispose people to nosebleeds:

1. Infection
2. Trauma, including self-induced by nose picking
3. Allergic and non-allergic rhinitis
4. Hypertension (high blood pressure)
5. Use of blood thinning medications

6. Alcohol abuse
 7. Less common causes include tumors and inherited bleeding problems (disorders)
- Some measures to stop nose bleeding

Most people who develop nose bleeding can handle the problem without the need of a physician if they follow the recommendations below:

1. Pinch all the soft parts of the nose together between your thumb and index finger.
2. Press firmly toward the face - compressing the pinched parts of the nose against the bones of the face.
3. Lean forward slightly with the head tilted forward. Leaning back or tilting the head back allows the blood to run back into your sinuses and throat and can cause gagging or inhaling the blood.
4. Hold the nose for at least five minutes. Repeat as necessary until the nose has stopped bleeding.
5. Sit quietly, keeping the head higher than the level of the heart. Do not lay flat or put your head between your legs.
6. Apply ice (wrapped in a towel) to nose and cheeks.

Nose bleeding prevention

1. Rest with head elevated at 30 to 45 degrees.
2. Do not blow your nose or put anything into it. If you have to sneeze, open your mouth so that the air will escape out the mouth and not through the nose.
3. Do not strain during bowel movement (Use a stool softener)
4. Do not strain or bend down to lift anything heavy.
5. Try to keep your head higher than the level of your heart.
6. Stay on a soft, cool diet. No hot liquids for at least 24 hours.
7. Do not take any medications that will thin the blood such as Aspirin, Ibuprofen or Warfarin. If these have been prescribed by your physician, you need to contact them regarding stopping these medications.

8. If re-bleeding occurs, try to clear the nose of clots by sniffing in forcefully. You can temporarily use a nasal decongestant spray.
9. Repeat the steps above on how to stop the common nose bleed. If bleeding persists, call the doctor and/or visit to the emergency room.

Precautions to prevent nose bleeding

The most common cause of a nose bleeds is drying of the nasal membranes. If you are prone to recurrent nosebleeds, it is often helpful to try lubricating the nose with an ointment of some type. This can be applied gently with a Q-tip or your fingertip up inside the nose, especially on the middle portion (the septum). One can use Mentholatum or Vaseline. Saline mist nasal spray is often helpful (Ocean Spray).

Call a doctor or report to the emergency room

1. If bleeding cannot be stopped or keeps occurring.
2. If bleeding is rapid, or if blood loss is large.
3. If you feel weak or faint, presumably from blood loss.

If the nosebleed persists or is recurrent, see your doctor, who may then recommend stopping the bleeding with any one of the below measures;

1. Heating instrument or chemical swab (cautery of the blood vessel that is causing the trouble)
2. Application of a topical medicine called thrombin that promotes local clotting of blood.
3. Blood tests may be ordered to check for bleeding disorders.
4. If bleeding is still persistent, the doctor may place nasal packs, which compress the vessels and stop the bleeding.
5. In rare situations, one may be admitted to the hospital or require surgical treatment or a procedure where material is used to plug up the bleeding vessels in the nose (angiographic embolization).

DOOR STEP HEALTH INFO

Getting Started on public health discourse

A friend of mine when he read our promo 2 weeks ago on "Door Step Health Info" called to express his happiness about the possibility of writing weekly on topical issues as well as his pessimism whether I will be able to sustain the corner, knowing fully well my crowded schedules.

I informed him as well as others that showed concern that God willing the work has come to stay. Before I informed the management of Daily Trust Newspaper on my intention, I had thought about it thoroughly for almost a year and the approach I will take in writing it.

"Door Step Health Info" will not be about people but about health issues. The reader will agree with me that what dominates our discourse largely are health news and activities without analysing deeper in to what led to those events or occurrences. Health sectors in developing nations particularly in Africa faces lots of challenges; dwindling financial and human resources, maldistribution of human resources, difficulty in taken the right decisions that impact positively on the sector, challenges in using evidence based information to formulate and/or improve policies and programming, poor and/or inadequate infrastructure, improper understanding of socio-economic determinants of health. One can go on and on, it is suffice to say that the challenges are overwhelming.

Research in other parts of world shapes policy implementation as well as in evaluates the impact of projects and initiatives but one cannot say the same in Africa. It is not as if we don't do research, we do a lot, however the findings remain unknown to our policy makers, they are being published in Peer Review Journals that are only seen and understood by professionals and used for academic purposes.

Another challenge facing the health sector is our inability most of the times to use proper guideline, protocol or best standard of practice in initiating certain clinical practice and/or intervention with respect to management of diseases and/or health problems. There are a lot of recommended guidelines for management of different illnesses that were tested through rigorous studies before being introduced to the medical system.

Factors leading to not complying with such guidelines are multifaceted, as follows

1. Not being aware of such guidelines and protocols by health care providers.
2. Inadequate and/or lack of enabling environment to adopt new measures
3. Lack and/or inadequate motivation on the part of health care providers to use such guidelines.
4. Lack and/or inadequate supervision, monitoring and evaluation to ensure compliance and usage.
5. Inadequate and/or lack skills by the health care providers due to lack of exposure and/or training on that

Our new column will be broadly addressing three key areas

1. Briefly highlighting research work and/or papers that are relevant to improving the health sector most importantly maternal and child health and proffer simple and clear recommendations to policy makers.
2. Highlighting policies, strategies, guidelines, protocols and standard procedure of practice as well as advocating for policy review, change and/or improvement based on available evidences.
3. Using some breaking health news and findings to promote positive healthy behaviours and attitudes that will improve quality of life.

With all sense of humility, I introduce to my readers "Door Step Health Info" with the hope that it will support health care delivery system in Africa and Nigeria in particular. May God help us.

All comments to healthweekly@yahoo.com

What really turns men off some women

By Akor Ojoma

A number of women have often wondered why their husband or that man they care for so much suddenly grows cold or does not reciprocate their attention. The fact remains that no matter how perfect women think they are it is not only men that are shallow. Believe it or not men can easily be turned off, and in some cases this form of disgust can lead to the end of a relationship.

Sarah Gonad, Platinum Quality Author of Ezine-Articles.com gave the following tips of what turns men off and how you can avoid being that person that turns off men.

Gold diggers

Men like to have control of everything around them, including their financial situation. If he feels for a second that you are interested in his money then I guarantee you that he will be heading for the nearest exit. This isn't true of all men, in fact some men are aware that the only reason they may have a woman in the first place is because they have money, and plenty of it!

Even if you are a person that is not interested in money at all, refrain from asking any questions which would force him to reveal anything related to money. Would you like it if a guy came up to you and asked you what size knickers you wear? I didn't think so!

Too emotional...

Some men are comfortable with emotions, but others would run a mile. If you have met a guy for the first time keep the topic of conversation light, don't go too deep. The last thing you want to do is make the guy feel uncomfortable in your presence, because if he does, then I am afraid he won't be back. Want to bet me on that?

Avoid being a chat-box

Men hate women that talk too much about themselves. If you love yourself, then fine, that's great, save it for the mirror. When it comes to communicating with a guy it's a 2 way

street, don't be spilling out your guts about yourself all in one go. Another point

to mention is to refrain from throwing insults and using bad language, that

can be an instant turn off, especially on a first date. Sarah has been writing

articles for over 3 years now, come and visit her latest site for the latest on

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Construction and Furnishing of three faculty buildings at the Nasarawa State University , Keffi (NSUK).



New school furniture acquired and distributed throughout the state as part of the Education Reform Programme. (INSET: Some beneficiaries of the Free Textbook Scheme smiling with their textbooks.



The golden Gong and other laurels won by the state cultural troupe.

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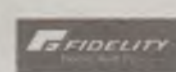
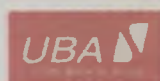
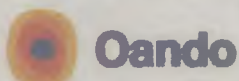
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eat array of kings who

“When he died he left seven wives, seven horses, seven pieces of clothing, seven swords.”



EMIR of Dutse Alhaji Nuhu Muhammad Sanusi

that on this second trip to Dutse, I would ask more questions on the Agades Cross. Alas, I was overwhelmed by the new golf course the Emir is constructing, and couldn't find time to ask the question.

There have been Kings at Dutse since the year 1421, when Sarki Dutse Tuwai Mai-Asarki Babba (1421-1463)

ruled. He built the first inner wall around Dutse. The second King had a peculiar name. He was called Mai Kuka (One who cries), because 'in childhood he cried constantly from body pains and a health crisis'. (P. 6)

Apparently, the name stuck. Sarki Dutse Tasau Dan Ketare became 'the most hated and feared King in Dutse history', on account of what has been termed



"THERE have been Kings at Dutse since the year 1421."



"HE was nicknamed Idon Mikiya because of his peculiar eyesight."



FRONT of the Dutse museum.

his diabolical behavior. Another Sarkin Dutse was Babilu Mai Karauna (1498-1515).

Stories of Dutse palace (2010) says of him 'He loved women, and was strongly fashionable. When he died he left seven wives, seven horses, seven pieces of clothing, seven swords, seven arrows in his quiver, and seven pairs of boots'. (P. 8)

He was also the seventh Sarkin Dutse, and was clearly fascinated by the number 7. Sarkin Dutse Alu-Idon-Mikiya is very popular.

He was called Idon Mikiya because of his unique eyesight. According to *Stories of Dutse palace (2010)* 'He was nicknamed Idon

Mikiya because of his peculiar eyesight, which was extra ordinary. Sitting on Kara Kallo rock, he could tell what was happening several miles away. His terror and style of attack in the middle of the night created a mystique impression about his sight'. (P. 14)

Suleiman Dan Nuhu (MBE) (1923-1960) was the first western educated Sarkin Dutse. The current Emir of Dutse has many firsts to his name. For one, he is constructing a golf course right now in Dutse. No Sarkin Dutse did that before him or attempted it. He is first in this regard. The Kings of Dutse have left glowing footprints on the endless sands of time.

symbol, and then he made reference to the Cross of Agades. There are so many inspiring motifs on the walls of the palace. I thought

News Extra

Julius Malema loves golf. Not playing it, of course. Just hanging out in the clubhouse - especially Wentworth in Surrey, Britain - drinking and messing around with his friends. He's a big fan of nightclubs too - but not football.

I learned all this, sitting in Mr Malema's sparse, handsome corner office on the seventh floor of the African National Congress's headquarters in the centre of Johannesburg. The country's most outspoken, notorious, divisive political figure had kept me and our television crew waiting for about four hours in his assistant's room while he plotted party strategy with his colleagues from the ruling ANC's youth league.

Eventually, Mr Malema ushered us in. A photograph of Nelson Mandela in combat gear hung proudly behind his bare desk.

In person, the plump 29-year-old can be charming, frank and funny. He talks with confidence and authority - about his desire to make money, his three-year-old son, golf, revolution, racial divisions, Robert Mugabe, and his life-long devotion to the ANC. He is clearly no fool. But he is also domineering, slippery, quick to lash out, and almost as

BBC meets ANC youth leader Julius Malema



DEFIANT: South African youth leader Julius Malema, who was disciplined for his 'out of control' behaviour, has compared himself to Nelson Mandela

“ He praised President Mugabe's programme of land seizures as 'very good except the violent part of it' ”

quick to play the "race card."

I'm not entirely sure why he agreed to speak to the BBC. His recent behaviour towards a colleague of mine inspired several dance hits but didn't do Mr Malema much good. As he made clear early on in our interview, he still regards the organisation as "imperialist".

But it's been a bumpy few weeks for Mr Malema. Fined, shamed, forced to attend political education and anger management classes by the ANC for undermining the party - was he looking to mend some fences? I'm not sure that's his style. But here, in no particular order are what I'd consider the highlights of about 40 minutes' frank discussion.



NELSON Mandela

• "I didn't let myself down." Mr Malema steadfastly refused to admit any wrongdoing. When it boiled down to a simple "yes or no", he brushed the question aside, saying: "Yes or no doesn't work with me."

• "I'm open to new things." He laughed off his various punishments, saying anger management didn't sound very "African" and as for political education classes - "if you punish me with what I like, I must celebrate." He made it clear that the only thing that mattered was his continued



PRESIDENT Jacob Zuma

membership of the ANC. "I'm an ordinary man. I'm not above the ANC... Many of you are disappointed that I'm still sitting here."

• "Never rely on an individual." This was the main lesson he said he'd learned from the disciplinary experience - a clear reference to the power-struggles within the ANC. He refused to say to whom he was referring. "I don't want to be a gossip." He vowed to continue backing President Zuma. "We will continue to support him until the ANC tells us not to."

• "I will make considerations." This was how he described his apparent climb-down on singing the inflammatory line "kill the Boer". He agreed that he "might" cut those words out of the song, and in fact he has already begun singing "kiss the Boer" in public. Later he scathingly referred to Helen Zille, the white premier of the Western Cape and leader of the opposition Democratic Alliance, as "that beautiful queen of yours".

• "You don't know Mandela." Not for the first time, he

said he was being groomed to continue Mandela's legacy, and spoke about the former president's early radical role within the ANC.

• "We must never use violence." He praised President Mugabe's programme of land seizures as "very good except the violent part of it," and insisted that South Africa was heading in the same direction. He said the government here could not afford to pay market prices for farm land and therefore expropriations, and "take it or leave it" flat payments were the way forward.

• "We know what kind of work the imperialists are doing amongst our people." He insisted that nationalisation was on the ANC's "agenda", and spoke with real passion of the "racial divisions in this country," where "the gaps between the haves and have-nots grows - and it's racialised. Those who become more poor are black and Africans. Those who become rich are white. I'm fighting that. There's no racism in that."

• "I'm not going anywhere." Malema said he had another five years in the ANC's Youth League. He brushed aside, rather unconvincingly, talk of presidential ambitions, and said he wanted to spend more time with his son, and "lead the youth from the front in business." He insisted there was "nothing wrong" in combining business and politics, although "sometimes you get screwed there by your own people because money has got no ethics."

News Extra

'Corruptible and open to fraud'

...International observers give damning verdict on UK electoral system



'FAIR, but corruptible': Voters queue to cast their ballot in this month's general election, for which foreign observers were brought in to observe

Britain's electoral system is wide open to corruption and fraud, observers from developing countries have warned.

In a devastating report the Royal Commonwealth Society

(RCS) said elements of Britain's voting system were 'vulnerable to abuse, with lax rules that would shame a Third World country.'

The Commonwealth sent observers to oversee a British General Election for the first time this month following repeated

reports of abuse at previous polls.

Observers from countries including Bangladesh, Rwanda and Sierra Leone held talks with election officials and attended counts across the country.

In their report Monday, the observers listed a string of weaknesses in Britain's voting system, saying it 'contains vulnerabilities that make the system corruptible and open to fraud.'

The report said the British system relied too heavily on trust, with lax checks on identity and

icism the rules on postal voting, which were relaxed under the last Labour government.

Last month, police across the country launched more than 50 criminal investigations into voting fraud, mostly linked to postal voting.

The RCS report said the postal voting system was 'particularly open to abuse' as there were no checks on the identity of people applying for a postal ballot and few checks thereafter.

It also criticised lax rules on voter registration which make it possible for people to be registered to vote in more than one place at once.

Observers attending individual counts reported that ballot papers were 'treated casually', with security 'not a priority'.

This month's poll also saw chaos at a number of polling stations across the country, with hundreds of people locked out of polling stations and refused the right to vote. The RCS report said many polling stations were 'understaffed' and called for changes to prevent future problems.

However, observers praised the 'calmness and culture of trust' which characterised the British voting system, and the relatively 'civilised' way in which the campaign was conducted.

The RCS report said the postal voting system was 'particularly open to abuse'

a sometimes 'casual' approach to the security of ballot papers.

It concluded: 'Trust may have been a sufficient anchor in the past, but while trust is good, caution and deterrent controls are better.'

The report singled out for crit-

Mobile phone number 0888 888 888 suspended after every user assigned to it DIES

Spooked phone bosses have suspended the mobile phone number 0888 888 888 - after every single person assigned to it died in the last 10 years.

The first owner, Vladimir Grashnov - the former CEO of Bulgarian mobile phone company Mobitel, which issued the number - died of cancer in 2001 aged just 48.

Despite a spotless business record there were persistent rumours that his cancer had been caused by a business rival using radioactive poisoning.

The jinxed number then passed to Bulgarian mafia boss Konstantin Dimitrov.

He was gunned down in 2003 by a lone assassin in the Netherlands during a trip to inspect his £500million drug-smuggling empire.

Dimitrov, who died aged 31,

had the mobile with him when he was shot while eating out with a beautiful model.

Russian mafia bosses - jealous of his drug-smuggling operation - were said to have been behind the killing.

The phone number then passed to crooked businessman Konstantin Dishliev.

He was gunned down outside an Indian restaurant in Bulgaria's

capital Sofia in 2005, after taking over the jinxed line.

Estate agent Dishliev had secretly been running a massive cocaine trafficking operation before his assassination.

He died after £130million of the drug was intercepted by police on its way into the country from Colombia.

Since then, the number is understood to have been dormant while police maintained an open file on Dishliev's killing and his smuggling ring.

Now spooked phone bosses are said to have suspended the number, which from an international line is +359 888 888 888, for good.

Callers now get a recorded message saying the phone is 'outside network coverage'.

A Mobitel spokesman would only say: 'We have no comment to make. We won't discuss individual numbers.'

A Mobitel spokesman would only say: 'We have no comment to make'



A girl checks her mobile phone (file photo). Bulgarian phone bosses have suspended the number 0888 888 888 after every user assigned to it died

PROPERTY

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Niger lobbies for NSCDC College

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE Governor of Niger state, Dr Muazu Babangida Aliyu has called on the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) to establish its training college in the state.

Aliyu made the disclosure at the passing out parade of cadets of the defence corps in Niger state where he stated that the state government is prepared to oblige them with all necessary logistics including land to build on.

"I urge the Niger state command of the civil defence to lobby for a training collage here in Minna as we as a state government are prepared to provide the land and other logistics to help them serve the society better," he said.

He used the occasion to appeal to all twenty-five local government chairmen in the state to help provide succour to operatives of the civil defence posted to their area, adding that they will work better if they have a conducive environment to operate in.

"Let me appeal to all the local government chairmen in

Niger state to provide basic facilities for the civil defence officers posted to their area to make them function better in the state.

I give you chairmen two months to come up with ways of assisting officers of the corps posted to your local government," he said.

Meanwhile, Aliyu expressed optimism that NSCDC will serve Nigeria better when they are equipped with firearms, as he urged them to operate within the confines of the law in their operation.



PIC: ABUBAKAR SADIQ ISAH

REPRESENTATIVE of the FCT Minister, Architech Baba Mohammed Dadi, 2nd right, in company of area council chairmen during the minister's inspection of projects at Kuje on Tuesday

LG boss ordered to move Minna central market

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE governor of Niger state has ordered the removal of the Minna central market as he ordered the Chairman of Chanchaga Local Government Alhaji Yakubu Salawu to ensure that the market is removed or risk losing his job.

"The chairman of the Chanchaga Local Government is expected to relocate the Minna central market and if he is not able to do so he should be removed for who can do the right job", he said.

The governor who was speaking at the flagging off ceremony of the monthly sanitation day celebration in Minna Niger state said the movement of the market was necessary to decongest the busy central area of the traffic and environmental degradation the place is subjected to.

Then Governor who has since inception of his administration has ordered the removal of the market to a permanent site located at the Western-bye pass lamented the slow pace at which the market relocation exercise is taking place.

The issue of the market relocation has been a matter the governor has maintained at different occasions that he must accomplish as he observed that it took a political turn to smear the administration of insensitivity.

The governor who stressed that the move was predicated on the fact that the state was passing through a developmental phase added that it was for the general good of people as the new place is well position for commercial activities.

'Mortgage system with 15-year-tenure needed'

By Mustapha Suleiman

NIGERIA needs a mortgage system that will help people to own their homes and further stimulate the demand for housing.

This was stated by the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) Managing Director, Mr. Terver Gemade, at the opening of the 87th Council of the Association of Housing Corporations of Nigeria held on Wednesday in Abuja.

Gemade noted that for Nigeria to have

a sustainable mortgage system, there must be a comfortable tenure of at least 15 years, adding that it should be easy for mortgagors to enter and exit without stress and should have an interest rate that is not punishing with a reliable enforcement system that adequately penalises breaches of covenant.

"We should carefully explore other avenues for housing fund, which fortunately are available in abundance. For instance, raising bonds in the capital

market has increasingly proved to be reliable and stress-free source of long term financing," said Gemade.

The FHA boss called for a sustainable housing model that should involve the private sector the more while we prepare to do more of facilitations, regulation and enforcement of standards.

He said that over the past 7 Months the Authority has commissioned 240 housing units in Lugbe, Abuja and 558 units at Isheri Olofin in Lagos.

N300m earmarked for FCT area councils staff institute

By Nasir Imam

THE FCT Administration has earmarked over N300 million in the 2010 statutory budget for the commencement of the initial work on the proposed FCT Area Councils' Staff Training Institute, Kwali.

The FCT Minister, Senator Bala Mohammed made this revelation recently while swearing-in the newly elected

Chairmen of the six Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory at the Eagle Square, Central Business District, Abuja.

The Minister disclosed that the Institute is intended to build capacity for political functionaries and career staff of the FCT Area Councils.

According to him, when the Institute is completed, it will also throw its doors open to Local Government func-

tionaries from other parts of the country because the six FCT Area Councils will always remain a pacesetter for the remaining 768 Local Government areas in the federation.

The Minister directed the FCT Area Council Services Secretariat to organise the FCT Area Council programme to acquaint the newly elected functionaries with the requirements of public sector and extant administrative procedures.

Property



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Nasarawa communities get electricity

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

RESPITE has come the way of three communities in Agwada Development Area of Nasarawa State with an electrification project which has linked them with the national grid.

Sole administrator of the council Yakubu Ogelebe Akuki who

conducted newsmen round the communities, namely Igwo, Endo and Azaza, said plans are in top gear to extend the project to other communities as part of his administration's efforts to improve on the socio-economic life of the people.

He also undertook a tour of health

care infrastructure including the primary health care clinics in the area just as he disclosed the councils plans to construct one Sakwato. He said part of the plans for the area in the current year is to construct a twin bridge at Kuyanbana and Rafin Tagway which project would be completed

soon. These have been further complemented by the face lift which the council secretariat has undergone. He said the construction of a multi million naira secretariat complex, a guest house and the construction of worship places for both Christians and Muslims, are projects

that are close to the heart of the council and the people.

The chairman who also conducted newsmen round schools where the administration provided infrastructural development, called for the support of the people to boost the

council's efforts for more commitment.

"This is part of our efforts at the council to implement the economic development blueprint of Governor Aliyu Akwe Doma called 13-Points Agenda with particular efforts in infrastructure," Akuki added.

Collapsed building: NSE suspends member over neglect

By Nasir Imam

THE Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) has announced the suspension of one of its members, Mr. Shamsudeen A. Edidi from practice for two years because of alleged involvement in the design of a building that collapsed in Lagos in 2006. The building was at 71 Bola Street, Ebute-Metta.

A statement from Ikenna Emeka Okpani, NSE's Head of Media and Publication, said the Investigative and Disciplinary Committee set up by the society

headed by a Past President of the NSE, Alh. Ibrahim Khaleel Inuwa to investigate the collapse found out that Mr. Edidi was involved in the design and production of the structural drawings of the collapsed building and recommended that he be suspended for professional misconduct.

Mr. Edidi who was said to have signed and stamped the design without checking through it for structural defects challenged his suspension in court arguing that the Nigerian Society of Engineers did not have powers

to set up an Investigative and Disciplinary Committee and to recommend to the Council for Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) to withdraw his licence for the period of suspension.

In a judgement delivered by Hon. Justice Y. A. Adesanya (Mrs) of High Court 34, Lagos on the 12th of February 2010 held that the society had the powers to act as such thereby paving way for the commencement of the suspension of Mr. Edidi.

In the judgement, the court

held that the Nigerian Society of Engineers had powers to set up an Investigative and Disciplinary Committee to investigate the building collapse. Although the court held that the structural drawing signed and stamped by Mr. Edidi had nothing to do with the collapsed building, it however held that the act of the claimant by "signing and stamping the structural and architectural drawing which was neither approved by the town planning authority or used by the developer of the

collapsed building amounts to a breach of the code of engineering."

The court therefore held that the two-year suspension of Mr. Edidi and the notification to Council for Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) to formally bar him from practicing engineering in the country for two years was legal and constitutional.

The Council of the society said the suspension takes effect from May 2010 when the judgement was reviewed at the council meeting and the suspension announced.

In Gusau, many vacant shops beckon for tenants

From Sadeeq Aliyu, Gusau

TENANCY is a common phenomenon in most Nigerian cities and towns; and even in villages where visitors settle either to run businesses or to work as civil servants. Some people who rent shops or apartments may occupy such places for as long as the land loads would allow them to stay. However, the common problem facing tenants every where is the continuous increase of tenement rate by land loads who may at any given time wake up like shylocks and increase the rent money.

In Gusau, the capital of Zamfara State, like many sprawling towns, the problem of tenancy starts from securing accommodation or a shop for those who want to run business. However, investigation showed that most of the land loads nowadays prefer to build shops rather than



A vacant shop in Gusau

houses for the simple reason that they fetch more money than living houses. This is why construction of shops became so rampant in Gusau such that the number of vacant shops is continuously increasing without commensurate occupants. In most of the places where business seems to thrive, even in time to come, land owners are busy erecting shops in anticipation that very soon the shops may be occupied.

However, the story appears to be different as countless shops constructed with such motives are still awaiting tenants who are invariably not forth coming.

Mr. Chucks is a textile trader in Gusau, he explained that most of the land lords in the state prefer to build shops rather than houses for dwelling simply because they get more money from them. But the problem is that the shops are very costly such that

traders like me make use of their residential houses to run their business. If you go round you would see a lot of vacant shops and people are not willing to rent them due to exorbitant amount put on them. In the same token, Malam Umar whose business is cap washing in Gusau central market, said he opted to rent a shop in the market because it is cheaper compared to outside or along major streets in the town. He said if he

rent a shop outside, it may cost him about N60, 000 to N100, 000 per annum and in such situation he may not get any profit and would always be battling to see that he has not defaulted in paying the money. It was observed that many of the traders especially those who settled in Gusau are running their businesses in congested shops because expansion of such premises means doubling or even tripling their rent money which they would not be ready to do.

Alhaji Ibrahim Hamza is the Zamfara state branch Manager of Arewa Rent Collectors, an organization formed to assist tenants in securing houses and also tackle problems arising between land lords and tenants. He explained that his organization is very much aware of that there are many shops that had been empty for long and people are not willing to rent them because they

cannot afford to pay money placed on them. He said some few land lords come to us and ask us to manage their houses, get tenants for them and we fix the price. But a good number of them would want to live their houses under their custody so that they fix the rent money by themselves; and that is why they fix higher amount such that would-be tenant would be scared. Hamza said there are some shops that attract N200, 000, N150, 000 and below per year, saying that such high cost is what is stopping the tenants from renting the shops.

According to him, very soon the organization would call a meeting with the land lords to discuss the way forward on how to tackle the problem of rent money in the state. Zamfara State has been ranked among states where houses for rent are very scarce while rent money being charged too high.

CITY NEWS



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Law student in court over house breaking

By Bunmi Omolehin

A 20-year-old law student was yesterday arraigned before an Abuja Upper Area Court for alleged house breaking.

Daniel Oza Oniri Bassey was accused of committing offences punishable under Section 342, 341, 327 and 319 of the Penal Code.

Prosecutor Mohammed Garba told the court that one Michael Ogunyemi of Castle and Tower Quarters Garki, Abuja, reported to police that on May 15, the accused criminally trespassed into the Public Complaint Commission Ministry and was caught red handed by the Investigation director of the commission while attempting to steal items in the office.

"During police investigation, it was discovered that some bunch of keys and laptops were found in the accused person's possession," the prosecutor added.

When the charge was read to the accused, he pleaded not guilty and requested for bail, which was objected by the prosecutor.

Judge Umar Yusuf Kagarko granted the accused bail in the sum of N100,000 with a reliable surety in like sum, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction and adjourned the case to July 5.

AMAC boss advocates food supplements for mothers

By Usman A. Bello

THE Chairman of Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC), Mr. Micah Y. Jiba, yesterday called on all tiers of government to provide food supplements to all pregnant women as well as nursing mothers in hospitals and clinics in order to enhance their nutritive lives.

Jiba, who made the call during a ceremony to mark this year's Children and Youth Day at Jiwa, said in spite of the contributions being made by mothers and children in the society, they still wallow in abject neglect, starvation and hunger.

He lamented that Nigerian children have suffered a lot of neglect over the years in the areas of child labour, prostitution, malnutrition, hunger and other forms of hardships.

The chairman called on stakeholders to put hands on deck to formulate policies that would improve mothers and children's livelihood.

He said in an attempt to improve people's nutrition, youths must be mobilised to embrace agriculture at the primary and secondary school levels, while efforts should be intensified for the society to venture into the cultivation of other crops such as legumes, vegetable and cowpea.

Man accuses wife of seducing step-son

By Romoke W. Ahmad

AN assistant superintendent of police, Ubana Ubana, yesterday alleged before an Abuja customary court that his new wife tried to seduce his son in his absence.

He told the court that while he was going for a course in 2008 at Gwazo Mopol Training School in Borno State, he took his new wife to stay with his two children (from another woman) and she accepted to look after them.

"After three months of return from the course, my 17-year-old son's behaviour changed and when I inquired, he said whenever I am not around, my wife seduces, caress, hugs, kisses and even wants to make love to him," the man said.

He told the court that his son told him that whenever he refuses her advances the woman threatens to beat him.

"I called her family after my son's revelation and her father came to settle us as well as said she was ready to change but to my utmost surprise my wife didn't stop the act," he narrated.

The policeman then appealed to the court to grant his divorce petition for the sake of peace in his home.

The 17-year-old boy corroborated his father's statement and said he never vowed to make step mother miserable in their home.

Responding, Mrs Patricia Ekwe denied the allegation and said the boy cooked-up the story to send her out his father's house.

She said the boy initially informed her that he will make the house unbearable for her, adding that she is fed up of the marriage as she never for once attempted to seduce the boy.

According to her, she met her husband with two children in 2008 and they started dating which led to marriage in December last year.

"The boy once vowed that over his dead body would he allow any other woman to take his mother's position and he has lived up to his saying," the woman stated.

Counsel for the petitioner asked for an adjournment, while Judge Hauwa Yilwa granted the counsel's request and adjourned the case to June 2 for the counsel to address the court.

PIC: GLADYS OGECHI NWORGU



A refuse dump along Aso, Mararaba in Nasarawa State yesterday.

Police arraign mother in court over N2.5m

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A woman detained by the police on May 13 was yesterday arraigned before an Abuja Chief Magistrate Court for allegedly receiving N2.5 million from N6.4 billion stolen by a staff of Zenith Bank Plc.

Rosemary Onyeani was accused of receiving the money in April this year, despite the fact that she had knowledge that the money was stolen from the bank.

Police prosecutor Chigozie Okezie, a deputy superintendent, informed the court

that on March 26, a petition was received by the Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Zone 7 Headquarters, Abuja, adding that after police investigations, it was revealed that the accused received N2.5 million and two vehicles from one Leonard Okoh, a staff of Zenith Bank Plc, now at large.

"The accused received the sum of N2.5 million, a Toyota Corolla car with registration number BC 650 GWA and a Hilux jeep with registration number BL 650B WR from Leonard Okoh," the prosecutor said.

According to him, N2.5 million the bank by Leonard, adding that the offences the accused committed are punishable under Sections 79, 287, 312 and 317 of the Penal Code.

When the four-count charge was read to the accused, she denied them and her counsel, Ola Olanipekun, made an oral application for her bail, pledging that she will not jump bail or interfere with prosecution.

Olanipekun expressed displeasure at the manner in which the police arrested and detained his client together alongside her

two children, who were 5 and 8-years.

The defense lawyer also told the court that the accused is a wife to a police officer and also a member of the Police Officers Wives Association.

Responding to the bail application, the prosecutor objected to it on the grounds that the offences are not ordinarily bailable and the accused might interfere with police investigations or jump bail.

Chief Magistrate David Ochimana granted the accused bail in the sum of N5 million with two sureties in like sum.

He also ruled that one of the sureties must either be an owner of a landed property within the court's jurisdiction or a civil servant of not below grade level 14 or a lawyer of not below 13 years standing at the bar.

He ordered that in the case of a surety with landed property, the original copies of the documents of the property must be deposited with the court, while in the case of a lawyer, the call to bar certificate must be deposited with the court.

The case was adjourned to June 29 for further mention.

Youngster receives 10 lashes for stealing ATM card

By Lucas Istifanus

A 22-year-old man, Chibuike Ofor, was on Monday given 10 lashes of a cane for stealing an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) card belonging to one

Commander Solomon.

The sentence was prescribed by Magistrate Linda Jesse after the accused pleaded guilty to the offence punishable by Section 288 of the Penal Code.

Prosecutor Lucas Ephraim

had earlier told the court that the complainant reported at Kubwa Police Station on May 11, that the accused stole his ATM card and withdrew N40,000 from his Oceanic Bank account.

When the charge was read to

the accused, he pleaded guilty, while the prosecutor informed the court that the complainant had earlier approached the police to terminate the case but they insisted it was a criminal matter.

The complainant also told the court that he forgave the accused on the basis of the cordial relationship they once enjoyed and Magistrate Linda Jesse convicted the accused to N400 as well as 10 lashes of a cane.

Traders lament over loss after task force invasion

By Maryam Abdallah

TRADERS at Panteka market yesterday lamented over the loss incurred when members of an FCT A taskforce on sanitation stormed the market to demolish illegal structures.

Jamilu, a fruit seller complained that the demolished structure served as his room and his shop.

Another victim, Murtala, wept profusely that he has been thrown homeless as Abuja is a very expensive city and does not know how to survive.

Mohammed, another trader said it would be fair for government to build shops at very reasonable prices for average traders.

A member of the task force however warned that the demolition activity will continue from time to time until orderliness is maintained in environments in FCT.

Another task force official also condemned the behaviour of some Abuja residents, whom he said disobey laws by erecting illegal structures.



A cross section of Panteka market yesterday.

Children call for improvement of education sector

By Ogechi Ohalee

CHILDREN from various schools in the FCT yesterday appealed to government to improve on the education sector so that they can have the same opportunity as their counterparts from other schools around the world.

Mimi Nwaosu, 11, a student of

Horizon International Academy Gwarinpa, urged government to improve on the standard of education in public schools.

"Private schools are expensive for the children of the poor and public schools are not giving them quality education that will make them compete with private school pupils," he reasoned.

Naomi, a 12-year-old pupil decried that Nigerian children are living below poverty line as the struggle to make a living.

He called on government to organise programmes to discourage child hawkers as well as advised them to enrol them in schools.

Addul Yanusa of Mabuchi Primary School said he works to pay

his way through school, adding that the situation a poor Nigerian child finds himself/herself is frustrating.

Musa, a 15-year-old lamented that his family lives inside an uncompleted building in Wuse zone 1, Abuja. "There is nothing for me to celebrate as my parents beg for a living," he added.

Guard, labourer charged with theft

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

THE police Wednesday arraigned a 28-year-old security guard and a 22-year-old labourer before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly stealing property worth N300,000.

Eddy Ikuenobo, a security guard and Benjamin Adams, all of Federal Housing Authority, Lugbe, Abuja, were accused of jointly breaking into the house of one Ugo Jim Nwoko.

Police prosecutor Yilkudi Dungi informed the court that on May 16, Ugo Jim Nwoko of Federal Housing Authority, Lugbe, Abuja, reported to the police that the accused persons broke into his house and stole his property.

The prosecutor said the complainant returned from church and discovered that his house had been broken into by the accused persons and an HP laptop compu-

ter valued at N300,000, a cell phone valued at N20,000 stolen.

"The accused also stole two pairs of men suits valued at N50,000, two female suits valued at N30,000, female clothes valued at N50,000, documents and an identity card, thereby committing offences punishable under Sections 79, 347 and 287 of the Penal Code," the prosecutor stated.

When the charges were read to the accused persons, they denied them and requested for bail, which was not objected to by the prosecutor.

Magistrate Bashar Attahiru Alkali granted each of the accused persons bail in the sum of N50,000 with a reliable surety each in like sums, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction and swear to an affidavit to produce the accused persons in court on the adjourned date.

The case was adjourned to June 21 for hearing.

Chida Hotel staff in court over negligence

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

THREE staff of Chida International Hotels Wednesday appeared before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly paving the way for a thief to steal 4,573 dollars belonging to one Joseph Ameh.

Godwin Okon, a 32-year-old room attendant, Umoh Bassey, a supervisor and Mameh Achilles, a security guard were accused of jointly and dishonestly allowing the said money to be stolen.

Police prosecutor Abdul Alhassan told the court that on May 21, one Joseph

Ameh, a guest in the hotel, reported to the police that while he in the reception having his breakfast, his money was stolen from his room.

"The accused persons were on duty and dishonestly allowed a thief to steal 4,573 dollars from a bag in room 127 of Chida Hotels, while the owner was away for breakfast in the reception room," the prosecutor said.

He added further that the dishonest act of the accused persons caused the complainant loss of his property, adding that the offences committed by the accused persons are punish-

able under Sections 79 and 197 of the Penal Code.

When the three-count charge was read to the accused persons, they denied them and requested for bail, which was not objected to by the prosecutor.

In his ruling, Chief Magistrate Ademuyiwa Oyeyipo granted each of the accused persons bail in the sum of N200,000 with a reliable surety each in like sum, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction and swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned date.

The case was adjourned to June 14 for hearing.



قرية اللغة العربية انغالا - نيجيريا
(مركز جامعي للدراسات العربية)
NIGERIA ARABIC LANGUAGE VILLAGE, NGALA
(Inter-University Centre for Arabic Studies)
Office of The Director

LIAISON OFFICE MAIDUGURI
No. 66, LAFIYA ROAD, OLD G.R.A.
P.M.B 2002, Maiduguri
Tel: 076-236267
FAX: 076-236267

GSM: 0822577963
e-mail: njavl@njalv.edu.ng
njavl@njalv.edu.ng

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER:

1.0 The Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala is in the process of implementing and executing 2010 capital projects. In view of the above, the Village is inviting competent and interested Contractors and Suppliers to submit their pre-qualification and full tender documents to the Village for the following projects.

S/No	Project Description	Pre-Qualification & Tender Fees N
Lot 2C	Solar facilities to male Students' Hostel	10,000.00
Lot 3C	Solar facilities to female students' hostel	10,000.00
Lot 5A.	Solar facilities to students' hall A	10,000.00

2.0 PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

All interested companies must:-

- Provide evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission(CAC),
- Provide evidence of registration with Nigeria Arabic Language Village (NALV),
- Provide evidence of current Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three years(2007,2008&2009)
- Names, qualifications and experience of the company's technical/managerial staff to be involved in the project(s) where applicable (enclosed photocopies of credentials),
- Verifiable list of projects completed, listing names of clients, contract sum, evidence of practical completion(2007,2008,&2009)
- Audited Account of the bidder for the last three (3) years2007,2008 & 2009
- Bank reference and Bank statement
- Articles and memorandum of Association,
- Any other relevant information

3.0 TENDER:

The Financial Bid documents shall be made available to interested companies upon payment of non-refundable appropriate processing fees as indicated above to the Bursary where receipt will be issued to accompany the tender on submission. Tenderers should collect tender documents from the Office of the Coordinator Municipal Services Department.

4.0 SUBMISSIONS

a) The completed pre-qualification and full Tender bids must be in two different sealed envelopes and clearly marked at the top hand corner indicating pre-qualification for 'Title of the project' similarly the tender envelope shall be clearly marked indicating TENDER FOR 'Title of the project' and all of which shall be in **ONE BIG ENVELOPE** clearly marked indicating **PRE-QUALIFICATION AND FULL TENDER FOR 'Title of the project'**. Also name and address of the firm/company should be clearly indicated at the back of the envelopes.

b) The Pre-qualification and full tender bids must be returned to the Office of the Director/Chief Executive, Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala on or before 10 am 15th JUNE, 2010. The pre-qualification bids will be opened immediately by 10.00 am at the Council Chamber. Willing tenderers and General public are invited to witness the opening. **The Village will thereafter undertake verification of all claims made by Contractors.**

NOTE

- This is not an invitation to tender; full tendering procedures will be applied only to contractor, that have been pre-qualified and found capable of executing the projects
- That the Village is not bound to accept tenders sent by courier or post,
- Interested contractors may make submission for not more than two (2) projects.
- On the opening date, the pre-qualified bids will be opened first to qualify tenderer for the full tendering and the pre-tender bids found to be unsatisfactory shall have their full tender package returned to them, while those who meet the pre-qualification criteria will have their tenders opened for consideration.
- This advert serves as notice to both the pre-qualification to tender and the Full tender.

vii) All interested companies must produce original of documents on the date of opening for sighting only.

All contractors and suppliers that were pre-qualified during the openings of pre-qualification bids as per our earlier adverts which appeared in the federal tenders journal, Daily Trust and champion News papers need not to re-apply.

Signed:
Director/Chief Executive.
Nigeria Arabic Language Village, Ngala

Minister's wife tasks children on reading culture

By Nasir Imam

FCT Minister's wife, Hajia Aisha Bala Mohammed, yesterday advised children to always read their books and be obedient to their teachers at school if they want to be responsible citizens.

The minister's wife gave

the advice during the Children's Day celebrations yesterday at the Maitama Amusement Park, Abuja.

Hajia Aisha said the event was organised to appreciate children who have done the country proud in their academics.

The event witnessed children from different

tribes and religious background, including those from orphanage homes socialising together.

Earlier in a welcome address, Director, Gender Development, FCT Social Development Secretariat, Mrs. Hannatu Attah, described children as the future of the country.



CHAIRMAN of Kuje Area Council Mr. Danladi Etsu Zhin (left), during the inauguration of the new council's legislative arm at Kuje on Monday.

Kuje to improve on agric

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

THE Kuje Area Council Chairman, Mr. Danladi Etsu Zhin, yesterday revealed that his administration will give top priority to agricultural.

Zhin, who was speaking to newsmen, noted that there is need for every stakeholder in the council to encourage farming.

He said the council has a large land mass of 1,800 square kilometres, which he said is nearly 22.5 per cent of the FCT.

According to him, the council's decision to take full advantage of its resources under the present administration was

enhanced through a conducive blue print on both agriculture and economy development in his first tenure.

He said part of the implementation of the blue print was to ensure that most imperfect policies witnessed in the past by some local farmers are adequately taken care of, which culminated into the purchase of two tractors that are given out for hire to farmers at subsidized rates.

The council boss explained that arrangement has been put in place to procure fertilizer as well as agro chemicals, which would be sold to genuine farmers at a subsidized rate,

adding that the council will procure grains and seedlings to farmers in order to boost their farming activity.

The chairman further said the council would also concentrate on viable projects that can generate more revenue to the council, like the Abuja transitional market and building of recreational centres, among others.

He therefore called on the FCT Administration to assist the council in extending water supply from Airport road to the council or to construct a dam in order to cushion the effect of perennial water scarcity in the council.

Coalition calls for monitoring of votes

By Hussein Yahaya

AN Abuja-based group, National Coalition for Greater Nigeria yesterday urged Nigerians to make sure their votes are counted in the forthcoming general election, by insisting on one-man, one-vote.

The group also advised electorates to monitor their votes from the voting centre till the time the results are released.

Leader of the group, Taiye Oghogho Garrick called on the electorates to be battle ready to defend their votes at various polling booths, adding that

every qualified Nigerian should be allowed to contest, including the incumbent President Goodluck Jonathan.

Garrick, who cited examples of country's leaders that organised elections and lost, said the electorates should be allowed to make their choice.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

NIGER SHEA PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION (NISPA)

The general public is hereby informed that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Prof. M.A.T. Soleiman
2. Alh. Ahmed Mohammed Kontagora
3. Haj. Ladi Shambo
4. Engr. Musa Yaya
5. Haj. Zainab Ibrahim Kuchi
6. Alh Adama N. Bufeiman

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- (a) To encourage domestication/plantation and increase in production of high quality Shea products throughout Nigeria.
 - (b) To promote the optimal (maximum) utilization of shea products through local processing.
 - (c) To promote high quality of shea products and encourage processing of it for domestic use and export.
 - (d) To generate more foreign exchange for the country.
- Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565 Ndola Squire, Wuse Zone 5, P.M.B 189 Abuja within twenty eight days (28) of this publication.

Signed
Mr Yinka Saka
Secretary

OOBIYAN WOMEN AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

This is to inform the general public that the above named association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Mrs. Helen Magani | Chairman |
| 2. Mrs. Anna Madziga | Member |
| 3. Mrs. Rebecca Matalo | Member |
| 4. Dr. Mary Dewan | Member |
| 5. Mrs. Heidi Sunday | Member |
| 6. Dr. Edgar Amos | Secretary |
| 7. Barr. Idi Bauna | Legal Adviser |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. Women Empowerment
2. Youth Empowerment
3. Care for Orphans and vulnerable Children
4. Girl Child Education
5. Maternal and Child Health Care

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street P.M.B 188, Maitama Abuja within twenty eight days from this publication.

SIGNED
Dr. EDGAR AMOS
SECRETARY

LEGAL AND SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The general public is hereby informed that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

TRUSTEES

1. USMAN LAWAN BELLO Esq
2. HON. FATIHA UBA SAAD
3. JAMILU IDRIS MUHAMMAD
4. ISAAMINU ISA
5. BILKISU AHMAD
6. OKPANACHI ALI OMONU
7. JIBRIL MALAM YAHAYA

AIMS AND OBJECTIVE

1. Developing potentials of its members and general public through vocational training, seminar, symposium and etc.
- Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565 Ndola Squire, Wuse Zone 5, P.M.B 189 Abuja within twenty eight days (28) of this publication.

Signed
Usman lawan bello Esq
No 17 yola kano

GARDENERS ASSOCIATION OF KANO

The general public is hereby informed that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

TRUSTEES

1. ABDURRAHMAN SANI - CHAIRMAN
2. MUSA DANBAWA
3. BALARABE SULIEMAN
4. SANI ABDULKADIR
5. BUBA ZAKARI
6. IMAMU SHARADA
7. ZAKARI JINJURI - SECRETARY

AIMS AND OBJECTIVE

1. To promote mutual cooperation among gardeners in kano state and Nigeria at large.
2. To promote the fight against deforestation and land hazards.
3. To encourage and promote medicinal planting.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565 Ndola Squire, Wuse Zone 5, P.M.B 189 Abuja within twenty eight days (28) of this publication.

Signed
Barr. Ghazali abdufahi
Solicitor 24b BUK road kano
08035841286

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the loss of original right of Occupancy with No. MZTP/LA/05/FCT/3056 in respect of Plot No 1150 of about 1000sqm located at Kurudu Abuja belonging to Hange Baba M. of Jikoyi Phase 11 FCT Abuja. All efforts to trace the missing documents prove abortive. If found, please return to the nearest Police station. AGIS and FCDA take note.

SIGNED
JOY OGA

In the Light of Truth The Grail Message

"Moreover, any inwardly free man will always assess a matter or a teaching according to what it brings, not according to who brings it. The latter is the strongest possible evidence of his unfitness to be an investigator. Gold is gold, whether a prince or a beggar holds it in his hand"

Abd-ru-shin
Grail Centre Madalla, Madalla Suleja Road
08054183304

RAYUWA HEALTH FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby informed that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

TRUSTEE

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. DR. HUSSAIN IBRAHIM | 2. MRS RAKIYA HUSSAIN |
| 3. SALIHU IBRAHIM | 4. HAJIA HADIZALAWAL |
| 5. ALYU IBRAHIM | 6. USMAN IBRAHIM |
| 7. ENGR. MUHAMMAD ANKRAH | |
| 8. ALH. SAID BABA | |
| 9. DR. ANGAPETER SALAME | 10. DR. ANDREW ABUE DONATUS |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To promote health
2. To prevent diseases e. HIV/AIDS
3. To promote peace
4. To prevent human trafficking.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565 Ndola Squire, Wuse Zone 5, P.M.B 189 Abuja within twenty eight days (28) of this publication.

Public Notice

GREEN MOBILISATION INITIATIVE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that above named Association is applying for registration under Companies and Allied Matters Decree 1990 Law of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Mr. Aborele Obhio Gabriel
2. Mrs. Aborele Beatrice

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Tree planting campaign against desertification climate change
2. National reserve and wildlife management and biodiversity conservation

Any objection(s) to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, plot 420, Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
SECRETARY

VACANCY

A reputable Consultancy outfit requires the services of a P.A to the Managing Consultant.

Qualifications: B.Sc in Management Sciences or any numerical courses or a B.A in English.

Computer literacy is Essential.

Apply in person with credentials to C99, Banex Plaza, Wuse 2, Abuja on Tuesday 1st June by 12.00 noon

EDE-MA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. MR MICHAEL OGWUCHE
2. MR. GABRIEL ADIYI OKOH
3. HON. ANTHONY AGBO
4. MR. ADAMA EDEBA
5. BARR. LEONARD ADEJO
6. DR. EMMANUEL OGBADYOI
7. MR. PIUS OJOBO

THE AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION ARE:

1. To stimulate the development of Edumoga land.
 2. To promote and encourage the maintenance of peace and unity in Edumoga land and its environ.
 3. To mobilize and sensitize Edumoga youths towards self actualization.
- Any objection to this application should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this Notice.

SIGNED
J. O. OTANWA (solicitor)

CHANGE OF NAME

I formerly MISS LADIPO ABIODUN MUTIAT now wish to called MRS ASAOLU ABIODUN MUTIAT. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I FORMERLY MISS ELI PHILOMENA UKUSARE NOW WISH TO BE CALLED MRS ELI PHILOMENA EMOJEVWE. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID, GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

I FORMERLY ISYAKU IBRAHIM NOW WISH TO BE CALLED ISYAKU IBRAHIM KHALEEL. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID, GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

I FORMERLY AISHA ABDULLAHI HABIB NOW WISH TO BE CALLED MRS AISHA HUSSAIN ABDULLAHI HABIB. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID, NYSC AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

I formerly MISS SALAMATU USMAN ABUBAKAR now MRS SALAMATU USMAN ABUBAKAR. All former Documents remain valid. NYSC please take note.

I, Formerly OGO AMAKA IRENE UNACHUKWU EZEGBO now want to be called OGO AMAKA IRENE UNACHUKWU. All former documents remain valid. NEPA District, Akowonjo /Egbeda-Lagos and general public take note.

I formerly known as MISS OLUWAKEMI BELLO wish to be known as MRS. OLUWAKEMI OHI-OJEBUOVBOH. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I, formerly known as FLORENCE OGNEURUEMU IKUTEGBE now wish to be known as FLORENCE IKUTEGBE NNANYELUGO ONWUMELU. All former documents remain valid. The general public should take note.

I formally known as MURTALA ABUBAKAR, now wish to be addressed as YAZID ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid, School of Health Technology Kano and general public to note.

I, formerly known as MISS OYESAGBA OLUWAYEMISI JANET wish to be known as MRS. SHADA OLUWAYEMISI JANET. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

AIRAOION, I formerly known and addressed as MISS HELEN AKWAOMO AIRAOION, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. HELEN AKWAOMO OIYEMHONLAN. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I FORMERLY BILKISU ABDULLAHI IDRIS, NOW WISH TO BE CALLED MRS BILKISU ABDULLAHI IDRIS. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID, NYSC AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

I, formerly known as MISS HANNITA BITRUS now wish to be known as MRS HANNITA BITRUS USMAN. All former documents remain valid. ABUJA MUNICIPAL AREA COUNCIL and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS PAULINE OKINO now want to be known and addressed as MRS PAULINE ADETOLA-MABADEJE. All former documents remain valid. PETROLEUM PRICING PRODUCTS REGULATORY AGENCY and general public take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as MISS AMAECHI IJEOMA MARY now want to be known and addressed as MRS IJEOMA UGOCHUKWU IBE. All former documents remain valid. FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC NEKEDE, OWERRI and the general public take note.

Inside Politics

Voters should insist on score card in 2011 – Sen Anyanwu

From John Kennedy Uzoma, Owerri

YOU do not seem to identify with the government of your home state, Imo, under the leadership of Governor Ohakim. What has been the problem?

I don't know what must have informed that question. All I know is that I attend state functions in Imo state when I am invited. It is my state; the state is for all of us and we must join hands to move it forward. I don't have any problem with anybody in the state. It's just that there are so many scyphants in Imo state whose stock in trade is to blackmail and run people down. Some of them do it to retain their jobs.

The bad news is that if they don't blackmail Senator Anyanwu, they don't get appointments. So for them to get appointments, they go about abusing me. My belief is that these things are transient and they will come to pass, and at the end of the day water will find its level, but I am not bordered or deterred. Imo state is for all of us and we must make sure it is moved forward by providing good governance.

YOU have been accused of aligning with some groups to undermine Governor Ohakim. How do you react to this?

As a Senator representing Okigwe North at the National Assembly, I have not for one single day given a thought to discrediting Governor Ohakim's government. Why would I stop the governor from developing the state? It's hard to think that any Imo citizen would stop the governor from developing the state.

We want Ohakim to build roads, hospitals, water and to give Imo quality education which is the main industry in the state. When you visit some public schools in Imo state, you hardly find any students. We want the governor to spend more time and money in developing schools and building human resource. What the Imo people want, including myself, is that Ohakim should give good governance to the people. Nobody is interested in undermining him or his efforts.

NOW, Governor Ohakim wants a second term, will you support him?

SENATOR Sylvester Anyanwu (PDP, Imo North), chairman Senate committee on communications speaks in this interview on political issues in his home state of Imo, urging voters to assess the performance of second term seekers. He also speaks on national issues. Excerpts:

Let me tell you, we in PDP have a lot of responsibility to Nigerians. If the President is coming to campaign in Obowo, the people there will ask him to show them what he gave them as dividends of democracy in the last 3 years. The same thing is going to apply to any senator, governor or local government chairman. PDP must be able to point at things they achieved previously. And if you have nothing to show, how would you convince the people that you want a second term. Four years is more than enough for anyone to do something. Remember, late Sammuell Onunaka Mbakwe, former Governor of old Imo State, used only four years to build industries all over old Imo state.

He gave the people electricity, water, Concord Hotel and an Airport. I am a member of PDP and that is why I am saying that PDP should be in a hurry to give to the people dividends of democracy so that they will justify reasons they should continue to rule. For me, if we have not done anything for the people, we have no reason to ask for another mandate from the people.

THE governor has allegedly endorsed one of his aides for senate in your zone? What is your feeling?

I have told you that anybody seeking the people's mandate, whether it is the governorship, the Presidency, Senate or House of Assembly must show the people what he or she had done in order to ask for second term. Nigeria is a big country and the constitution allows freedom of expression and association.

Anybody who wants to aspire for any position is free. I can aspire to be the president likewise any person. Endorsement does not mean anything to me. Endorsements do not win elections. Anybody can come out to

run for the position. If I eventually decide to run, we will all be in the jungle. Whoever returns from the jungle with his booth and helmets will be crowned.

THE PDP still appears to be in disarray in Imo State. What do you think should be done to avoid a repeat of what happened to the party in Anambra State?

Anambra State is a very good example to all of us in this party, and we are very mindful of it. The National Working Committee (NWC) of PDP should also be mindful of that because 2011 is not going to be business as usual. Nigerians are becoming aware of what is happening and we cannot continue to take the people for granted. Nigerians want electoral reforms; they want constitutional change; they want things to happen. There is hunger in the land; after training our young people in the University, there are no jobs for them and no welfare to keep them alive.

Governance is all about service to its people. PDP should look at what happened in Anambra state as a lesson to make sure various factions are accommodated. Everybody should be invited to the round table for discussion in order to have peace. Any nation or state that has no peace will not experience development. There are people who have been in the party for many years and have remained loyal and committed.

Therefore, I believe there shouldn't be any deliberate policy to favour some people above others. A political party is a collection of people with similar interests so you have to bring all stakeholders together to discuss the way forward.

AS a Senator what are your expectations of the administration of Goodluck Jonathan within the



SENATOR Sylvester Anyanwu

short time he has before elections, especially in the areas of power, electoral reforms and security?

Three points raised are very critical issues, and you know that there is little time for the President to give Nigeria the best. But the important thing is to set all these things in motion, put up structures that can guarantee credible election for Nigerians.

He can devote time and conduct credible election in 2011 so that the country would regain her respect from the outside world. It is also important so that Nigerian voters would sustain their belief in the PDP government.

The issue of power supply is equally a major concern to all of us. The Niger Delta peace initiative is also critical because if there is no peace in that region we can never get the power turbine.

So he has to make sure that there is peace in that region to help the power sector so that we can achieve the desired amount of energy required to take off.

The issue of security is something that is of utmost concern

too. The chief security officers right from the local government to state and federal government must ensure there is peace in their domains because that is one of their primary objectives. People cannot be scared of going to the church or going for their businesses because of the fear of being kidnapped.

We have to fight crime in order to encourage investors to come in so that our teaming graduates can be employed. There is no way we can attract investors when security is not guaranteed, that is the investor's first concern.

WHAT is your position on Gen. Ibrahim Babangida's declaration for president in the coming election?

Like I said earlier, every Nigerian citizen has the right to vie for whatever position he or she wishes. The former president, Babangida, is free to aspire to be the president as a citizen of this country. Now it is his duty to convince Nigerians to accept whatever programmes he will be proposing to improve the lives of the people.

Gov Idris' son endorsed for Reps

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

THE Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has unanimously endorsed Governor Ibrahim Idris' son Muhammed Idris for the 2011 election into the House of Representatives for

Ankpa/Olamaboro/ Omala Federal Constituency.

A party leader from the constituency, Ali Aju, yesterday disclosed that after a stakeholders' meeting, the party leaders unanimously resolved to endorse the governor's son for the position.

Aju, who is also the chairman of the Omala Local Government Area of the state, said that the endorsement was necessitated by Governor Ibrahim Idris' performance coupled with his son's selfless service to the people of the constituency.

Inside Politics

Atiku fully back in PDP, says Jibril Aminu

SENATOR Jibril Aminu (PDP, Adamawa Central) has said that the former Vice President Atiku Abubakar should be considered as a full member of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) having met all requirements for his return in line with the party's constitution.

Speaking to journalists in his country home in Yola on Wednesday, Senator Aminu said though the former Vice President initially followed wrong process for his re-entry into the party, he humbly went back

to his ward-in Jada and registered after being counselled.

Aminu who led the Adamawa PDP during the party's membership verification prior to the 2007 general elections praised the former Vice President for taking the 'corrective step' after initially registering with a faction of the party.

"People should respect the dignity of people, and Atiku did well by doing so," he said.

He said Atiku's return to Jada to begin the process of rejoining the PDP

was a show of respect to the people at the grassroots, stressing that he actually went to meet with the 'king makers'.

Senator Aminu also used the occasion to condemn the utterances of the state chairman of the PDP Alhaji Umaru Mijinyawa Kugama at a recent rally in Jada, where he claimed that Atiku was not yet a member of the PDP.

"What due process is he (chairman) referring to apart from the party's constitution which requirements Atiku has fulfilled?" Aminu asked.

2011: Jonathan can contest - BBF

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

THE Bridge Builder Frontiers

he [Jonathan] goes to contest in his party and they give him ticket, so be it. If they don't give him, somebody else would come onboard... person-

Jonathan has every right and privilege to contest the presidential election of 2011 as doing so does not contravene any law or democratic principle.

President of the association, Mr. Godie Ikechi, made the comment yesterday at the group's meeting in Abuja, saying zoning has the capacity to deprive the system of the best material for leadership. "If

ally I don't believe in zoning, I propose somebody from Cross River, Gombe or Yobe state has the capacity to lead this country, should we keep him aside because of zoning?" He asked.

The group also condemned the idea of having just two parties in the system, even as it criticised the existing number of parties saying it is unwieldy.

2007 Presidential election: Supreme Court to hear HDP appeal

By Misbahu Bashir

THE Supreme Court has fixed June 14, 2010 for the hearing of 2007 presidential election petition filed by the Hope Democratic Party against the Peoples Democratic Party and the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

The party is accusing the respond-

ents of using illegal ballot papers, among other things, to rig the election in which Umaru Musa Yar'adua, now late, was declared winner. The Supreme Court notice signed by its Registrar, O. Okosu, said "the case will be listed for hearing before the Court sitting in Abuja on Monday June 14, 2010."

Chairman of the Party Ambrose

Albert Owuru said evidences to establish rigging in the election, including ballot, papers will be presented. The National Publicity Secretary of the party Sani Usman said that evidences to be tendered before the Court are genuine and capable of invalidating the election. "The failure of ANPP or AC to prove their cases does not translate to the failure of HDP," he said.

Shema deserves second term- Sen Ida

By Turaki A. Hassan

GOVERNOR Ibrahim Shehu Shema of Kastina state deserves to be given another four year term to enable him to consolidate on the works he has started in the state, Senator Ibrahim Ida (PDP, Katsina Central) has said.

Speaking to newsmen in Abuja yesterday, Senator Ida said, "You see, Governor Shema is lucky and at the same time unlucky. Lucky in the sense that he took over from a performer, that is late President Umaru Yar'adua. But he is

unlucky that he also has to work extra hard to be able to show himself and he has done that."

"Governor Shema has completed all the projects he inherited; he has continued with the prudence he inherited. Sincerely speaking, Shema has performed well; so well that I have no hesitation in calling on the Katsina people to give him another chance to finish the good work he has been doing. If he can do this much within the last three years, he will perform more if he gets a second tenure in office."

TRUST CLASSIFIED

FAITH EDUCATIONAL AND EMPOWERMENT CENTRE

The above named Non Governmental Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Act 1 of 1990.

- THE TRUSTEES ARE:
1. ARC ADAMU CHITUMU (CHAIRMAN)
 2. HABILAN. GAIYA (MEMBER)
 3. ALHAJI HASSAN USMAN (MEMBER)
 4. MRS. RHODAH. GAIYA (MEMBER)
 5. FAITH HABIJA (MEMBER)

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Plan and conduct activities especially campaigns and workshops aimed at enlightening the populace on agricultural crop production, animal production and skills acquisition that will engage them in income generating activities that will reduce poverty and enhance their economic status.
 2. Provide comprehensive information/service that will address women's/adolescent reproductive health issues.
 3. Establish effective networking, collaboration and partnership to enable the achievement of the organization's goals and vision.
 4. Conduct counseling and guidance program for personal, career, psychological and educational development.
- Any objection to this application should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Wuse Zone 5, Abuja, within 28 days of this publication.

SALATU ROYAL ESTATE RESIDENTS & OWNERS ASSOCIATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990

TRUSTEES:

- 1 ENGR. Joseph Akande
- 2 Suleiman Atta
- 3 Alhaji Mustapha Ali
- 4 Dr. Stella Chijoke
- 5 Stanley Lawson
- 6 Major Sylvester Idakwo (RTD)

Aims & objectives

1. To promote a safe, secure, orderly, clean and peaceful environment.
2. To encourage and monitor compliance with environment standards, town planning regulations and safety conditions in the Estate.
3. To encourage and promote good neighbourliness and social interactions amongst residents in the Estate.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street P.M.B 198, Maitama Abuja within twenty eight days from this publication.

Signed: ROTIMI OGUNJIDE, ESQ
23, Kolda Street, Wuse 11 Abuja

THIS SPACE IS FOR SALE

LAND FOR LETTING

Land in prime area of Nassarawa G.R.A. Kano, approximately 51 meters along the road and of 50 meters depth, to LET for storage of vehicles, tractors or any other materials / equipment.

Please contact MURI JAWANDO & CO for inspection. Tel:08036650067

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly VICTOR MUSA now wish to be called VICTOR MOSES. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly MUSA ADAMU B. MINJI now wish to be called MINJI MUSA MINJI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MOHAMMED ALI HARUNA now wish to be called MOHAMMED ALI UMAR. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS AROWOLO NAFISAT ENIOLA now wish to be called MRS JIMOH NAFISAT ENIOLA. All former documents remain valid. General public and Oceanic Bank of Nigeria take note.

I, formerly known as MISS ONI FUNMILAYO DEBORAH now wish to be called MRS KUSORO FUNMILAYO AJIKE DEBORAH. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known as MISS SUSAN BARYAT JATAU, now wish to be addressed as MRS SUSAN BARYAT DAUDA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS AMINA ALI MAGAJI, now wish to be known and called MRS AMINA AMINU YAKUBU. All former documents remain valid.

I, formerly known as MOHAMMED ALI HARUNA, now wish to be known and called MOHAMMED ALI UMAR. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly MUSA ADAMU B. MINJI, now wish to be called MOHAMMED MINJI MUSA MINJI. Former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly called ADEPOJU ADERONKE OLAJUMOKE wishes to be known as MRS ADEYEMI ADERONKE OLAJUMOKE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS OGUERI EUPHEMIA IFEOMA now wish to be known as MRS ASHIEGBU EUPHEMIA IFEOMA. All former documents remain valid. FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC NEKEDE OWERRI, IMO STATE and general public take note.

I, formerly known as JUMAI KALTIMI SA'ID now wish to be known as MRS JUMMAI KALTIMI UMMULKULSUM SAID-AHMED. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly IRABOR EHS now wish to be called IRABOR EHS DESTINY. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN PROFESSIONALS FOR GLOBAL PEACE

THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE ABOVE NAMED ASSOCIATION HAS APPLIED TO THE CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION FOR REGISTRATION UNDER PART C OF THE COMPANIES AND ALLIED MATTERS ACT OF 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| 1. CHIEF NGOZI OLUJEME | - CHAIRMAN |
| 2. MOHAMMED DANTORO | - MEMBER |
| 3. CHIEF OHAZULIKE HYCIENT | - MEMBER |
| 4. PRINCESS GLORIA IWEKA | - MEMBER |
| 5. COURAGE EDWARTAKPANIKO | - SECRETARY |

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. TO HELP FOSTER PEACE AND STABILITY BY ENSURING THE PROVISION OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES.

THE ASSOCIATION'S WORK FORCE

2. TO GUARANTEE ECONOMIC GROWTH, PROGRESS, STABILITY, PEACE AND SECURITY OF OUR SOCIETY
- ANY OBJECTION TO THE REGISTRATION SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION PLOT 420 TIGRIS CRESCENT, OFF AGUIYI IRONSI STREET, MAITAMA ABUJA, WITHIN 28 DAYS OF THIS PUBLICATION.

SIGNED:
KASUYA CHAMBERS
0703390972

ABUNDANT LIFE GLORIOUS CHURCH

This is to inform the general public that the above named Church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part c of the companies and allied matters act No. 1 of 1990.

The trustees are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Rev. Boye Adetunji | - Founder & G.O |
| 2. Pastor Kunle Suara | - General secretary |
| 3. Pastor (Mrs) Funke Adetunji | - Women Affairs |
| 4. Elder Bayo Adetunji | - Financial Secretary |
| 5. Deacon S. Adeosun | |

Aims and objectives:

1. To preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ all over the world.
2. To bring people closer to God.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary

JAMUIYATU HASWAB L-ISLAM SOCIETY OF NIGERIA BADAGRY

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act NO. 1 of 1990

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. ZENU ABIDEEN F. BAMIGBOLA
2. ABDUL RASHID ADEYEMI
3. HASSAN YEKINI
4. RAHMATU BAMIGBOLA
5. KHAIRAT BIKU

AIMS AND OBJECTIVE:

1. To propagate the religion of Islam throughout the whole community and the world in general.
2. To recognize, encourage and support all the Muslim organizations in the country and overseas.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:
ABU DENNIS
08037179315

TAMBURA CIVIL ORGANISATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named association has applied to the corporate affairs commission for registration under part "C" of companies and allied matter Acts NO 1 of 1990.

The Trustees are:

1. Engineer Hanuna Abdul Usman
2. Aminu Aliyu
3. Engineer Yakubu Ibrahim
4. Barrister Umar Faruq
5. Bola Mohammed Ilesah
6. Comd Abdullahi Yekes
7. Mohammed A Kabir

AIM AND OBJECTIVE

1. To provide platform for cooperation among individuals with common interest consisted with social welfare services.
2. To promote General Education for self employment and income generation.
3. To advocate and influence work on HIV/AIDS related issue at all levels and collaborate with governmental organization in prevention of HIV/AIDS.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission plot 420 Tigris crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street Maitama Abuja within 28th days of this publication

Signed
Secretary

Auction! Auction!! Auction!!!

This is to inform the general public that there will be public Auction Sales of unserviceable Vehicles at the following: Nigeria Customs Service, Kwara, Kogi, Sokoto and Kebbi State Command. The sales is approved by Nigeria Customs Service Head Quarters, Abuja. Items are: Land Rovers, Peugeot and other unserviceable Vehicles.

Venue: Niger State and other states mentioned above.

Date: June 2nd, 2010.

Time: 10: AM Upward

Auctioneer

Alh. A. A. Abubakar

08068566061

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of the Original Letter of Offer and Official Receipt of Payment issued by Abuja Markets Management Limited in respect of Ware house 7, Shop 38, Wuse market belonging to Abdullahi Usman Jiwa. All efforts to trace the missing documents proved abortive.

Abuja Markets Management Ltd and the general public take note.

Signed:
Abdullahi Usman Jiwa

INTEGRITY ADVOCACY ASSOCIATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

The Trustees are:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. MALAMI SHEHU | 2. KABIRU BELLO |
| 3. LABARAN YUSUF | 4. SANUSI MALAMI |
| 5. ABDULLAHI ABDULAZIZ | 6. BELLO UMAR |
| 7. MUHAMMAD SHEHU | 8. ZAIYAHU IBRAHIM |
| 9. NURAALKALI | |

Aims and objectives

1. To enlighten the general public of the importance of integrity
2. To improve the welfare of our member's

Any objection to the Registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P. M. B. 198, Maitama, Abuja, within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed
Secretary

FORTRESS ETHICAL EDUCATION FOR SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The General Public is hereby notified that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for Registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Chief John Mark Samci | 2. Mrs. Hannatu Dantong |
| 3. Arc Iliya Mamman | 4. Barrister Musa Tende |
| 5. Mrs. Comfort Janfa | |
| 6. Mrs. Gladys Mamman (Founder) | |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Raising a new generation of people and future leaders through sound ethical education and values which will bring about positive change in character and societal development.
2. Providing schools that will teach and train individuals into becoming productive, pursuing and becoming agents of peace in the community with high value for human lives and the environment.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar - General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B.198, Maitama Abuja within twenty eight (28) days of this publication.

Signed:
Mrs. Gladys Mamman (Founder)

ASSOCIATION OF VIBRANT NIGERIA INITIATIVE (AVNAI)

This is to inform the general public that the above named Initiative has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

TRUSTEES

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. ABDULSAMI'U MUSAABDULLAHI- CHAIRMAN | |
| 2. M.D SHEHU | SECRETARY |
| 3. YAKUBU MUSA MAIDALLA | |
| 4. HAMISU LAMIDO IYANTAMA | |
| 5. SANI MU'AZU | |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To build a strong body that will serve as a voice to all artistes against unethical practices.
2. To restructure the political nature in the entertainment industry.
3. To educate, sensitize and create awareness interns of democracy and political activities in the country.
4. To promote decent practices in the entertainment industry.

Any objection to the Registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P. M. B. 198, Maitama, Abuja, within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed
GREEN EDGE ATTORNEYS
LEGAL PRACTITIONER

IGALA ELITE FORUM-KANO

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

TRUSTEES

1. CHIEF BEN ALHASSAN-CHAIRMAN
2. MR. THANKGOD EKPA-VICE CHAIRMAN
3. PROF. MUHAMMED SANI ABDUL KADIR-PATRON
4. ALH. ALI HARUNA-PATRON
5. ALH. SALE AUDU-PATRON
6. ALH. ISAH ALHASSAN MOHAMMED-MEMBER
7. MR. CHARLES SULE ACHENEJE-MEMBER
8. MR. DAVID USMAN-MEMBER
9. HENRY ULOKO-MEMBER
10. ALH. AMINU ABUBAKAR

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To foster unity, peace progress and social-economic development.
2. To provide the platform for capacity building, motivation, empowerment and self actualization.
3. To champion value re-orientation among members
4. To formulate and respond to issues, debate or discourse concerning the igala people.

Any objection to the Registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P. M. B. 198, Maitama, Abuja, within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known and addressed as MISS AUGUSTINA C. OBIDIGBO now want to be known and addressed as MRS OKAFOR AUGUSTINA C. All former documents remain valid. OCEANIC BANK and general public take note.

I, formerly known as JOSEPHINE ABIMBOLA OLUSOJI now wish to be known and addressed as JOSEPHINE ABIMBOLA OSALUSI. All documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I formerly known as MISS AROWOLO NAFISAT ENIOLA now wish to be addressed as MRS JIMOH NAFISAT ENIOLA. All former documents remain valid. OCEANIC BANK and general public take note.

I, formerly known as ADAH AGADA MICHAEL now wish to be addressed as AGADA EFUOLOHI MICHAEL. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly MRS TAIWO NYAKU, now wants to be known and addressed as MRS TAIWO FUNMILOLA ABAYOMI. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly OGUNLEYE OPEYEMI JOY, now wish to be called ADEBISI OPEYEMI JOY. All former documents remain valid. Access Bank and general public take note.

I, formerly ABDULLAHI RANI WILLIAMS, now wish to be called ABDULLAHI ROTIMI WILLIAMS. All former documents remain valid. General public note.

I, formerly known and called MISS AFINIKI WODI, now wish to be addressed as MRS. JOY REUBEN TUKURA. All former documents remain valid. The general public to please take note.

I, formerly known as MISS LARABA BAHAJAT HASSAN, now wish to be known as MRS LARABA BAHAJAT SANUSI. All former documents remain valid. The general public to take note.

I, formerly known as MISS NWALI NGOZI JOYCE, now wish to be known as MRS DIKE NGOZI JOYCE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MRS FUNMILOLA OLATOKUNBO AYEBIDUN, now wish to be known and addressed as MS FUNMILOLA OLATOKUNBO AYOWOLE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly EMEKA-MICHAEL PEACE NKEMDIRIM, now wish to be called OKECHUKWU PEACE NKEMDIRIM. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly RAHILA SULEIMAN, now RAHILA MUSA DALA USMAN. All former documents remain valid. Public to take note.

I, formerly known as MRS A.A. BASHIR, now wish to be known and called MRS ASABE HASSAN YILA MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. NDIC and public note.

I, formerly OLAMOYEGUN BAYONLE IBRAHIM, now wish to be addressed as MR OLAMOYEGUN BAYONLE OLOYEDE. Former documents remain valid. General public take note.

SPORT

West Ham
must double
offer for
Yakubu

Page 64



NIGERIA VS COLOMBIA:

Eagles to play behind closed doors

NIGERIAN fans in England are to miss out on a chance to see the Super Eagles before they set off to the World Cup in South Africa.

Their warm-up match against Colombia is to go ahead in Milton Keynes on Sunday, but will be played behind closed doors.

MK Dons stepped in as hosts after both West Ham United and Luton Town said they could not stage the game.

The club say that because of an existing booking there will be no public access to the match.

Nigeria's build-up to the World Cup has been disrupted by several problems - including the cancellation of other friendly matches and the abandonment of a planned training camp in London.

Meanwhile, the Super Eagles began life under Lars Lagerback with a 0-0 draw against Saudi Arabia in an international friendly in Austria on Tuesday.

Swede Lagerback named a team of mostly fringe players, with only centre-back Joseph Yobo and midfielder Kulu Uche the likely first team starters in the line-up.

NIGERIAN and Saudi Arabian teams listen to their national anthems before their friendly match on Tuesday. The Super Eagles will play Colombia behind closed doors on Sunday.

Lagerback: 'I have very tough job!'

By Ismaila Lere, with Agency reports

SUPER Eagles tactician, Lars Lagerback, has admitted he has a very difficult job ahead after his team posted an uninspired performance against Saudi Arabia in a World Cup warm-up game.

The Super Eagles were lack lustre in a 0-0 draw with Saudi Arabia at the Alpen Stadium in Wattens, western Austria, on Tuesday.

And top official of the Nigeria

Football Federation (NFF), Taiwo Ogunjobi, revealed that a disappointed Lagerback blasted the players after the game and admitted he has a lot more work to do before the World Cup.

"The coach was not happy. He was angry and disappointed with the performance of the team," Ogunjobi informed.

"He also told us that he now has a lot to do before the World Cup kicks off."

Ogunjobi added: "The boys

did not live up to expectations and they have to do a lot better on Sunday against Colombia."

Ahead of the Colombia friendly, Lagerback has instituted a strigent training regime and the Eagles have to endure a punishing schedule after their lack lustre 0-0 draw against the Saudis.

With time running short before the World Cup kicks off, Lagerback is squeezing every second of training out of the players to whip them into shape.

After Tuesday night's game, the squad left Austria on Wednesday, taking a three-hour drive to Germany, from where they flew nearly an hour and a half to London.

That was followed by a two hour drive to Essex. The players then enjoyed a three-hour rest, before being shepherded to the training ground for one and a half hours of training.

And the pace does not let up yesterday, when two sessions

were arranged by Lagerback and his crew, although the team will be split into two groups.

One group trained at the morning session, while the other group went for the afternoon session.

The Eagles, who are drawn with Argentina, Greece and South Korea, will also tackle North Korea in Johannesburg on June 6 before their opening Group B match against Argentina at Ellis Park Stadium, also in Johannesburg.

Australia first to arrive in South Africa

AUSTRALIA became the first squad to arrive in South Africa ahead of the World Cup when they touched down at OR Tambo International Airport on Wednesday.

The Socceroos, one of the first teams to qualify for the tournament, arrived after dark at South Africa's main international airport in Johannesburg - and were the first to test the special arrival facility constructed by the airport for World Cup squads.

Teams arriving in South Africa have dedicated arrival facilities,

where they will be processed away from regular passengers and fans because of security concerns.

The squad, including Premier League stars Tim Cahill and Mark Schwarzer, captain Lucas Neill and former Liverpool midfielder Harry Kewell, posed briefly for TV cameras and photographers before being whisked away by bus to their team base on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

'We are pleased to welcome Australia as the first team to arrive in our country,' said organizing commit-

tee chief executive Danny Jordaan, who was at the airport to welcome the squad.

'We all know that the stadiums are all ready, everything is in place and now the teams are finally here. More importantly though, our people are ready.'

Australia's Dutch coach Pim Verbeek said: 'I have been in this country about eight or nine times already and I have always enjoyed my stay here.'

'The most important thing for us is to win our first game. We have

given ourselves plenty of time to prepare and acclimatize to the local conditions. The players will have to get used to the altitude and the few warm-up matches will help us a lot in achieving this.'

Brazil arrived yesterday morning, with Denmark and Argentina scheduled for this weekend and the USA expected on Monday.

Spain, the final team to touch down in South Africa, are planning to fly in on June 11 - the same day as the opening game between the host nation and Mexico.



CAHILL

Brazil to play Zimbabwe, Tanzania

BRAZIL will play friendly internationals in Zimbabwe and Tanzania next week as part of its World Cup preparations, but officials would not disclose how much appearance money the five-time World Cup winner will receive from Zimbabwe.

A spokesman for the Brazil team, which arrived in South Africa early yesterday, confirmed the matches against Zimbabwe in Harare on June 2 and against Tanzania on June 7.

In Zimbabwe, tourism minister Walter Mzembe also said Brazil would visit but would not say exactly how much Zimbabwe had paid Brazil—only that part of it was funded by the gov-

UNSUNG HEROES 2010

In the course of our work of reporting and analyzing events in Nigeria, we have come across many people that are shining examples in their communities. In spite of the deep cynicism that pervades the country, there are many Nigerians who go beyond the call of duty in their various fields of endeavour.

We know that among the unreported millions there are many whose contributions are exceptional and whose example is uplifting. They are the unsung heroes of our society, toiling in relative obscurity perhaps waiting for their reward in heaven.

But before we get there, DAILY TRUST wants to celebrate such people, if for no other reason, to hold them up as examples and promote the feeling of optimism about our country.

You know such unsung heroes better than us because they live quietly amongst you. Please send us their

names, and if possible the full stories of their lives with pictures so that we can tell the world about them. Our editors and reporters will visit the nominees in order to vet their stories and also do a full profile on them for publication.

Continuing with the first edition last year, we are calling for nominations for 2010 Unsung Heroes of Daily Trust. This will be our yearly 'happy birthday' to Nigeria as it adds another year of independence. We want to show that this country, and especially its people, are worth celebrating and that indeed progress is being made even if some of us are too busy complaining to notice.

So, send us your unsung heroes and we will tell the world about them. Young or old, man or woman, wherever they live and no matter how lowly their status, we want to hear about those living inspiring lives in spite of the doom and gloom around us.

NOMINATIONS ARE ON TILL SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH, 2010

To nominate such a person

Send an e-mail to: unsungheroes@dailytrust.com

OR

Write to:

The Editor-in-Chief, DAILY TRUST,
No. 20, P.O.W Mafemi Crescent,
Off Solomon Lar Way, (Behind Chida Hotel),
Utako District,
P.O. Box 6873, Wuse, Abuja.



After touching down in South Africa yesterday, coach Dunga announced that "we are ready"

ernment and part by sponsors.

Mzembe said earlier this month that Brazil had asked for a \$1.8 million appearance fee to play in Zimbabwe.

After touching down in South Africa yesterday, coach Dunga announced that "we are ready" ahead of their World Cup campaign.

Dunga's squad, good enough to forego stars like Ronaldinho, Adriano, and Ronaldo, arrived after an overnight flight from Sao Paulo.



DUNGA

World Cup SOUTH AFRICA 2010

Italy



Azzurris gunning for encore

WORLD Cup holders Italy will be expecting nothing less than plain sailing in South Africa next month in a Group F where they are the clear favourites.

A pairing with New Zealand, Paraguay and debutants Slovakia makes comfortable viewing for a team that has been anything but brilliant since lifting the world crown for a fourth time in Germany four years ago. Slovakia will be making their first ever appearance and New Zealand only their second, their first being back in 1982 when they lost all three matches.

The toughest prospect will undoubtedly be Paraguay, who battled through tough South American qualifiers to reach the FIFA World Cup for the fourth time in a row and eighth time in total, but have never been beyond the second round. But while Italy will be the undoubted favourites to win the group, all of their opponents will fancy their chances of reaching the next round. For all three there were much tougher prospects out there and the likelihood is that there will be quite a battle for the runners-up spot in the group.

As for Italy, they come into this with a 100 per cent record against their three opponents. However, that constitutes only four matches in total and little should be read into it. Their only previous meeting with Slovakia was back in 1998 and a 3-0 win in a home friendly in Catania but Slovakia have come on in leaps and bounds since then.

There are few surprises in the provisional 28-man squad named by Italy coach Marcello Lippi, save for the omission of Fabio Grosso, as he included nine players from their triumph in Germany, with Villarreal striker Giuseppe Rossi the only new name. The Azzurri are scheduled to arrive in South Africa on 9 June ahead of their Group F opener with Paraguay in Cape Town on 14 June.

It may look easy on paper, but as Italy coach Marcello Lippi warned: "The more you think a group will be easy the more difficult it becomes."



LIPPI... Back to defend the world crown

KEY PLAYERS

Billed for a number of years now as one of the finest goalkeepers on the planet, at 31 Gianluigi Buffon remains one of the two pillars of the Italian defence. His spectacular reflexes to keep out a Zinedine Zidane header in extra time during the 2006 Final illustrated just why he has an undisputed claim on the gloves.

The other leader at the back is none other than evergreen captain Fabio Cannavaro. Now 36, the 2006 FIFA World Player of the Year continues to contribute his superb positioning sense and the vast experience of his 130 caps.

In midfield, tireless tackler Genaro Gattuso no longer needs any introduction. The 31-year-old is still the motor, battler and all-round talent at the heart of the Azzurri line-up, the man who never admits defeat and whose hunger for victory inspires all

those around him.

THE COACH

A veritable monarch in the field of coaching, 61-year-old Marcello Lippi is an expert at making changes that yield results, with no fewer than five of the 12 goals Italy registered at the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany coming from substitutes. The man with more than an air of Paul Newman has won everything in his career, which is precisely why he called time on his first stint as Italy trainer on 12 July 2006, having clinched the global crown. After the Azzurri floundered at UEFA EURO 2008, however, he did not need much persuasion to return to the role, and he immediately set about rebuilding the defence, remodelling the midfield and trying out a fresh crop of forwards. He puts little stock in his landmark 31 consecutive international matches without defeat, preferring to amass titles than statistics, and his natural feel for the game means his

tactical decisions are never called into doubt. For the qualifiers, he called up a total of 36 players, with Cannavaro and full-back Gianluca Zambrotta the players most used (810 minutes each).

ROUTE TO SOUTH AFRICA:

There were few real scares for Italy en route to South Africa as they ended up finishing six points clear of second-placed Republic of Ireland.

Things were tighter than those bald facts suggest but the Azzurri headed the way and never truly looked like relinquishing their grip on the table.

When trailing 2-1 in Dublin in October, it looked as though Lippi's team would need to win their final match but Alberto Gilardino popped up with a last-gasp leveller to secure their passage. The final tie, a home clash with Cyprus, saw Italy trail 2-0 before a hat-trick in the last 12 minutes by Gilardino spared their blushes.

No Essien for Ghana

GHANA suffered a severe blow to their chances at the World Cup after key midfielder Michael Essien was ruled out of next month's World Cup.

The Chelsea star was ruled out after a meeting between both parties on Thursday to determine whether he will be fit for the tournament in South Africa.

Black Stars team doctor Percy Annan met with his Chelsea counterparts to examine the x-rays and medical reports before he was physically examined.

There was a slight hope that he could recover but when Essien undressed and his knee was examined by the Ghana team doctor and officials, it was concluded that the enforcer could not play.

"The joint evaluation on the player revealed he will regain his full fitness at the end of July," the Ghana Football Association said in a statement after the meeting.

Essien suffered an injury to his knee at the Africa Cup of Nations in January this year and has been inactive for the last four months.

He missed the African Championship due to an injury sustained before the turn of the year in a Uefa Champions League match.

Why we are sponsoring World Cup, by MTN

THE leading telecommunications company in Nigeria, MTN, has explained that the MTN Group, which has its headquarters in South Africa, has joined other companies to sponsor the forthcoming 2010 FIFA World Cup in demonstration of its commitment to the growth and development of the African continent and in order to make a bold statement to the world that the continent has come of age.

"This is the first time that the world's most important soccer event is coming to Africa; amidst misgivings in many quarters about the continent's ability to successfully host such a global event. As a pan-African brand committed to positively projecting our continent to the rest of the world, the MTN Group in 2006 decided to throw its weight behind the hosting of this world event in Africa," said Wale Goodluck, Corporate Services Executive, MTN Nigeria.

According to him, the MTN Group in South Africa injected US\$65 million in sponsorship to become Africa's first-ever global sponsor of a FIFA World Cup.

"This is a very rare opportunity to focus the world's attention on Africa, to get the world to understand us and see the evident progress the continent is making. But perhaps, even more importantly, it is an opportunity to stimulate the 'can do' spirit in Africans and galvanise ourselves to tackle whatever challenges are left confronting us as a continent," Goodluck said.

Odemwingie seeks revenge against Argentina

NIGERIA international striker Osaze Odemwingie has said he looks forward to the Super Eagles avenging their previous losses to Argentina on June 12 in an opening World Cup Group B match.

Argentina beat Nigeria 2-1 at the 1994 World Cup and then again 1-0 when the two teams clashed at the 2002 edition in Korea and Japan.

Odemwingie was also on the losing side when Argentina defeated their Nigerian counter-

parts in the final of the football event of the Beijing Olympics two years ago.

However, the Locomotiv Moscow star, who has again been linked with a big-money transfer to the English Premier League, has expressed confidence Nigeria can reverse their fortunes against the highly-rated South Americans.

"We need to take our own pound of flesh against Argentina," said Odemwingie, who narrowly missed the cut for the final squad

to the 2002 World Cup.

"There was something lacking in our game before, but this time around I hope we can do better because we have never lost 3-0 or 4-0 to Argentina. I hope this time around we can give them a good fight and hopefully score some goals.

"Football is a team game and I think lately we have seen a lot of teams having big stars but who failed to win games. I sincerely believe we have the players to now

beat Argentina."

The 29-year-old striker, who can also play on the wings, also predicted a superb tournament in South Africa.

"The World Cup is coming to Africa for the very first time. African players have proven themselves all over the world and now Africa will get even more attention from the rest of the world because South Africa will organise a massive tournament," he said.

THE FRIDAY COLUMN

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Coming in from the cold

In the past, they made a mantra out of the rule of law. Today President Jonathan Goodluck's first test for compliance with the rule of law is not whether he will continue the previous charade that went under that name, but whether he will respect a simple rule as a party faithful. One might not like zoning in a democracy but one didn't have to like a practice before it became a convention. Indeed, there were many things going on in the nation today which one might not like: one might not like the People's Democratic Party, PDP, for instance, but for the moment, there was very little such a one could do.

And presumably, the PDP has reserved [zoned] the office of the president to the North; Goodluck is a member of the PDP and he is not from the North. Can he therefore run? And should he? It is as simple, as basic and as ethical as that. Some people have said he can and should; but whether they said so because they believed in the reasons they advanced or because doing Goodluck's bidding had become the beginning of the new wisdom is difficult to say with any certainty. Others have said he shouldn't.

According to Adeniran Ogunsanya, Jr., the right to contest for the presidency which the late President Umaru 'Yar'adua held was not transferable, and a Northerner could not succeed another Northerner. Chief Solomon Lar, a former chairman of the PDP, suggested that the zoning programme of the party was not meant to be a permanent feature, while Alhaji Bello Masari, former speaker of the House of Representatives, said the reasons that made zoning necessary were no longer relevant. And according to Governor Jonah Jang of Plateau State said Goodluck should run and zoning should be done away with to give place for merit. The logic may be clear but the merit is not.

But if it was OK for Goodluck to run for president, because they correctly say he has the constitutional right to do so, then why is the party chairmanship like the presidency not up for grabs by all comers? The contenders for it, all of them from the South-East, are: Chiefs Fidelis Nze-Ozichewu, Okwesilieze, Bernard Eze, Mao Ohuabunwa, Olisa Metuh, Anyim Pius Anyim and Ike Nwachekwu, all of them from the South-East. Don't other PDP stalwarts from other sections of the country have the constitutional right to vie for it? Goodluck's strategists should have promoted the candidature of Northerners for the chairmanship before launching the campaign for his own presidential candidature. It would have had better plausibility.

On the other hand and contrary to all expectations, the Ijaw National Congress, INC, advised Goodluck to endeavour to leave behind a worthy legacy and not allow the distractions of planning, campaigning and running for office to lead him to a non-fulfillment of his promises. The congress said he should see himself as a leader and a patriot who shouldn't demean and turn the presidency into a mere turn-by-turn affair. He should concentrate on giving the nation a credible, free and fair election instead of seeking to create an unnecessary crisis in the ruling party. That seems the only sane advice he got; and it was probably one he would not take. Because he would probably not see far enough to see the implications of what he was contemplating.

But if democracy is a game of numbers, it should follow that numbers alone could decide who ruled; because that was the only way of gauging and getting the will of the governed. And since in a democracy, there is equality before the law and in the enjoyment of civic rights, it is one-man, one-vote, or must one also have to say: one-woman, one-vote and all that gender jazz? And since there is no difference between a Northern man, a Southern man, a Western man and an Eastern man, why should anything be zoned anywhere? But then, there it is.

Now with zoning, Obasanjo had done it and had

in the process established and institutionalized a new presidential precedent that effectively adopted and promoted a sectionalist agenda, and opposed all other agendas instead of creating and adopting out of all them a synthesis of what was best. Along with corruption, this would probably remain his greatest crime against the Nigerian nation; because every subsequent occupant of that office would try not to be outdone in service to sectional interest and in promoting corruption. This is the greatest danger facing governance in Nigeria today, because if the presidency is zoned to you, you behave as if it is yours to do with it as you wish.

Those who complained about Northern domination that ultimately led to the zoning formula being devised had really no case. In effect, they were saying that they had already got tired of democracy even before they have had the chance to practice it. Instead of hiding behind words like 'zoning,' 'rotation' and the like, what the politicians from the southern part of the country should really have more honourably done was to come clean and come out plainly and say it like it is: that they didn't want democracy! Because if really you want to get leadership you should learn the kind of political coalition-building that brings it about. It is not a question of university degrees; it is just the simple matter of being acceptable to others.

The rise of Jonathan Goodluck to the very top without winning an election in his own name was all by sheer good luck, just like the rise of the new cabal. He was deputy to Governor Diepreye Alamieyeseigha, and when Malam Nuhu Ribadu wanted to nail the governor, Goodluck provided all the help needed, including documents crucial to the investigation. The governor was thereafter nailed and Goodluck became governor. Then another piece of good luck came along. Goodluck, contented, happy and grateful as governor was almost reluctantly brought out—again on the advice of Ribadu and the diplomat who is currently the Principal Secretary to the President—to be vice president. He fit the bill: they wanted a relative unknown, a light weight, and, especially, someone clueless and malleable.

And when God's decree finally came to pass, the malleable man found himself president. One good turn deserves another. With Goodluck acting president, it became time for fugitive Ribadu also to act: he started packing; and when Goodluck became substantive president, Ribadu was sure of a red carpet welcome, which he got a few days back. It is good for Ribadu to get his rank back, but he should tell the nation why he didn't declare his assets. It makes little sense that you enforce the law that you yourself do not obey.

As for Goodluck, governance should not be reduced to an open-ended pursuit after imagined enemies or the imagined friends of imagined enemies; nor should it be the placation and servicing of friends or the confirmed enemies of imagined friends with public resources or a bending of the nation's laws. But with a vice presidency that was a product of business-as-usual, an acting presidency that was in many ways a continuation of it, it was difficult to see how the substantive presidency could be different. Despite all pretenses, there is no more business as usual than a president without a programme in a party without a future ruling a nation without a tomorrow, because we all died yesterday. What our nation needs today is vision.

In leadership vision is not just to see: it is to see what other don't; or see it better than them when they eventually do so. In leadership, vision is not the most crucial thing—it is the only thing. And following it healthy ambition. But what we see today in the ranks of Nigeria's leadership class is not vision but cluelessness; and it is not ambition that we see but ambitiousness. Unless there is a change, politicians running for office today may end up running for cover tomorrow; and if they are not lucky, they will not just be running for cover, they may be running for the border.

SPORTS REPORT



ANA Ivanovic of Serbia wipes her face with a towel

Ivanovic crashes out

Ana Ivanovic hit another low in her slide since winning the French Open two years ago, losing 6-3, 6-0 yesterday to 28th-seeded Alisa Kleybanova in the second round at a rainy Roland Garros.

The former No. 1 player was unseeded because she's ranked only 42nd. The defeat marked her earliest exit in six trips to the French Open.

"It was a combination of a few things," Ivanovic said. "I don't

think I played that bad, actually. For a while I think she didn't miss a ball at all."

The match lasted barely an hour—brief enough to be completed between showers. Play was delayed for 4 1/2 hours at the start, and another delay began late in the afternoon.

Four other matches were completed, all on the women's side. No. 11-seeded Li Na and No. 17 Francesca Schiavone won, while 39-year-old Kimiko Date Krumm lost to Jarmila Groth 6-0, 6-3.



YAKUBU Aiyegbeni

West Ham must double offer for Yakubu

West Ham have had a £5million offer for Everton striker Yakubu Aiyegbeni turned down.

West Ham's interest earlier this month and they have made the first step in testing Everton's resolve - only to be rebuffed.

Goodison manager David Moyes has limited funds and is keen on Manchester City's Craig Bellamy but he would want closer to the £11.25m he paid for 27-year-old Super Eagles forward before considering a sale.

He is also bracing himself for an offer from Tottenham for Steven Pienaar so is determined to strengthen rather than weaken his squad first.

Moyes, who has also fended off interest from Manchester City in Mikel Arteta, is interested in Marseille's Hatem Ben Arfa and Cardiff's out of contract midfielder Joe Ledley - but he faces competition from Stoke, Wigan and Newcastle in 23-year-old Wales international.