

DAILY TRUST

Tuesday, January 5, 2021
Jumadal-Ula 21, 1442 AH

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N200
Vol. 52, No. 7

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2,449 DAYS SINCE CHIBOK SCHOOLGIRLS WERE ABDUCTED

KEEP DONATING TO THE DAILYTRUST IDPs RELIEF FUND

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NIGERIA COVID-19 CASE UPDATE

4 JAN	NEW CASES 1,204	TOTAL CASES 91,351	DISCHARGED 75,699	DEATH 1,318
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Nigeria owes Eurobond, World Bank, others N12tr P 13

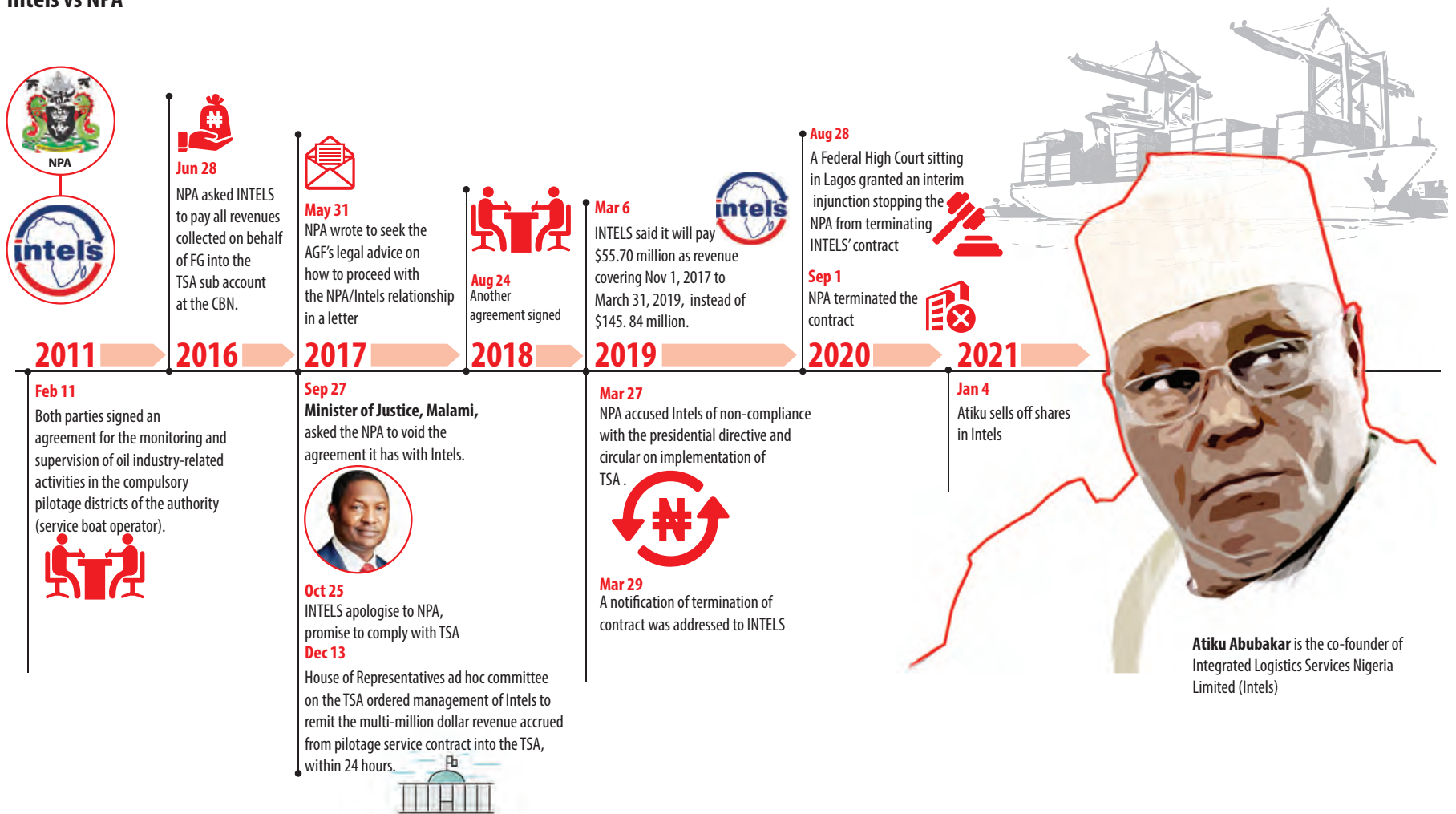
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Intels vs NPA



Infographic Ali A. Geidam

Compiled Haruna Ibrahim

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Gunmen kill 9 along Kaduna-Birnin Gwari highway P 9

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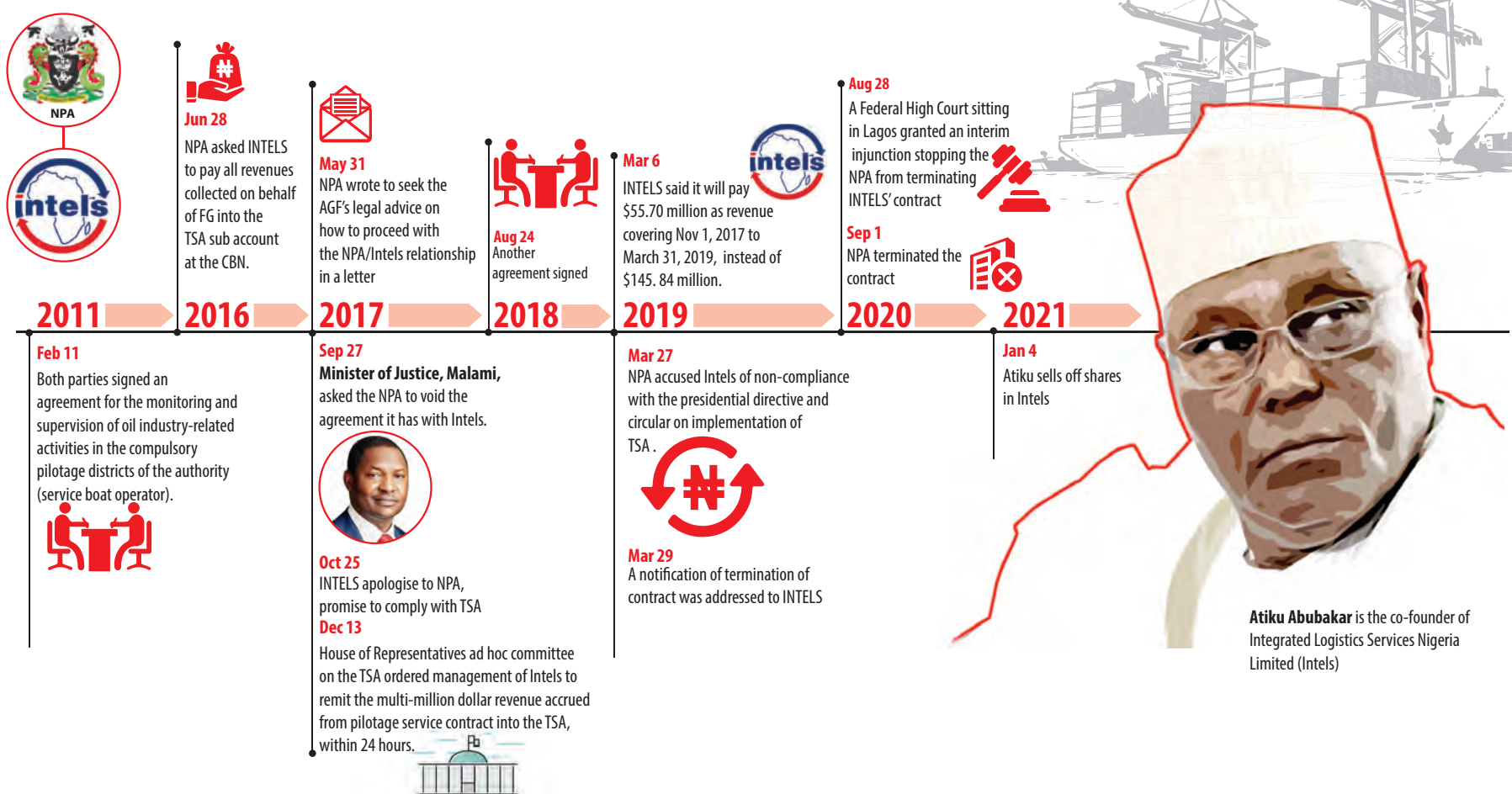
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Police confirm Edo cell-break, re-arrest 2, trail 8 others P 23

Reps mum as FG flags-off 774,000 jobs today P 30

FG releases N5bn aviation bailout P 14

>> PAGETWO

WEATHER

ABUJA PARTLY CLOUDY 37 MAX 22 MIN	KANO SUNNY 33 MAX 14 MIN
SOKOTO SUNNY 34 MAX 17 MIN	IBADAN PARTLY CLOUDY 38 MAX 22 MIN
KADUNA SUNNY 35 MAX 17 MIN	MAIDUGURI SUNNY 34 MAX 15 MIN
ENUGU PARTLY CLOUDY 38 MAX 22 MIN	P/HARCOURT PARTLY CLOUDY 29 MAX 18 MIN
JOS PARTLY CLOUDY 31 MAX 14 MIN	
LAGOS PARTLY CLOUDY 34 MAX 24 MIN	

(Temperature in centigrade)

Basic protective measures against coronavirus (COVID-19)

 Wash your hands frequently with soap and water	 Maintain social distancing	 Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
 Practice respiratory hygiene	 If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early	 Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

NCDC toll free numbers | Call 080097000010 | SMS 0809555577 | Whatsapp 07087110839

AFRICAN SAYINGS >>


The only grass a buffalo can boast about is that which is in its stomach as it may die with grass still in its mouth

(Zimbabwe)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

FOOD FOR THOUGHT >>

“Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it”



- Gen. D. Eisenhower

PHOTO OF THE DAY >>



Children wear masks while walking to school as they resume in-class learning after nine months Nairobi, Kenya

Photo: AFP/Getty Images

PRAYERS TIMES

CITIES	FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
ABUJA	5:34	12:41	3:55	6:23	7:28
ENUGU	5:36	12:39	3:53	6:18	7:23
KADUNA	5:33	12:40	3:54	6:21	7:26
KANO	5:28	12:35	3:49	6:17	7:22
KATSINA	5:30	12:41	3:55	6:25	7:30
LAGOS	5:51	12:57	4:11	6:36	7:41
MAIDUGURI	5:11	12:18	3:32	5:59	7:04
P/HARCOURT	5:47	12:49	4:03	6:23	7:28
SOKOTO	5:41	12:49	4:03	6:31	7:36

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna

STOCK INDEX AS AT MONDAY 4, 2021

GAINERS	HONYFLOUR	SOVRENINS	TRANSCORP	INTBREW	FIDELITYBK
OPEN	1.32	0.22	0.99	6.54	2.77
CLOSE	0.12	0.02	0.09	0.59	0.25
CHANGE	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.92	9.92
LOSERS	FCMB	CAVERTON	AIICO	INTBREW	ETI
OPEN	3.13	1.98	1.13	5.95	6.00
CLOSE	-0.20	-0.07	-0.11	-0.54	-0.50
CHANGE	-6.01	-3.41	-8.87	-8.32	-7.69

NO, THANK YOU

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IN-DEPTH

FEATURE

'Sexual harassment': More trouble for Ogun commissioner as police insist on probe

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

The suspended Commissioner of Environment in Ogun State, Abiodun Abudu-Balogun yesterday faced more trouble following the insistence of the police to go ahead with the investigation and prosecution over allegation of sexual harassment against him by a 16-year-old secondary school girl, Barakat Mayowa Melojuekun.

This is despite the fact that the victim and her father have announced their withdrawal from the controversial issue.

Barakat, who is a student of Victory Model College, in Ogun Waterside LGA, made the allegation in a video posted on Facebook on Saturday.

The teenager alleged that Abudu-Balogun, who was a member of the House of Representatives, connived with her uncle and a teacher to lure her to the commissioner's residence at Ita Otu, Ogun Waterside LG.

She said she was lured to the commissioner's house on the pretence that Abudu-Balogun would assist her in securing a job as computer operator.

According to her, the incident happened on December 31.

Narrating her ordeal, she said: "On getting to Abudu's house at Ita Otu, he said I should sit down inside the car that I must not get down. Then a lady, Mariam Eniola from Ita Otu came to take me to one living room. Then Mr. Austin entered and asked, why did I not pick my phone yesterday, I answered that I was not with my phone, he said okay, then took me to a room inside the honourable's house.

"The honourable then came in and Mr. Austin (a teacher) went out. Honourable Abudu locked the door instantly and put the key in his pocket. So he moved closer to me and asked the name of my school; he said how much is my school fees and I told him that it is N30,000; he asked me the person paying my school fees, I told him that it is my dad. He said 'okay that one is small thing'. He said do I plan to start a business,

Victim, father withdraw case



■ Abiodun Abudu-Balogun

I said no, that I want to go to a higher institution first. He said how much would I need, I said any amount; he said I should state an amount, I said any amount.

"He moved closer to me and he touched my breast; I moved away that he should not touch my breast, he asked me that won't I cooperate, I said why will I cooperate? Then he started pressing my breast and my body; I was struggling to free myself from him. Then he started reciting some incantation and wanted to place his hands on my head, I moved my head and I said he should not touch my head. He wanted to force me inside the bathroom, then I

I don't have interest in this matter again. I'm withdrawing my case and I want them as well to support me the same way they did in the beginning of this matter. Thank you very much, I'm very grateful for the show of love and support



■ Barakat Mayowa Melojuekun started shouting.

"Because people are around his compound and he did not want them to know what was happening, he left me; he gave me N2,000 for transport and asked me to leave; I rejected the money; he said if I don't accept the money, he won't let go of me. So I collected the money and he opened the door.

"He then told Mr. Austin to take me to our house.

"This has never happened to me in my life."

In a swift reaction, the commissioner, in a statement he signed, described the allegation as "political blackmail" by those he called his "adversaries."

"Let me state emphatically that I never attempted to sexually harass anyone," he said.

But a statement signed by

He is not the person that was directly involved in the case. The victim is his daughter and even the daughter herself cannot withdraw the case because she is an underage.

the Secretary to the State Government, Tokunbo Talabi, on Sunday, announced the commissioner's suspension from office "pending the conclusion of an independent investigation into the allegation of sexual harassment."

In what appears to be a twist, on Sunday night, the teenager appeared on another short video where she said there were misconception and misunderstanding about her and the commissioner.

In the 36 seconds video which was circulated on various social media platforms, the girl thanked all Nigerians for the love and interest in the case. She appealed to the media and Nigerians to allow the matter to be laid to rest.

She said, "You can recall that I was the young lady in the viral video about sexual harassment by Commissioner for Environment in Ogun State.

"I am using this opportunity to thank all well-meaning Nigerians that show their support and love towards this matter.

"And I want you to know that there were misconception and misunderstanding between me and the commissioner. I now want to use this opportunity to appeal to well-meaning Nigerians to please allow this matter to be

laid to rest, thanks."

Also speaking, Barakat's father, Melojuekun Monsuru, in another video insisted that he was no longer interested in pursuing the case against the commissioner.

"Sincerely, I discovered that there were few misconceptions and misunderstandings along the line between my daughter and the honourable commissioner. And having discovered this, I deem it fit to come to the public and inform Nigerians and the international community that this matter should be allowed to be laid to rest.

"I don't have interest in this matter again. I'm withdrawing my case and I want them as well to support me the same way they did in the beginning of this matter. Thank you very much, I'm very grateful for the show of love and support," Mr Melojuekun said.

However, the Ogun State Police Command on Monday insisted on proceeding with investigation into the allegations.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the command, Abimbola Oyeyemi, confirmed this on Monday in Abeokuta. He disclosed that the Commissioner of Police, Edward. A. Ajogun, had ordered that the case be transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) at the Police headquarters in Elewera, Abeokuta, the state capital.

When asked if the victim's family had officially withdrawn the case against the commissioner, Oyeyemi said, "The father of the victim has no locus standi for him to tell the police that he is no longer pressing charges against the commissioner because he is not our complainant.

"He is not the person that was directly involved in the case. The victim is his daughter and even the daughter herself cannot withdraw the case because she is an underage.

"Secondly, the case is an offense committed against the state, so they are no longer complainants; it is the commissioner of police versus the suspect (Abudu-Balogun)," Oyeyemi said.

Real reasons Atiku sold Intels' stake

From Eugene Agha, Sunday M. Ogwu (Lagos), Kehinde Abdulsalam, Muideen Olaniyi, Saawua Terzungwe & John C. Azu (Abuja)

Former Vice President Atiku Abubakar has given reasons as to why he sold off his shares in Integrated Logistics Services Limited (Intels).

He accused President Muhammadu Buhari's led government of destroying his "legitimate business that employed thousands of Nigerians."

But top government sources told *Daily Trust* last night that the claim by Atiku was a tissue of lies, saying President Buhari had nothing to do with his travails.

Founded in 1982 as Nicotes Services Ltd., Intels is regarded as Nigeria's largest logistics company. It provides comprehensive integrated logistics services for the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry.

Atiku was said to have sold his shares to Orleal Investment Group, the parent company of Intels, for various amounts totalling over \$100 million in the deal that spanned two years.

A statement yesterday by his Media Adviser, Paul Ibe, confirmed the sale of the shares saying the former vice president has redirected his investment to other sectors of the economy.

"Co-founder of Integrated Logistics Services Nigeria Limited (Intels), Atiku Abubakar, has been selling his shares in Intels over the years.

"It assumed greater urgency in the last five years because this government has been preoccupied with destroying a legitimate business that was employing thousands of Nigerians because of politics.

"There should be a marked difference between politics and business. Yes, he has sold his shares in Intels and redirected his investment to other sectors of the economy for returns and creation of jobs," the statement read.

While some experts attributed Atiku's plight to politics, others said since the whole activity of Intels revolves around a contract between some individuals or body corporate on one side and the government on the other, any of them can call it off if he feels uncomfortable with the arrangement.

The Face-off

Daily Trust reports that the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) had in September 2020 terminated boats pilotage monitoring and supervision agreement that the agency had with Intels, saying that the contract was illegal.

The federal government earlier in April 2020 approved the recommendations of



■ Former Vice President Atiku Abubakar

the Attorney-General of the Federation, Abubakar Malami, breaking the near-monopoly of Mr Atiku's Intels in the handling of oil and gas cargoes in the country.

Malami had in a letter addressed to the NPA argued that the agreement, which had allowed Intels to receive revenue on behalf of NPA for 17 years was in contravention of the Nigerian Constitution, especially because of the implementation of the Treasury Single Account (TSA) policy of the government.

Intels, however, kicked against the termination of the agreement describing the action as "preposterous" and highly injurious to Nigeria.

How transaction took 2 years

The latest assets sold off by Atiku is said to be worth \$100 million or about N38.1 billion spanning a tranche transaction of two years.

Officials at Intels, which has its operational base at Onne Port in Rivers and in Lagos state said the deal was completed in December 2020, with Atiku exiting the company after he sold off his stake.

One of the officials who spoke in confidence said the stake was sold to Orleal Investment Group, the parent company of INTELS, for \$100m but in three tranches of \$60m, \$29m and \$24.1m.

PDP blames Buhari over stakes sale

Reacting, the National Publicity Secretary of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Kola Ologbondiyan told *Daily Trust* in a telephone chat yesterday that President Buhari's policies were killing investment and the nation's economy.

"Under President Buhari, all security, economic and social indicators have gone negative. The Buhari administration has not

encouraged direct foreign investment and it has wrecked our economy.

"Why won't Nigerians be fed up with the Buhari Presidency when under its watch, businesses have collapsed while over 60 million Nigerians have lost their means of livelihood due to obnoxious economic policies that scare away both domestic and foreign investors?"

"So, if it comes to a point that people are now selling their investments, it is because of the poor economic policies of this administration. The Buhari administration is killing investment and this is having a very negative implication on the nation's economy," the PDP said.

But the Secretary of the APC Caretaker Committee, Senator John James Akpanudoedehe, neither picked his call nor responded to a text message sent to him by our correspondent at the time of filing this report.

Count Buhari out of your travails

A senior government official in one of the ministries yesterday dismissed the claim by Atiku that the government of President Buhari was destroying Intels because of politics. The official wondered why the Wazirin Adamawa was raising the issue now when the sale of his seven per cent shares in Intels was not a new thing.

The top government official queried the political colouration being given to a legitimate request from a company to pay tax and remit revenue collected on behalf of the government.

The senior official said: "The sale of Atiku's seven per cent shares in Intels is not a new thing and I wonder why they are bringing it up now. As far back as 2017, the chairman of the company,



■ President Muhammadu Buhari

Gabriel Volpi, came to us in the ministry to say that he and their Italian partners had bought out Atiku's shares and had taken full ownership of the company.

"Claim that President Muhammadu Buhari is political in dealing with the company is a lie. Nigerians know how the NPA under the present management fought to force Intels to remit revenues and pay taxes. What is politics in asking you to pay tax and remit revenue collected on behalf of the government?"

Another government official said everything they said would be misconstrued, saying they would give Atiku the right answers at the appropriate time.

"But before then, if he had met his obligations nobody will fight him...If he has been responsive there is no way he would be on the defensive," he said.

Atiku's exit, not our concern, case in court - NPA

When contacted, the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) said it was not bothered by the exit of Atiku from Intels.

It also said the case with Intels was still in court.

The Assistant General Manager, Corporate Communication, Ibrahim Nasiru, said officials of NPA only read of Atiku's exit from Intels in the news and that the authority is not bothered.

"I can't comment on the alleged exit of Atiku from Intels for certain reasons. One, the matter is an internal issue. Secondly, we only heard of it in the news. There is no official statement to that effect and lastly, the case with Intels is still in court. We can't comment on it until the suite is determined by the court," he added.

Investors' confidence not threatened - Experts

Some experts have allayed fears that the pullout of Atiku from INTELS may threaten investors' confidence in the Nigerian business economy.

One of them who agreed to have his name on print is a Forensic Accountant and Managing Director at Qeeva Advisory Limited, Matthew Ogagawworia.

He said: "Unfortunately, Intels did not put much on the ground in its position on the withdrawal of Atiku. The government has alleged that Intels was collecting bills, which it was supposed to remit to the government, which it failed to do. The Intels did not provide the public with any hard evidence on what they have paid or how they have paid.

"All we heard eventually from the side of Intels is that the issues had been resolved, case closed."

He said Atiku's decision to sell his shares may be for reasons best known to the former vice president rather than what he termed a convenient excuse advanced in the public domain. Ogagawworia said: "The action or decision of Atiku to sell his interest in Intels has no impact on investors' confidence whatsoever. To anyone watching, it re-enforces the fact that the authorities are alive to their responsibilities."

But another expert who does not want his name mentioned, said the federal government was not fair to Atiku.

"I am looking at the matter from a political perspective. Do you think the FG will force him out of the business if he were a member of the APC? Don't you think they are just after him because of 2023 elections? If I have my way, I would have advised the government to allow the courts to decide on the issue instead of frustrating Atiku out of the ring," he said.

Intels: The long battle between FG, Atiku



■ Hadiza Bala Usman



■ Abubakar Malami

By Abdulaziz Abdulaziz

Ex-Vice President Atiku Abubakar's handing off of his shares from the lucrative oil industry logistics provider, Intels, is a culmination of years of long drawn battle between officials of the President Buhari administration and a man who has been the president's fiercest challenger.

Since they parted ways not long after President Buhari came to power in 2015, the former vice president has been a trenchant opponent of the president, leading to a close chase between them during the last election.

Atiku announced his divestment from the company in a terse statement circulated by his media handlers early Monday. The statement signed by his spokesperson, Paul Ibe, said the former vice president had traded off his shares for \$100 million. Ibe gave no further details about the transaction.

While the spokesperson was not forthcoming with details of the deal, he was clear about the reason behind the decision. He attributed Atiku's action to allege persecution by the federal government, the action, he said, was threatening the multi-million dollar business.

But the Nigeria Ports Authority (NPA), the federal government's face in the long fight with the firm, insists that its stance was merely a corrective one, a move to change wrongs it claimed were done in the past so the government gets the best out of the deal. Another major leg of the squabble is NPA's insistence that Intels complies with the federal

government's Treasury Single Account policy.

Down memory lane

Integrated Logistics Limited, Intels for short, has been in business since mid-1970s. But its reputation rose with fortune in 2006 after it was appointed as the concessionaire of Onne Port, Rivers State. At the time, Atiku was vice president and overseer of Federal Government's privatization policy implemented by the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE).

Under the arrangement, Intels as agent of the NPA provides pilotage services to guide ships into and out of the ports. In return for the service, ship owners are required to pay a pilotage fee for all ships of 35 metres overall length. The amount is collected by Intels for sharing between the company, the Federal Government and the NPA.

In 2008, the then Minister of Transportation, Diezani Alison-Madueke, proposed giving Intels exclusive right to handle oil and gas cargoes. The minister's circular also appointed Intels as managing agent in Lagos Pilotage District. But President Umaru Yar'adua shot down the proposal which he viewed as antithetical to competition in the industry.

In a policy reversal, the government under President Goodluck handed Intels exclusive control over all oil and gas cargoes at its terminals in Onne, Warri and Calabar. Angered by the decision, another major player in the oil and gas logistics, Ladol, went to court to challenge the action which it viewed as a desecration of

the concession agreement it entered with the government.

With the coming of the Buhari administration, the Minister of Transportation, Rotimi Amaechi initiated a process to reverse the status conferred on Intels, in 2016, by writing to the president on the state of the Nigerian ports. One of the issues highlighted by Amaechi was Intels' monopoly of the oil and gas pilotage.

Based on a legal advice from the Attorney-General of the Federation, Abubakar Malami, who described the exclusivity granted to Intels as "not only unknown to the shipping industry, it encourages monopoly and therefore inimical to the investment climate in the country". President Buhari, in April 2017, approved the recommendations of the AGF for reversal of the exclusive handling of oil and gas cargoes at Intels controlled ports.

As a result, Ladol withdrew its suit against the Federal Government from the Federal High Court, Lagos. Intels however instituted a fresh suit challenging the decision.

The TSA saga

With the company still writhing from the pains of breaking off its monopoly on the oil and gas container pilotage, the NPA came back with more blows. This time, the ports regulator asked the firm to submit itself to the Federal Government's Treasury Single Account (TSA) policy. The NPA argued that since it was collecting revenue on behalf of the government, the company must submit itself to government's financial

regulation. Intels, however, said it could not comply with the TSA policy because it had loan commitments with some commercial banks guaranteed by the deposits. But the NPA wrote back saying the government's policy on TSA is "sacrosanct and must be complied with".

The bickering soon snowballed into a full blown war of attrition, with each party throwing weighty allegations against the other. The NPA claimed Intels was indebted to it in Onne and Warri Ports in respect to rents, lease and throughput fees. The debt, the NPA revealed, was computed to the sum of \$1.03 million (N316.60 million) for lease and throughput fees while debt owed by Intels in respect to rent at Onne was put at N3.343 billion.

In justifying why Intels should comply with the TSA, the NPA claimed that the company was keeping \$68,499, 838 (N20.892 billion) belonging to NPA, and was unyielding to full accountability. In a bid to fight back, Intels wrote a letter to the Chairman Senate Committee on Marine Transport, claiming that the NPA owes it \$840 million out of the \$1.29 billion revenue it collected for the agency from January 2010 to September 30, 2016. It was becoming messy the National Assembly had to wade in.

On October 10, 2017, the NPA terminated its contract with Intels based on the advisory from AGF, who described the arrangement as misconceived and unconstitutional.

Intels, however, went to court challenging the

decision of the NPA. This was yet another case in the long feud between the company and the NPA.

In August 2020, a Federal High Court in Lagos granted an interim injunction stopping the NPA from terminating the role of Intels as manning agent in the Pilotage Districts of Lagos, Warri, Bonny/Port Harcourt and Calabar.

The judge, Rilwan Aikawa, granted the interim injunction in the suit number FHC/L/CS/1058/2020 based on an application filed by Intels and Deep Offshore Service Nigeria Limited against NPA.

However, while the court was being awaited, the NPA, on September 1, issued a Marine Notice to the Lagos Pilotage District (LPD) asking ports users not to deal with Intels, saying services hitherto handled by Intels, have been terminated.

"NPA's publication is highly selective, inaccurate and should be disregarded, as it seeks to circumvent legal due process. Indeed, a dispute has arisen over NPA's right to terminate our role as managing agent in the Pilotage Districts of Lagos, Warri, Bonny/Port-Harcourt and Calabar. This dispute has been submitted to arbitration, and the arbitral proceedings have already commenced," Intels wrote in a forceful rebuttal," it said.

With Atiku now out of the picture, it will be interesting to see how the relationship between the NPA and Intels unfolds. Perhaps the olive branch waved by Intels major shareholder, Gabriele Volpi, in October 2017, will now get a welcoming hand.

Stop threatening our troops, FG warns ICC, Amnesty

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

The federal government, yesterday, declared that Nigeria, as a sovereign country, would not surrender to any international organisation.

It also assured that any doomsday prediction about Nigeria would not come to pass, noting that Nigeria is not and cannot be a failed state.

The Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, stated this at a press conference in Lagos.

According to him, Nigeria is

making tremendous progress in tackling banditry and kidnapping.

He, however, lamented that Nigeria is suffering from attacks not only from terrorists and bandits “but also from some human rights organisations and the International Criminal Court (ICC) which seem to have colluded to exacerbate the challenges facing the country in the area of security.”

“While our security agencies continue to battle these bandits and terrorists, the ICC and some international human rights organisations, especially

Amnesty International, have constituted themselves to another ‘fighting force’ against Nigeria, constantly harassing our security forces and threatening them with investigation and possible prosecution over alleged crimes against humanity and war crimes.

“The federal government frowns at this unbridled attempt to demoralise our security men and women as they confront the onslaught from bandits and terrorists. Nigeria did not join the ICC so it can become a pawn on the court’s chessboard. It

beggars belief to see that a nation that is fighting an existential war against bandits and terrorists is constantly being held down by an international body which it willingly joined,” he said.

The government however warned “ICC, Amnesty International and their cohorts” to desist from threatening the nation’s troops and putting the security of the country in jeopardy.

“Nigeria is a sovereign state and will not surrender its sovereignty to any organisation. Enough is enough,” Mohammed warned.

The minister also said the Cable News Network (CNN) also acknowledged its recent petition over its documentary series on the October #EndSARS protest, adding that the government was yet to hear from them. He insisted that the matter is not yet over.

Following a Financial Times of London December 22 Editorial which posited that Nigeria was at the risk of becoming a failed state, the minister countered the financial publication, saying Nigeria “is not and cannot become a failed state.”

Court to hear Sowore’s bail application today

By John Chuks Azu

A Chief Magistrate Court in Wuse Zone 2, Abuja has remanded the leader of #RevolutionNow movement, Omoyele Sowore and four others at the Nigerian Correctional Service custodial centre, Kuje, FCT.

Magistrate Mabel Segun Bello on Monday also fixed today for the hearing of the bail application by counsel to Sowore, Marshal Abubakar.

The court directed that the defendants be allowed access to medical attention and their lawyers.

The Nigeria Police brought Sowore and the others on three-count charge of criminal conspiracy, unlawful assembly and inciting public disturbance following his arrest in Gudu, Abuja, last week.

Those produced with him in court under heavy security presence were: Peter Williams, Sanyaolu Juwon, Emmanuel Bulus and Damilare Ademila.

The defendants however pleaded not guilty to the allegations.

The prosecution team, led by James Idachaba, informed the court that the defendants carried placards seeking for change against President Muhammadu Buhari’s administration by means outside the constitution.

Sowore narrated that on that day, he was covering the protests before walking up to tell the police to stop beating the protesters, when some police officials pounced on him and broke his nose and pushed them into the vehicle.

Counsel to Sowore, Marshal Abubakar, criticised the police for arraigning his client without allowing him legal representation. He said they were taken to SARS detention facility in Abuja, where they were tortured and brutalised by the police.



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EYE ON BORNO

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After allocating 100 hectares, Zulum lays foundation for Borno's first private university ... Orders construction of 2.3 km road, others



■ Borno Governor, Prof Babagana Umara Zulum laying foundation for Al-Ansar University, Borno's first private tertiary institution...in Maiduguri on Monday. Inset: Founder of the University and President of Al-Ansar foundation, Dr Muhammad Kyari Dikwa

Borno State Governor, Professor Babagana Umara Zulum, on Monday laid the foundation for the construction of Al-Ansar University which is expected to be the first private university and tertiary institution in the state.

Zulum had, months back, approved the allocation of 100 hectares of land in Maiduguri, to Al-Ansar Foundation,

which is funding the university project, at a site along the Gubio Road in Maiduguri, the state capital.

Al-Ansar Foundation was established by its president, Dr Muhammad Kyari Dikwa, a retired federal permanent secretary and philanthropist.

The university is taking off with two colleges in addition to other

landmark structures necessary for administration and lecturing purposes.

Zulum, in his remarks at the groundbreaking ceremony, ordered construction of a 2.3km road within the university in addition to the ongoing construction of low aquifer borehole by the Borno State Government at the university site.

The governor also directed the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation to liaise with the founder of the university to see how the state government would further support the implementation of the laudable project.

Zulum promised similar support for anyone desirous of making investments in Borno, particularly on education.

"We are very much willing support any individual or group willing to partner with the state government in order to provide the much needed qualitative education to our children at all levels," Zulum said.

On his part, the president of Al-Ansar and founder of the university, Dikwa, expressed gratitude to Governor Zulum for his continuous support for the actualization of his university project.

Dikwa stated: "Let me start by expressing our sincere appreciation to the Executive Governor of Borno State, Professor Babagana Umara Zulum, for his show of love and concern to the Al-Ansar Foundation since its inception.

"The foundation is happy and proud to identify with this kind hearted man, selfless leader, a man of peace and compassion, the man that history has already revealed, a charismatic politician, academician and a great leader whose actions has already inspired the youth, women, vulnerable and impacted positively to the lives of people of Borno State and beyond".

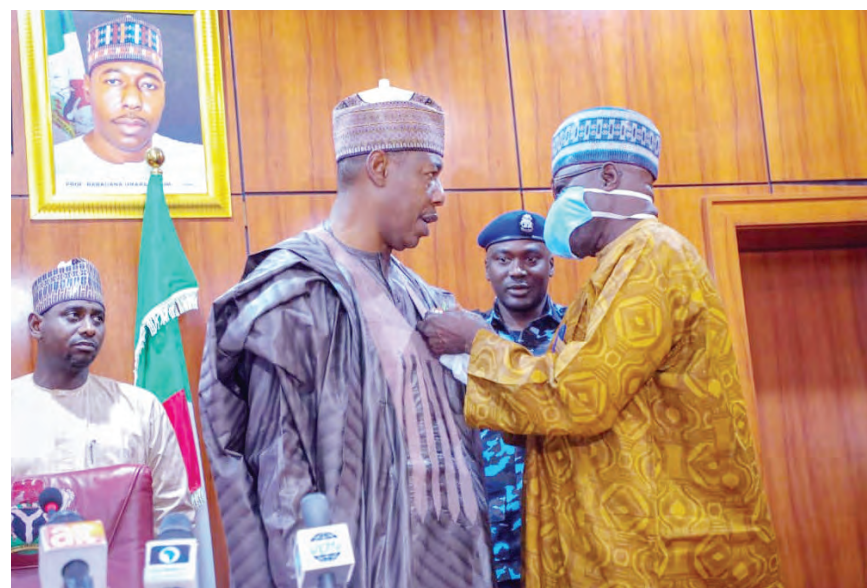
Zulum approves N10m for ex-servicemen, fallen heroes' families ... Directs agro support

Borno State Governor, Professor Babagana Umara Zulum, has approved immediate release of N10 million to retired members of the Nigerian Armed Forces and families of fallen heroes.

The governor gave the directive on Monday in Maiduguri shortly after he was decorated with the ceremonial Armed Forces Remembrance Emblem at the Council Chambers of the Government House in Maiduguri.

The chairman of the Nigerian Legion in Borno State, retired Col. William Mamza, decorated the governor as he led officials and heads of the military, the police, the DSS and para-military agencies to traditionally launch the annual emblem with goes with mobilization of support for ex-servicemen and families of fallen heroes.

Granting a request by the legion, Zulum directed the Ministry of Agriculture to liaise with its officials to identify specific areas the government can support the ex-servicemen's desire to reactive a farmland allocated



■ Chairman, Nigerian Legion in Borno, Col. William Mamza (retired) decorating Governor Babagana Umara Zulum with the 2021 armed forces remembrance day emblem... Monday in Maiduguri.

to them in the 1940's.

Whereas the officials had only requested the allocation of one

tractor, the governor, a professor of Irrigation Agriculture, promised to go far beyond their demands, especially

since it was on agriculture; an area he is obviously passionate about.

The governor charged officials of the legion to ensure commitment to agricultural activities after getting support from government.

Zulum also appealed to the officials to use the funds generated through the ceremonial emblem launch in such a way that the most needy families, particularly of fallen heroes, are supported through various means.

According to their website, "the Nigerian Legion, a statutory body established since 1964, is an association of persons who have served in the Nigerian Army, Nigerian Navy, Nigerian Air Force or any auxiliary force. The legion was established to cater for the welfare of ex-servicemen who have distinguished themselves in local and international wars and for support of families those deceased. The Nigerian legion is a member of International World War Veteran Organization striving for world peace".



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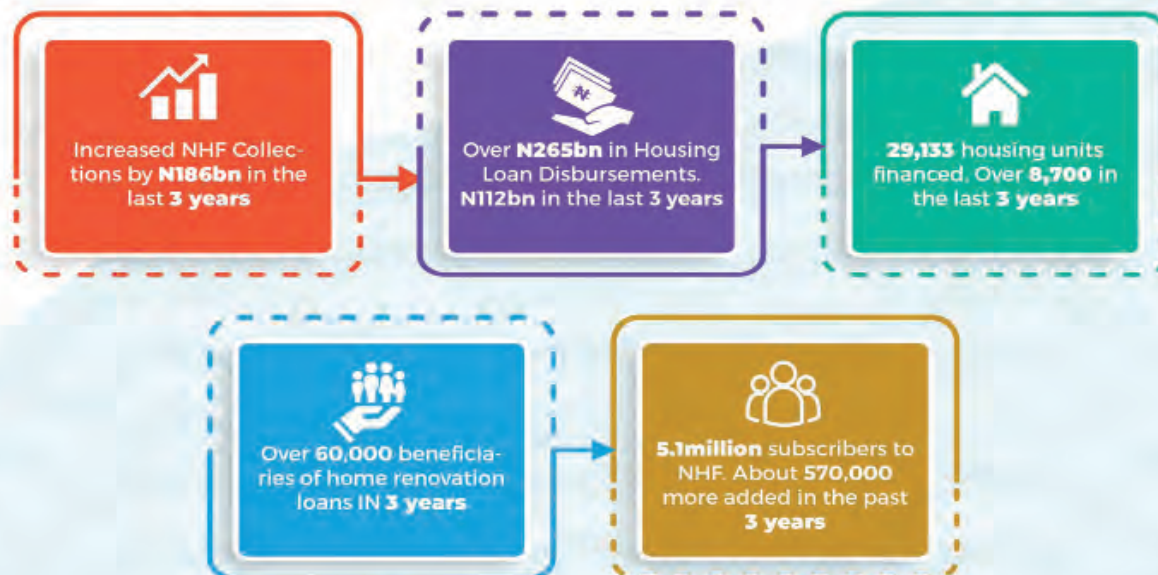
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Gunmen kill 9 along Kaduna-Birnin Gwari highway

From Mohammed Yaba, Kaduna

Armed bandits on Sunday afternoon attacked travelers around Zankoro area along the dreaded Birnin Gwari-Kaduna highway, killing nine people including three infants.

Daily Trust gathered that the victims were on their way to a wedding ceremony at Doka village in Birnin Gwari Local Government of the state.

A traveler, who identified himself as Datti, told Daily Trust that he assisted the vigilante in evacuating some of the victims, even though he said six persons died on the spot.

Confirming the killings, the Birnin Gwari Progressives Union (BEPU), in a statement, yesterday, said the bandits also blocked the road on Monday at the same Zankoro at about 9.00 am, shooting sporadically and abducted an unspecified number of people.

BEPU Chairman, Barrister Salisu Haruna, told Daily Trust that 11 people were also abducted from Dan Kungi village in Birnin Gwari on Sunday, lamenting that the bandits had become aggressive as they continue to kill and abduct innocent citizens unabated.

He said between December

20, 2020, and January 4, 2021, more than 40 people from Birnin Gwari had been abducted.

He called on the Kaduna state government to deploy a response squad to the highways.

When contacted, the Kaduna State Police Public Relations Officer, ASP Mohammed Jalige, said he was at a meeting and promised to call back. Three hours later, Jalige said he was still at a meeting.

Kaduna State Commissioner of Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, when contacted, did not respond to text and WhatsApp messages.

1 nabbed over removal of 6-yr-old's genital

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

Bauchi State Police Command said it has arrested 20-year-old Adamu Abdul Ra'uf for allegedly removing the private part of a 6-year-old girl in Jama'are Local Government Area of Bauchi State.

The command's Public Relations Officer, DSP Ahmed Mohammed Wakil, disclosed this in a statement yesterday.

He said: "On interrogation, the suspect freely confessed to have conspired with one Abdulkadir Wada Haladu of Chikamidari area of Jama'are to perpetrate the crime."

He said Abdulkadir was

currently at large, but efforts have been intensified to arrest him.

Investigation is still ongoing, he added.

Meanwhile, Bauchi State Governor, Bala Mohammed, has condemned the criminal act. He also made a cash deposit of N1 million for the commencement of her treatment.

The state Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Abdulrazaq Nuhu Zaki announced the governor's deposit when he led a delegation to sympathise with the family of the victim in Jamaare.

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Eugene Enahoro

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Asher Lounge Bar and matters arising

On 31st December 2020, the Kaduna State Urban Planning and Development Authority (KASUPDA) demolished the Asher Lounge Bar in Barnawa Kaduna South without warning, legal authorisation or sensible consideration. Although no offence had actually been committed, the action was based on the feeble grounds that it was allegedly the scheduled venue for a proposed sex party. According to KASUPDA officials, the Kaduna State governor ordered the structure to be demolished and organisers of the proposed party arrested. The quite illogical rationale for this action was that although the venue had no record of previously hosting such parties, it was supposed to “forestall reoccurrence” of an event, which never happened in the first place! Initially, unable to quote any law, which had been broken, KASUPDA officials said that the party... if it had held ... would have showcased “a high level immorality that negates our socio-cultural, religious and traditional values/beliefs”. This is mere hyperbole because guarding those values and beliefs is not the function of KASUPDA.

In attempting to justify the demolition without notice, the KASUPDA's Public Relations Officer, Nuhu Garba erroneously claimed that the law vests the agency with powers to demolish any building that contravenes the rights of occupancy. He quite evidently fails to appreciate that in constitutional democracy, the power to determine whether or not a law has been breached, and any applicable punishment therein lies with the Judiciary. Citizens have a constitutional right to a fair hearing and there can be no “law”, which ousts the authority of the courts to carry out this function. Both Governor El Rufai and KASUPDA officials have wrongfully ascribed to themselves powers to determine legalities, which are the prerogative of lawyers and judges. They irrationally believe they are vested with the power to be the plaintiff, prosecutor, judge and judgment executioner in their matters! Consequently, the justice system was totally cast aside. The general public deserves answers to following questions. Why was the matter not charged to court? Why were there no warnings issued? What specific law was contravened? What offences had the property owner committed? Could the property not have been put to better more intelligent use? The whole affair makes little sense. The party didn't hold, no charges were brought against the owners of the property, no guilty verdict was delivered by a competent court, yet the property was demolished. It's becoming an increasingly common and all too disturbing for governors nationwide to order the demolition of structures. Somehow, they view themselves as “Sole Administrators” who can ignore the judiciary, pocket the Legislature then do as they please. They appear far more concerned with demolishing structures rather than constructing them! In Nigeria's history of ill-considered demolitions, Governor El Rufai stands head and shoulders above all others. He has immersed himself in numerous demolitions of people's property, using false applications of the law in which he enforces his will rather

than the will of any competent court. He has also been severally restrained. For example, in March 2020 a Kaduna State High Court presided over by Justice Binta Zubairu granted a restraining order against Governor El Rufai or any state's agency from demolishing over 2,000 houses in Nisi and Tasu communities of Chikun Local Government Area of the State. In that case, those affected went to court having been given a 22-days ultimatum to vacate their premises. By demolishing Asher Lounge Bar without notice, El Rufai and KASUPDA effectively pre-empted judicial authority over the matter. Justice and fair play are essential parts of the application of laws and the demolition of the property of a third party without warning can never be justified. Paradoxically, while ordering the demolition of a place where no offence had been committed, the governor pardoned some convicted criminals to commemorate New Year's Day! If the nation's leaders are seriously trying to nurture democracy and the rule of law, then they must also learn to subject themselves to the restrictions and processes of the law. They must learn to lead by example rather than give the impression that the sole purpose for aspiring to office is to be able to take the law into your own hands. In an attempt to create a “crime” as an afterthought and cover up what many lawyers have termed “the illegality of KASUPDA actions”, the story is now being put out that the Lounge was caught “contravening the COVID-19 guidelines of the state”. This is derisible. When Nollywood star, Funke Akindele was filmed breaking COVID-19 regulations in Lagos State and an offence actually took place, she was charged to court and pleaded guilty. Her house was not destroyed by authorities and nobody was rendered jobless. The governor was indisputably myopic, feigning populism in his approach. It makes no sense whatsoever to demolish a structure in an ill-advised, arbitrary and totally unnecessary manner. He should have acted with more haste and less speed. The venue is not a hotel and has never been one and contains no accommodation. It is registered under the Company and Allied Matters Act (CAMA) for food production and processing services. The owner of the premises is law abiding and has committed no offence. With this rueful exhibition of self-righteousness by Governor El Rufai, any person who does not wish his enemy well, simply needs to report a planned sex party at his premises and the place will be destroyed without due process! It's simply absurd at this time of economic downturn to habitually seek to demolish a property without previous warning or judicial processes. It is increasingly evident that many high political office holders are vindictive and unfit for office. The refusal to allow the owner to remove millions of Naira worth of property and thereby causing them to lose a month old pregnancy was sheer inexcusable evil and wickedness. It is not necessary to use a hammer to kill a fly! Nobody has been able to justify how throwing people into the unemployment market with the potential of increasing the already abysmal crime rate in the state and destroying private property on which government collected tax has now made Kaduna State a better place?

Character and competence should guide leadership choices

By Umar Ardo, Ph.D

“Look for 3 things in a person – intelligence, energy and integrity. If they don't have the last one, don't bother with the first two”.

The above quotation comes from Warren Edward Buffet, an American business magnate, investor, speaker and philanthropist who is reputed to be the fourth richest man in the world. A member of the United States Democratic Party, Buffet insists that the number one trait to look for in selecting a leader is integrity, which he places over and above all other qualities. And integrity, he says, is about choosing one's thoughts and actions based on values rather than personal gains. This, therefore, means that integrity is fundamentally a function of character.

But Warren Buffet only validates one aspect of the time-tested historical trend in leadership selection - i.e. character! The other aspect is competence. Warren might have added, “when you get the 3rd then look for the first two”. For all through history, the two most essential ingredients for selecting good leadership have always been character and competence. Although other ingredients such as energy, capacity, empathy, toughness, knowledge and intelligence are frequently mentioned, these traits are all, too often really, subordinate aspects of character and competence. Encarta English Dictionary defines character as a set of behavioural qualities that make a person distinctively attractive; and defines competence as the quality of being capable, fit, with adequate or enough skills and ability to perform a task. Other qualities are listed as honesty, sincerity, humility, courage, generosity, forthrightness and integrity.

These are basically essential aspects of character, which Dwight Eisenhower, the 30th President of the USA, described as “the supreme quality for leadership”, without which no man is fit to lead others. Because leaders hold not just the lives of people, they govern but even determine the destiny of society, it is supremely important that people trust those who lead them. And trust is earned through character. This, therefore, goes to suggest that the insight for good leadership depends on the virtue and character of the individual; while the basis for effective leadership is typically acquired through study, tutelage and experience.

A fundamental flaw of character is dishonesty. This can come in several forms. For example, a person who cheats, or condones cheating; or a person who cuts corners in executing an affair with the intention of depriving someone else of their rightful claim to something so that the executioner will have all or more than his fair share of it can rightly be adjudged as dishonest. A person who is given public trust or holds a public office and leverages on that office to increase his personal benefit and wealth, or of his kith and kin, against public interest, or to gain undue advantage for himself, or for his kith and kin, over others, can also be categorised as dishonest. In other words, the person is corrupt; for corruption is also defined as a deliberate alteration or distortion of a rule with the ultimate negative effect on a system.

Dishonesty can similarly come in a form of deceit - that is a person who portrays himself to another person or people what he actually is not with the intention to get something, which otherwise he wouldn't have gotten if the truth of him or of his ability is known. Such a person too can be listed as dishonest. Furthermore, as Winston Churchill, a foremost Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, once remarked, even though the pursuit of power with the capacity and in the desire to exercise it worthily is among the noblest of human callings, still a person who seeks power for the sake of lording it over fellow creatures or adding to

personal pomp can also be rightly adjudged as dishonest. In other words, a dishonest person cheats, manipulates, deceives, lies and/or hides his true intentions and ability, whatever the person does is aimed or meant to deceive, defraud, or trick people with the intention to serve a selfish end.

When these flaws ultimately become open and known to the other person, or to the society, then that person loses his integrity and becomes a person of lowly character. Automatically, his behaviour and failure become morally repugnant and liable to make him lose the respect of others. He will also be viewed as a dishonourable and unjust person, and concomitantly loses the trust of the other person or of the society. This person cannot, therefore, distinctively be trusted with or selected to a position of leadership.

Against this backdrop, therefore, as Nigerians prepare for the next round of elections in 2023 to elect their leaders who, in turn, will determine what happens to the present and future generations of the country, it is cardinal the electorate elect trustworthy and competent persons. And, as earlier said, trust is earned through character. In other words, it is supremely important that the electorate base their choices on the strength of character and demonstrable competence of those they elect. Having experienced several disappointing leaderships since independence, betraying the trust of the people and responsible for the country's current state of underdevelopment, it is now critical that Nigerians develop a discernible enthusiasm for change in the selection of persons and style of leadership for the country. In the 2023 elections, Nigerians must demonstrate their resolves either to develop or destroy their country by the standard they employ to elect their leaders. Nigerians must change the dysfunctional method and system of selecting the nation's leadership, and set out a novel platform of an ideologically balanced group of professionals, intellectuals, politicians and other key stakeholders to assess and rate in Order of Mean Score the various candidates to be put forth for elective public offices. This will help prevent getting men (and women) of lowly character and poor ability into power to superintend over the country's public institutions.

As the universal dictum goes, honesty is the best policy. Having been disappointed by the outcome of previous choices, henceforth Nigerians must see clearly, like the rest of the civilised world, the essential role of personal forces in shaping destinies of nations and societies. So, faced with the dire challenge of nation-building, Nigerians must refuse to be misguided by sentiments, emotions or selfish interests, or by rains of naira and dollars that have been the bane of the problem at hand, but must go on headlong to elect leaders based on their strength of character and competence in the sure belief that it is only such leadership that can bring positive change to their lives.

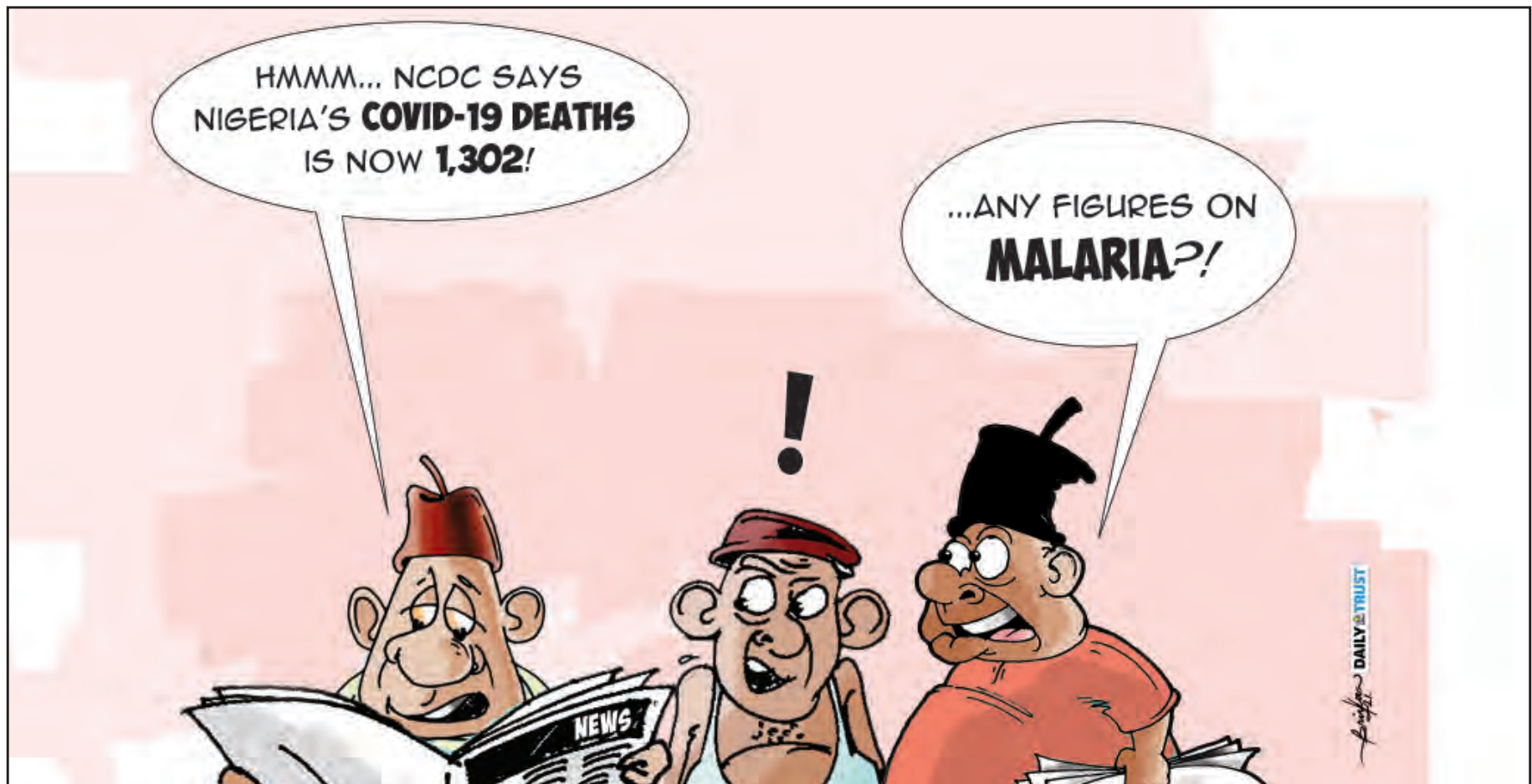
As Nigerians had before elected leaders on account of character and competence against sentiments, emotions or monetary considerations, to attain such a feat in 2023, it will revive interest in personal character and competence as a basis for electing people into positions of leadership for the country henceforth. To this end, for instance, if persons charged to court for embezzlement of public funds can still be nominated by a political party to contest election simply because the constitution states that a person is assumed innocent till proven guilty, is a clear indication of the weakening of the moral and ethical fabrics of the society. It means that over time, the country lost this noble and virtuous standards. 2023 is our opportunity for such ethical revival if Nigeria must survive, develop, progress and take a prime position among the comity of nations on the world scene.

Ardo writes from Abuja

Letter to the Editor

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CARTOON by AKILA JIBRIN



Buhari's fight against terrorism

People from the Northern part of Nigeria have been victims of attacks and killings by bandits, which keep on rising. Similarly, the people have been suffering from kidnappings. Although efforts have been made to curb these maladies, there is a need to step it.

Since President Buhari took over the mantle of leadership in 2015, his administration has claimed, in a number of events, that Boko Haram insurgents have been technically defeated in the Northeastern part of Nigeria. This is far from the truth.

It is expedient to set the records straight that hitherto the emergence of Muhammadu Buhari as President of Nigeria, the Boko Haram insurgents had taken over many local government areas of Borno State, a small chunk of Yobe State and some parts of Adamawa State. Tens of thousands of people have lost their lives and others displaced from their own homes.

When President Buhari came on board, series of attacks and counter-attacks were launched against the terrorists

with assistance from other neighbouring countries such as Chad, Cameroon and Niger.

Although there are records of security achievements of the Nigerian Armed Forces in their fight against terrorism, banditry and kidnappings, the current state of the nation's security shows more needs to be done.

The spate of these brutal acts of terrorism and banditry nowadays is sadly on the rise. The recent gruesome killings of innocent rice farmers at Zabarmari in Borno State, the abduction of 35 commuters along Damaturu-Maiduguri highway, the Abuja-Kaduna road and the abduction of over 300 schoolboys at Kankara in Katsina State are part of a long list of security challenges facing the nation.

New security tactics, sophisticated weapons, adequate funding of security agencies and new effective policies on security are some of the ways to curtail the activities of these criminals.

Kasim Isa Muhammad writes from Potiskum, Yobe State

An open letter to the executive governor of Bauchi State

With due respect, I would like to request you to look into the possibility of providing jobs to the rising number of jobless youths in Bauchi State.

Your Excellency, the major factor affecting the peaceful co-existence in the state is the escalating redundancy of youths.

The system seems to ignore and left youth

out of the scheme of things especially with regard to employment. This results in all sorts of misdemeanors. It is obvious that many youths are educated and industrious. Unfortunately, most of them cannot put food on their table because they are jobless.

Considering your political dexterity and the abundant mineral

resources in our state, the youths need your intervention to create job opportunities for them, not necessarily white-collar jobs.

Finally, your excellency, it is my hope that this request would be considered.

Mallam Musbahu Magayaki writes from Sabon Fegi, Azare, Bauchi State.

Curbing corruption in Nigeria

The machinery that drives the gamut of Nigeria today is tottering at the precipice of inevitable fall. This is easily understandable considering the level of corruption and all its attendant evils that have held this country by the throat. It has often been said, 'if this country does not kill corruption, corruption will eventually kill it'.

Towards this end, there are numerous burning questions seeking answers if we are intent on saving the legacies of our country for the coming generation.

The truth is, everyone is corrupt in his own way. The imam, who preaches to his congregation on corruption and its consequences, is not left behind; he is also corrupt in his own way. Ditto for the pastor, who preaches on Sunday from the holy repose of his pulpit. He is also likely to be corrupt in things that affect him.

Corruption is seen as being smart and brilliant in Nigeria. Those whom we hope will salvage us from the tentacles of corruption are in fact the secret exponents and champions of corruption. Then, we

begin to ask these questions: who will check the reckless corruptive course this country is taking? Who will lead the fight against the menace of corruption?

Whenever we mention corruption, what instantly comes into our minds is our leaders. Our leaders. Yes, because we see them as the worst examples of instigators and exponents of corruption. The majority of us believe that if they were not corrupt and have been rendering their services to the nation maximally and effectively, no one will be corrupt.

But in my assumption, we are the ones to be held accountable for all they do. In the first instance, we are the ones who vote them in. We are the ones! Despite our knowledge of their corruptive ways, we still vote them in because we often hope to share in their spoils of office especially if we are related to them, if we are their party men; if we attended the same schools with them; if we worship in the same church or mosque with them.

But at the end of it all, we realised that their spoils are only

meant for them and their immediate families. The little we might have been given, if we are given at all, is never enough to feed us and our immediate families for a day or two. We realised very late that we have been taken for a ride. But because of our helplessness, naivety and ignorance of our power as an electorate, we fall the same way when next they come for their sweet mouths and vote for them again.

Until we learn to vote sincere and honest people into offices, we will continue to live a life devoid of honour, a life of helpless slaves who are given leftovers to fight over like dogs. And who like dogs have barked at, and bite one another for possession of the few dry bones.

Until we learn to vote in a government with the interest of the citizenry, a government that will convict anyone found guilty of an offence no matter his status, place of birth, religious affiliation or political belonging, we will still be wallowing in the muddy water of corruption.

Adamu Usman Garko writes from Gombe State.

EDITORIAL

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World Bank's Global rating of Nigeria's economy

Recent placement of Nigeria's economy by global rating agencies in particular the World Bank, as the 26th largest in the world specifically in terms of nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 24th for Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), has met with mixed reactions within the country and concerns that such is likely to induce a false sense of security in government circles. While ranking within the first 30 in the World Bank list of 155 countries, Nigeria's position seems impressive, the situation belies the state of affairs in the country. This is because the two measures represent different aspects of the economy, and hardly the total picture. While the GDP is a measure of the market value of the total production of goods and services in the nation's economy within a designated year, and the PPP reflects the purchasing power of Nigeria's currency the Naira and even standard of living of the citizenry, they hardly tell a complete story of the state of affairs, especially when the figures are juxtaposed with the extant conditions of living for Nigerians.

Just as the foregoing figures may indicate some salutary progression in the economy, other figures that capture a more depressed state of affairs reconcile better with the realities of daily living for the citizenry. For instance, while with its rank at 26 out of 155 countries, Nigeria may seem to be better off than the countries behind it in the World Bank ranking. However, several of such countries guarantee a better standard of living for their citizens. Meanwhile, in dwelling on the more critical aspects of Nigeria's domestic environment, features the country's GDP for 2020 as expected to top \$2,500 billion at the end of last December, while the projected figures for 2021 is \$360 billion and that of 2022, \$450 billion. In the same vein, the World Bank records that Nigeria's per capita GDP at the end of 2020 was expected to be \$2,250 while the projected figure for 2021 is \$2300 and \$2,450 for 2022. Reducing the foregoing to practical terms the situation translates into a per capita income of about N800,000.00 for every Nigerian citizen.

However, the gross dislocation of the micro economic sector especially with respect to income distribution is captured by the World Bank estimate that about 46.4 per cent or 90.919 million of Nigerians are multi-dimensionally poor, while another 19.2 million are classified as vulnerable to multi-dimensional poverty. This picture diminishes whatever cheer that may be inspired by the World Bank ranking of the country's economy as high flying. The context of multidimensional poverty here refers to the state of total abjection and privations beyond financial insolvency of the poor cross-section of the citizenry. With the bulk of Nigerians so trapped in the vortex of diminished humanity courtesy of the state of debilitating poverty, it is not surprising that the country's social order is under significant stress with routine processes of governance gravely compromised. Rising angst among the citizenry, escalating insecurity and other emergent vices are traceable to the collapsing state of the economy.

In the circumstances it is also significant that the same World Bank that ranked Nigeria high on the GDP scale, has warned the Nigerian government to embark urgently on ways and means of boosting productivity across the country - ostensibly by deploying the vast endowment of idle resources with the most critical being the large army of unemployed, virile and resourceful youth presently wallowing in dejection and frustration in every nook and corner of the country. As is easily recalled the depressed and deplorable state of the economy recently ignited a nationwide destructive wave of street rage as the EndSARS protests with government at the federal and state levels compelled to react with promises of relief as would be delivered under the auspices of the incoming 2021 budget. Added to the foregoing was the recent relapse of the economy into another recession. It therefore needs to be seen that the government has its task cut out for it as Herculean, to say the least. Only an acute sense of urgency in tackling the economy's challenges, offers hope of a new level to Nigerians.



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Exit of cosmopolitan Zazzau prince

By Isa Sa'idu, PhD

At the peak of the tussle that ensued after the demise of His Highness, Alhaji Shehu Idris, the late Emir of Zazzau, I found myself in an unusual difficult situation.

I have good relationship with almost all the major contenders of the throne. Therefore, all eyes of those who know this hidden secret were on me to see who will be my preferred candidate. They expected to see that in the way I wrote my reports for the *Daily Trust* newspaper on the intrigues that shrouded the selection process.

These *Sa'idawa* (faultfinders) were however disappointed that I did not sacrifice professionalism for personal relationship.

I was elated, particularly, by the comments of my editors, friends and relatives. They had cause to shower encomiums on what they called my "balanced and professional" coverage of the tussle.

One of the editors, specifically said: "nobody can know who your preferred candidate is through your reports, and I know you have one."

One of the top contenders then is my in-law, being my *Bamalliyya Uwargida* (first wife) his "younger sister", while two of them are my "fathers", in the Hausa sense of it. Iyan Zazzau, Alhaji Bashir Aminu, is one of these two.

We attended the same primary and secondary schools with two of his sons at Sabon Gari LEA Primary School, which was later renamed after the late Iya many years ago, and Government Commercial College, Zaria, respectively. Sabon Gari LEA Primary School is now known as Bashir Aminu LEA Primary school. The late Iya also had his primary education at the school.

Apart from that, I was born and bred in Chikaji, Sabon Gari, Zaria and people of my age grew up to see the late Iyan Zazzau as our Hakimi (District Head).

Again, my father, late Malam Sa'idu Alhassan, was once a member of the Hakimi's larger council. My father, before his demise, was the Limamin Chikaji, literally translated Chief Cleric of Chikaji.

At that time, part of the responsibilities of my father was to keep record of all new births and deaths in the Chikaji area, which used to be transmitted to the Iya's office through the Mai Anguwa (ward head).

It is obvious from the foregoing that to be emotionally neutral to the cause of the Iyan Zazzau by someone like me would be a daunting task. I had to struggle and brave all odds to turn out unbiased reports on the selection process of the new emir of Zazzau, which late Iya

was an interested party.

When the news of the death of Iyan Zazzau sauntered into the Sabon Gari area, many residents, including myself, dismissed it as one of such social media misinformation.

I did not bother to investigate further, because I know I should be one of the few people to know exclusively. I however turned out a disappointed person, as the death had traumatised all my exclusive sources, hence could not inform me until the morning of Friday, January 1, 2021, when my younger brother called to confirm to me that indeed Iyan Zazzau was no more.

Therefore, the demise of this gorgeous and brave person shocked many of us to no measure. Iya's humility made him dear to many residents of Sabon Gari, and Zaria as a whole.

I do not need much energy to buttress this fact taking into cognisance his decision to allow his sons attend the same primary and secondary schools

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with the children of the have-nots like us.

The death of Iyan Zazzau really turned the whole Sabon Gari area into a mourning zone on the first day of a new year. This manifested during the day's Friday prayer. The thousands of people that made up the day's congregations at different Juma'at mosques in the area were in palpable mourning mood throughout the duration the prayers lasted.

The request by the Mu'azzin (person calling prayer) for the congregation at the Kwata Juma'at mosque to seek for Allah's forgiveness for the late prince immediately after the prayers made the atmosphere more solemn, especially at the time information that the late Iya was assassinated was not only ripe, but spreading like wildfire.

It is not out of nothing that the residents of Sabon Gari loved Iya. He was such a person whose royalty background did not stop him from personally attending

ceremonies organised by his people.

When one of his masons died, the "powerful prince" personally attended the funeral prayer and I witnessed that. This was how humble the late Iya was.

Sabon Gari is seen by many as a kind of mini Nigeria, because of its heterogeneous and cosmopolitan nature. Iya, however, successfully managed this complex district for decades.

During Sallah Durbars, Iya's entourage used to be unique. It used to be the only procession that would comprise the likes of Sarkin Yarbawa (king of the Yorubas), Sarkin Inyamire (king of the Igbos), Sarkin Ivra (king of the Ibras), among many other leaders of tribes from different parts of Nigeria who made Sabon Gari their homes for many decades.

As the saying of an Hausa adage goes - *Mutuwa mai tonan asiri* (death is the revealer of all hidden secrets), the death of Iyan Zazzau has, indeed, brought out many hidden secrets.

His death brought together many residents that he sponsored their education from primary to university. The death also brought together the persons he used his influence to secure employment for them; some of them at "juicy" ministries, government agencies and corporate organisations.

The orphans and children from the less-privileged homes that are presently under his scholarship also came to the fore. This is aside many mosques and Islamiyya projects he has been sponsoring, just to mention but a few.

The kindhearted and humane nature of the late Iya did not, in any way, affect his bravery, grit and tenacity throughout his lifetime. His firmness on perception of issues, administrative skills and intelligence stood him out to emerge as the most "powerful prince" of the Zazzau emirate during his lifetime.

The thousands of people that attended his funeral prayer on Saturday, January 2, 2021, at the Kwata Juma'at mosque, Sabon Gari, Zaria has become an indication of a life well spent.

Iya's status in the Zazzau emirate and his ability to effectively manage one of the most complex, cosmopolitan and heterogeneous cities in Nigeria earned him one of his songs of praises - *Iya mai jama'a, mai Yarbawa, mai Inyamire, zaki dan Aminu* (Iya, man of the people. Yorubas, Igbos et cetera are all yours, the lion son of late Emir Aminu).

May his soul continue to rest in perfect peace.

Sa'idu wrote this from the Department of Political Science and International Studies, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria

NEWS

FG releases N5bn aviation bailout

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

After about two months of waiting, the federal government has finally released the N5 billion for the aviation industry, *Daily Trust* has learnt. While N4bn went to airlines, N1bn was given to other allied service providers like the ground handling firms, caterers, and other small businesses in the aviation value chain. The federal government had announced the bailout to cushion the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on operators as their businesses were shut down for over months due to the outbreak of the pandemic.

Daily Trust learnt that while scheduled carriers got 75 per cent of the fund, the non-scheduled carriers like charter and cargo operators received 25 per cent of the money. Similarly, state-backed airlines were reportedly excluded from the bailout thereby causing bad blood within the system.

There are nine scheduled carriers and 24 non-scheduled airlines. They include Air Peace, Azman, Max Air, Dana, Aero, Arik, Med-View, Ibom Air and Overland.

It was not clear how much each of the airlines got but it was learnt that each airline benefitted based on the number of employees on its payroll.

Chief Operating Officer of Dana Air, Mr. Obi Mbanuzuo confirmed that the airline had got its share of the palliative but he did not state how much it got.

The Managing Director of Skyway Aviation Handling Company PLC (SAHCO), Mr. Basil Agboarumi, said the ground handling firms and other small businesses in the sector have also got the palliative though he was silent on how much his firm got.

Apapa Port rail line: Importers fear cargo disruption

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

As the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) continues work to connect the Lagos Port Complex in Apapa Port with a rail line, importers and other operators have urged the construction firm to ensure that cargo evacuation from the port is not disrupted.

They said any further disruption may make the truck owners increase haulage cost as they are already contending with that. In November 2020, the importers and clearing agents said there were disruptions when CCECC mobilised to the site and blocked the container terminal truck exit gate. President of the Nigerian Importers Integrity Association (NIIA), Godwin Onyekazi said there were reports of plans to demolish the container terminal exit gate but however commended the move to link the port with a rail line, to ease the road traffic congestion.

"We, however, wish to appeal that the rail project being driven by the government should be done in such a manner that does not lead to a blockade of the port as we have seen at Tin Can, which is almost totally blocked due to bad roads and rent-seeking on the port access road.

"We, therefore, appeal to the railway contractor to execute its task in a way that does not disrupt the inflow and outflow of cargo. This is important to avoid creating a situation where importers will be compelled to pay more in freight costs, haulage, storage and demurrage charges," Onyekazi said.

A clearing agent at the Apapa Port, Monday Ekanem, said there was need for proper coordination to ensure seamless flow of traffic at the port.

'Expect return to normalcy, tougher policy choices'

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

Continuing from a year with so much uncertainties about life, politics and markets, 2021 holds the promise of a return to a semblance of certainty and a vaccine aided V-shaped global economic recovery, the Chief Executive Officer of Sigma Pensions, Dave Uduanu has said.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, national governments adopted a cocktail of strict movement restrictions and border lockdowns in a bid to limit the spread of the virus, reduce burdens on stretched healthcare systems and contain the human toll.

These measures were accompanied by large scale economic stimulus programmes to help households and businesses cope with the economic impact of movement restrictions.

However, Uduanu in a forecast report said: "In 2021, the focus will shift to how quickly countries roll-out vaccination programmes to immunise populations from COVID-19."

Amid an improved outlook for oil prices, Nigeria continues to grapple with the aftershocks of the coronavirus recession as external and fiscal imbalances propagate negative shocks across the exchange rate and inflation channel.

Uduanu said the resulting macroeconomic turmoil will require a return to credible policy settings, implying that more than ever before, the direction of policy responses will be crucial.

He also affirmed that Nigeria will exit recession, but external account imbalances pose downside risks to the Naira as well as higher inflation on account of food, electricity and fuel price pressures.

"We expect Nigeria's economy to experience a V-shaped bounce back from a recession in 2020 as the removal of most COVID-19 restrictions should benefit the non-oil sector where the restrictions hurt activities badly."

He said oil output is likely to remain in recession as compliance with OPEC+ curbs restrains oil production to 1.7-1.8mbpd, a development likely to remain in place until H2 2021.

Uduanu also noted that in 2020, the liquidity fallout from CBN's decision to split domestic treasury bill markets spurred a rally across Naira assets.

"In 2021, we think financing the projected fiscal deficit alongside CBN's recently introduced CBN Special Bills could help drain the remaining portion of the large liquidity overhang.

"We expect the rebalancing across Nigeria's financial markets to run its course over 2021, implying less-liquid conditions."



■ From left: The Group Managing Director (GMD), Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Mallam Mele Kolo Kyari and the Director General, Voice of Nigeria (VON), Mr Osita Okechukwu, when the former paid a courtesy visit to the later at the VON headquarters in Abuja.

Agboola, 12, wins MTN mPulse Hackathon

From Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos

Twelve year old Joshua Agboola has won the MTN mPulse Hackathon themed 'Beyond COVID', the company has said.

The MTN mPulse was initiated in 2018 for kids between age nine and 15 with a portal that assists students with work while getting some entertainment.

Agboola who is a JSS 2 student of Bellina College, Akoka in Lagos, won the competition by creating 'Kagukar Study Buddie,' a home-schooling, remote

education and learning solution.

Using artificial intelligence, the study buddy works as an interactive voice-activated robot that assists students with a mix of study and entertainment.

Agboola received N1 million funding support, N100,000 cash voucher, portable electronic devices worth over N120,000 and mPulse back-to-school items.

The champion thanked MTN, saying, "I feel excited. I have been able to show my potential towards changing the world and impact lives

positively with my solution; thanks to MTN."

The first runner up, Abeedah Alabi of Jakande Estate Comprehensive Senior College in Lagos and second runner up, Amarachi Ogbu of Government Day Secondary School, Abuja also received N500,000 funding support, N100,000 cash vouchers, N120,000 portable electronic devices, and mPulse back-to-school items.

The top 10 finalists will participate in a six-week virtual MTN GAP Boot camp, an incubation programme to further refine their winning

solutions to market in collaboration with TechQuest STEM Academy.

Commenting on the competition, the Chief Transformation Officer, MTN Nigeria, Bayo Adekanmbi, stated that technology has bridged the gap between the children and the future, positioning them to lead the charge to a bold new world.

"The MTN mPulse Hackathon is part of our wider contribution towards this aspiration, consistent with our commitment to champion innovation," he said.

Coca-Cola to unveil mural works of 3 artists

By Simon Echefowun Sunday

Coca-Cola Nigeria Limited said it is set to unveil wall murals created by three Nigerian artists to highlight the unity and tenacity of Nigerians during the yuletide season.

According to a statement from the company, the murals were painted across key sites in Rivers, Enugu, and Oyo States from early December 2020. They celebrate the uniqueness within each region, the culture and the rich heritage of each region and how they unite amidst the diversity.

The murals were created by artists including the acclaimed Ayoola

Gbolahan, whose work "Blue Woman" is revered internationally; Kingsley Effiong, popularly known for graffiti art in Port Harcourt; and Perpetual Cyril, a budding artist in Enugu. The Head of Public Affairs, Communications and Sustainability, Coca-Cola Nigeria, Nwamaka Onyemelukwe, in the statement said the mural project is a brilliant initiative due to its celebratory, educative and unifying qualities.

"Now more than ever, people need to find a lot of common ground and wins they can celebrate together. These murals are an exact depiction of that; they are a reminder of Nigeria's rich history and diverse cultures, as well as the many things

that bind the Nigerian people together."

Earlier in 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic, the firm globally launched a campaign themed, 'Open Like Never Before', encouraging people to open themselves up to the 'new normal', and make the most of every moment.

"The company is extending this message even further with this wall mural project. The year 2020 may have been fraught with challenges the world over, but as a nation, Nigeria and Nigerians have stayed strong and are hopeful for a better future. Coca-Cola Nigeria charges consumers to celebrate this hope as a bright spot of 2020, and to hold on to it in 2021," it said.

CO-CREATED CONTENT

Brighter future as businesses, households to get more credit - CBN

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Credit Conditions Survey Report for the fourth quarter of 2020 has shown that access to credit to households and businesses improved in the fourth quarter of 2020 and would continue to rise in the first quarter of 2021.

In this piece, the strategies towards realising this as contained in the report are evaluated below.

Part of the mandate of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) is to nurture an efficient monetary and financial system towards promoting macroeconomic stability in Nigeria. To achieve this, the Bank needs to, among others, understand trends and developments in credit conditions information which is collected through a quarterly survey of bank lenders. The survey covers secured and unsecured lending to households, lending to Public Non-Financial Corporations (PNFCs), small businesses and Other Financial Corporations (OFCs).

This edition of the survey report presents trends and developments in credit conditions in the fourth quarter and its expectation in the first quarter of 2021. The survey was conducted in December 2020, the results are based on lenders' own responses and do not reflect the Bank's views on credit conditions in the economy.

To determine the aggregate results, each lender is assigned a score based on their response. Lenders who report that credit conditions have changed "a lot" are assigned twice the score of those who report that conditions have changed "a little".

These scores are then weighted by lenders' market shares. The results are analyzed by calculating net percentage balances — the difference between the weighted balance of lenders reporting that demand was higher versus lenders reporting that demand was lower. The net percentage balances are scaled to lie between ±100.

Supply of Credit

The availability of secured credit to households increased in Q4 2020 and is expected to increase in the Q1 2021. Changing economic outlook and increased market share objectives were major factors responsible for the increase in supply of secured credit. Lenders reported that the availability of unsecured credit to households increased in Q4 2020, it is expected to increase in Q1 2021.

Most lenders cited improving economic outlook and increased market share objective as contributory factors for the increase.

The overall availability of credit to the corporate sector increased in Q4 2020 and is expected to increase in Q1 2021, due to "Changing sector specific risk and market share objectives".

Demand for Credit

Request for secured lending for house purchase decreased in Q4 2020 but lenders expect demand for such lending to increase in Q1 2021. The proportion of secured loan applications approved decreased as lenders tightened the credit scoring criteria.

Demand for total unsecured lending from households increased in Q4 2020 and is expected to increase in the Q1 2021. Lenders' resolve to tighten the credit scoring criterion increased the proportion of approved unsecured loan applications in Q4 2020.

Lenders reported decreased demand for corporate credit for all business sizes except for small businesses and OFCs in Q4 2020 but demand for all firm sizes is expected to increase in Q1 2021.

Defaults

Secured loan performance, measured by default rates, worsened in Q4 2020, while lenders expect default rates in Q1 2021 to remain unchanged.

The performance of total unsecured loans to households, measured by



■ CBN headquarters, Abuja

default rates, improved in Q4 2020 and is expected to improve further in Q1 2021.

Corporate loan performance rates worsened for small businesses and medium PNFCs but improved for large PNFCs and OFCS in Q4 2020. Lenders expect lower default rates on lending to all sized businesses in Q1 2021.

Loan pricing

Lenders reported that the overall spread on secured lending rates on approved new loans to households relative to MPR narrowed in Q4 2020 and are expected to remain unchanged Q1 2021. The overall spread on unsecured lending narrowed in Q4 2020 and is similarly expected to narrow in Q1 2021. Changes in spreads between bank lending rates and MPR on approved new loan applications widened for all firm sizes except medium PNFCs in Q4 2020. It is expected to also widen for all firm sizes except for medium PNFC in Q1 2021.

Also the Q4 2020 credit condition survey for households, small businesses and corporate entities indicated increased availability of secured, unsecured and corporate entities.

Spreads on overall secured lending to households narrowed in Q4 2020 and are expected to further narrow in Q1 2021 except for unsecured and all firm sized lending to households which is expected to widen.

Lenders reported that demand for total secured lending decreased while unsecured lending from households increased in Q4 2020.

However, they expected both lending to increase in Q1 2021. Demand for corporate lending decreased for all business sizes except for small businesses and OFCs in the review period.

As earlier indicated, secured lending to households Lenders reported an increase in the availability of secured credit to households in Q4 2020 relative to the previous quarter.

Changing economic outlook and increased market share objectives were major factors responsible for the increase.

Similarly, availability of secured credit is expected to increase in Q1 2021, changing economic outlook and increased market share objectives as the likely contributory factors.

It also indicated that the proportion of loan applications approved in Q4 2020 decreased, as lenders tightened their credit scoring criteria.

Thus, lenders expect to further tighten the credit scoring criteria as they pre-empt the proportion of approved households' loan applications to increase in Q1 2021.

Also, maximum Loan to Value (LTV) ratios remain unchanged in Q4 2020 and are expected to remain the same in Q1 2021.

According to the reports lenders were

not willing to lend at low LTV ratios (75% or less) in Q4 2020 and Q1 2021. However, lenders were willing to lend at high LTV (more than 75%) in Q4 2020 and are willing to lend at high LTV (more than 75%) in Q1 2021.

Also, the average credit quality on new secured lending improved in Q4 2020 and is expected to improve in Q1 2021 the report indicated.

The report suggested that lenders reported that the overall spreads on secured lending rates to households relative to MPR narrowed in Q4 2020 and are expected to remain the same in Q1 2021. Similarly, spreads for all lending types narrowed in the Q4 2020 and are expected to narrow in Q1 2021.

However, household demand for house purchase loans decreased in Q4 2020 but it is expected to increase in Q1 2021.

For Q4 2020, households demand for all lending types increased except for buy to let lending, however, all lending types to households are expected to increase in Q1 2021. Household demand for consumer loans increased in Q4 2020 and is expected to increase in Q1 2021.

Similarly, demand for mortgage/re-mortgaging from households increased in Q4 2020 and is expected to also increase in Q1 2021.

Secured loan performance, measured by default rates, worsened in Q4 2020 and is expected to remain unchanged in Q1 2021. Bank lenders reported low loss given default by households in Q4 2020, and they also expect lower losses in Q1 2021.

Lending to corporate and small businesses Credit conditions in the corporate sector vary by size of the business. The survey asked lenders to report developments in the corporate sector by large and medium-size PNFCs, OFCs and small businesses.

The result showed that the overall availability of credit to the corporate sector increased in Q4 2020 and is expected to increase in Q1 2021.

This was driven by changing sector-specific risks, market share objectives, changing appetite for risk, changing economic conditions and changing liquidity conditions.

Businesses are defined as those with an annual turnover of under N5 million. Medium-size corporates are defined as those with an annual turnover of between N5 million and N100 million. Large corporates are defined as those with an annual turnover of more than N100 million

Lenders also reported that the prevailing commercial property prices positively influenced credit availability for the commercial real estate sector in Q4 2020 and would continue in Q1 2021. Similarly, the prevailing commercial property prices are expected to positively influence secured lending to PNFCs in Q4 2020 and Q1 2021.

Generally, availability of credit increased for all business sizes in Q4 2020, while the same trend is expected in Q1 2021.

Spreads between bank lending rates and MPR on approved new loan applications widened for all firm sizes except medium PNFCs in the period under review.

Lenders expect spread on bank lending rates and MPR on approved new loan applications to also widen for all firm sizes except for medium PNFC which is expected to remain unchanged Q1 2021.

The proportion of loan applications approved for all business sizes increased in the Q4 2020 and were expected to further increase in Q1 2021 (Table 3 Items 5a-c). Lenders required stronger loan covenants from all firm sizes in both Q4 2020 and Q1 2021.

Fees/commissions on approved new loan applications decreased for small business, remained unchanged for medium PNFCs and increased for large PNFCs and OFCs in Q4 2020. Lenders of all sized businesses expect fees/commissions on approved new loan applications to rise in Q1 2021.

All firm sizes benefitted from an increase in maximum credit lines or approved new loan applications in Q4 2020 and are expected to benefit from an increase in maximum credit lines or approved new loan applications in Q1 2021.

More collateral requirements were demanded from all firm sizes or approved new loan applications in Q4 2020 and lenders expect to demand higher collateral from all firm sizes in the Q1 2021.

Demand for corporate lending decreased for all business sizes except for small businesses and OFCs in Q4 2020.

However, demand for corporate lending for all firm sizes is expected to increase in Q1 2021. The most significant factors that influenced demand for lending in the review period were increase in merger and acquisition and restructuring of balance sheets.

However, inventory finance and capital investment are expected to drive demand in Q1 2021. Corporate loan performance as measured by the default rates worsened for small businesses and medium PNFCs but improved for large PNFCs and OFCS in Q4 2020. However lenders expect lower default rates on lending to all sized businesses in Q1 2021.

The average credit quality on newly arranged PNFCs borrowing, target levels for corporate lending, loan tenors on new corporate loans and change in draw down on committed lines by PNFCs all improved in Q4 2020 and are expected to improve in Q1 2021.



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PLATEAU RESCUE UPDATE

Home of Peace and Tourism

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EVERY TUESDAY

Plateau Exco, at last session for 2020, re-awards road project contracts

At its last meeting for the year 2020 held on 31st December 2020, the Plateau State Executive Council (Exco) sat for about 4 hours to decide on a variety of issues. The meeting held at the Exco chambers of the new Government House, Little Rayfield, Jos and was presided over by Governor Simon Bako Lalong with some of its members joining virtually.

Briefing newsmen after the meeting, Commissioner for Information and Communication, Dan Manjang together with his colleagues for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Sylvanus Tapgun, Chrysanthus Ahmadu, Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Regina Soemlat,

Commissioner for Finance, and Engr. Sunday Hyat, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works, gave highlights of the decisions reached at the meeting.

They said Exco was briefed on the upsurge in Covid-19 cases in the State and resolved that there shall henceforth be exercise of prosecution order to deal with violators of the guidelines for the pandemic. For the time being, there is no contemplation of lockdown of the State. Therefore, the denial of the existence of COVID-19 in Plateau State will henceforth be criminalised.

Exco also mandated the re-awarding of contracts for some road projects earlier revoked. They include Tahoss/Ganawuri

Road; Mangu bye-pass road; Shinkwan/Tunkus/Shendam bye-pass as well as the rehabilitation of Kwande/Biem-Biem road formally awarded to PW.

Also approved is the supply of official vehicles for various Government officials who have not been given official cars since they were appointed over one year ago.

The council also gave approval for an Executive Bill to be sent to the House of Assembly for the creation of the Plateau State Investment Promotion Council.

On the implementation of the new minimum wage at the Local Government level, Council frowned at the way Local Government staff have resorted to intimidating, blackmailing and threatening

the State Government over the wages of another tier of Government.

The Council reaffirmed that it is the sole responsibility of the Local Governments to hire, fire, remunerate and discipline their employees based on their terms. The Council advised Local Government chairmen to take responsibility for negotiating with their staff now that they are fully autonomous.

Council frowned at the manner the Local Government workers have taken for granted the magnanimity and benevolence of the Governor to intervene in the negotiations by not only turning down various options to resolve the matter, but also going ahead to blackmail the Governor and other State Government officials.



■ Governor Simon Bako Lalong presiding over the last State EXCO Session for 2020



■ Some Commissioners participating at the last EXCO meeting of Plateau State virtually



■ Plateau State EXCO at its last meeting for 2020 at the Exco Chambers, Little Rayfield Jos

Let's work for a better future in 2021, Governor Lalong charges citizens

Governor Simon Bako Lalong has congratulated Plateau State citizens as well as other Nigerians for witnessing the year 2021, urging them not to despair but to be optimistic and pray for recovery and progress despite the challenges of the outgoing year.

Lalong, in a new year message issued by his Director of Press and Public Affairs, Dr. Makut Simon Macham, said the economic challenges brought about by COVID-19 and recession can only be overcome by deliberate synergy between the Government, private sector and citizens in pursuing set objectives that will create opportunities for recovery and growth.

He said: "We must all join hands together to overcome COVID-19 which adversely affected our economy last year remains a threat that could cause disruptions in the New Year because of the second wave. While Government intensifies action in tackling the disease, the citizens must take personal responsibility for their health and that of others by strictly observing COVID-19 protocols at all times. Government shall not hesitate to take serious measures that will ensure that we avoid another lockdown due to the pandemic".

On security, the Governor said with the training and deployment of the first batch of community police constables, his administration will invest more in intelligence gathering

and preventive measures by fishing out criminals before they wreak havoc.

He promised that the Government will continue to support the conventional security agencies to apprehend and prosecute criminals particularly on crimes relating to kidnapping, cultism, land grabbing and other violent crimes using the law that he recently signed to curb such occurrences.

Lalong wished the citizens a prosperous new year and also pledged that his administration will continue with the construction of physical infrastructure including the Legacy Projects currently going on in the three Senatorial Districts.

...says General Bali brought pride to Plateau

Plateau State Governor Simon Bako Lalong has described the late Minister of Defence and Chief of Defence Staff, General Domkat Yah Bali as an epitome of humility, courage and integrity.

Governor Lalong said this at the funeral service for the late General held at the Headquarters of the Church of Christ in Nations (COCIN) Jos.

Lalong said throughout his lifetime, Gen. Bali demonstrated discipline, commitment, diligence and valour in his duties where he rose to the peak of his career retiring as a four-star General.

"He was a man who had a lot of opportunities in life but was never arrogant or haughty. He remained principled, steadfast and truthful in his dealings. Indeed, he brought pride to Plateau State as a worthy son who accomplished

a lot in his service to the nation. The State will miss him", the Governor said.

Chief of General Staff, Gen. Gabriel Olonisakin said the nation and its Armed Forces are grateful for the service of Gen. Bali who gave his best to protecting the territorial integrity of Nigeria.

Widow of Gen. Bali, Esther and her children also paid tribute to the late General whom they described as a friend, mentor, father and husband who sacrificed so much for the family and the nation as a whole.

In a sermon, COCIN Vice President, Rev. Dr. Obed Dashan said the life of the late General should motivate those still living to submit their lives to Jesus Christ in order to gain eternity just as late Bali did when he accepted salvation.

His remains were later laid to rest at the family compound in Langtang.



■ Corpse of Late Gen Bali arriving COCIN Hqtrs Church in Jos for funeral service



■ Governor Lalong pays last respect to late Gen. Domkat Yah Bali



■ Sympathizers at funeral service for late Gen. Bali at the COCIN Headquarters Church in Jos



■ Governor Lalong sympathises with widow of Gen. Bali Mrs. Esther Bali and her children

HEALTH

health@dailytrust.com

Building immunity against diseases with balanced diets

By Olayemi John-Mensah

The immune system is defined as a complex network of cells and proteins that defends the body against any kind of infection. It is said to keep a record of every germ or bacteria that has ever been defeated, so it can recognise and destroy the microbe quickly if it enters the body again.

Everyone needs a strong immune system to stay healthy and strong and this can only be achieved through eating balanced diet and shunning consumption of junk, experts say.

A health research stated that every part of the body, including the immune system, functions better when protected from environmental assaults and bolstered by healthy-living strategies such as avoiding smoking, eating a diet high in fruits and vegetables, regular exercise and maintenance of healthy weight.

A dietician, Mrs. Sarah Abagi said, the body needs good and balanced nutrition to keep it healthy and strong to fight diseases, bacteria and viruses.

She said at the heat of the COVID-19, other climes were also dealing with flu because of temperate weather while Nigeria dealt with the harmattan which usually comes with cold and dry dusty wind.

“So, it is not uncommon for people to come down with some chest infection and other ailment this time. But as a whole, what a person requires is what we call a balanced nutrition or optimum nutrition,” she said.

The dietician said in most cases, people prefer eating large bowls of food and those that are privileged eat large chunks of meat while the most vital ingredients needed for the body, fruits and vegetables, are often left out of meals.

“In fact, in our situation in Nigeria, most people believe fruits are like snacks that they take occasionally but if we follow the principle of balanced diet, we must eat a minimum of three serving of fruits per day which can be an apple, orange, banana pawpaw, water melon, pineapple, others and we



must get them to eat in good quantity,” she added.

Mrs Abagi said by the time you have balanced nutrition, we are sure to stay in good health but to go a step further in this COVID-19 season, people have to go the extra mile and not just do the minimum with fruits and vegetables but go to the maximum by taking extra.

“It is usually a minimum of three servings of fruits per day but you can take it now to five times because you require like nine servings together and this time, because we need more protection, we must do more.

“It is expected that we eat good varieties of fruits and vegetables because as you see them in their different colours so are they in their unique protective ingredients that serve for disease protection and diuretic measures.

“Those red pigments you find in

some fruits and vegetables are very powerful antioxidants that the body requires for prevention from disease and strengthening of immunity. We also have the ones that come in orange and brighter colours like pawpaw, carrots and orange, they also carry antioxidants that protect the body from diseases,” Abagi added.

She said every vegetable you see carrying any colour, carries with it enormous nutritional benefits for disease prevention and treatment.

According to her, people must always carry along every food group when planning meals, adding that starches which form the bulk of our diets (rice, semovita, pounded yam and others) provide energy.

“Then meat, our people capitalise a lot on meat but all we need is just the normal market standard of meat or chicken parts and others in our food

whenever we are eating the three meals in a day. Or you have an egg in the morning or fish in the evening that you can afford of course, where animal proteins are not available.

“In the meat group we also accommodate legumes such as beans. If we cook beans we are sure to get sufficient protein, especially when you combine it with whole grains which will give you good compliments of protein.”

She also said the body requires milk because it also provides its own vitamins and minerals that help keep the body in good shape; your calcium, B Vitamins, your proteins and others.

“In the milk group you will have yoghurt. In the Northern region we have “nono” which when you take it you have a complement of starch together with milk serving.

“The body needs oil but in limited amounts; just sufficient to make your diet palatable. Eating too much oil is not healthy, just a little to keep your food palatable and give you the nourishment required from that, and as much as possible frying is not a healthy thing to do.”

She advised people to take interest in the use of roots and herbs such as ginger, garlic, celery, turmeric, onions and others saying they must be part of day-to-day diets for their nutritional benefits to the body.

“We must begin to put ample amount either as powder or fresh in our cooking. Ginger, turmeric can be used in our teas or for soup, a little in our pepper soup. They help to fortify the body against invasion of disease especially viruses and bacteria because of the zinc content and other organic elements in them,” she said.

She explained that many people’s minds go to “agbo” when herbs are mentioned but that there are many leaves categorised as herbs such as scent leaves, curry leaves, celery and several others according to the region of the country.

“We find that these herbs become healthy in times like this and can help us overcome the health challenges affecting us right now,” she stated.

She said moderation should take centre stage when eating anything and that people should take their diets seriously by taking more fruits and vegetables rather than big bowls of starch as common in this part of the world.

‘Coronavirus pandemic is ‘biggest hit to mental health since World War 2’

The COVID-19 pandemic could be the biggest hit to mental health since the Second World War, a leading psychiatrist has warned.

Dr Adrian James, president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, said even when the virus is under control, there will still be ‘profound’ long-term consequences.

He told the Guardian: “It is probably the biggest hit to mental health since the Second World War. It doesn’t stop when the virus is under control and there are few people in hospital. You’ve got to fund the long-term consequences.”

The deaths of loved ones from coronavirus, along with mass

unemployment and the social effects of draconian lockdowns are well documented.

Mental Health Charity Mind, described the situation by Christmas as a ‘mental health emergency’, adding that ‘2020 has been a year of anxiety and uncertainty and more people need us than ever before’.

Mental Health Charity Mind described the situation by Christmas as a ‘mental health emergency’, adding that ‘2020 has been a year of anxiety and uncertainty and more people need us than ever before’.

Dr James’ comments are coming as Britain’s COVID crisis continues to

swell, with millions more people in England facing Tier Four restrictions to control rapidly growing outbreaks.

Doctors fear that the NHS could be overwhelmed within days as hospital admissions surge due to the highly infectious COVID strain raging across the country.

And Dr James’ comments also come after a startling report in October warned that up to 10 million people - including 1.5 million children - could need mental health support in the wake of the pandemic.

They will mostly need help for depression and anxiety, according to analysis from the Centre for Mental

Health, which consulted experts from the NHS.

But others - including NHS workers - may develop conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), more commonly associated with service personnel following armed conflicts.

Before England was plunged into its second lockdown in November, 42 top experts warned that the blanket intervention would trigger a spike in suicide and self-harm, as well as alcoholism and domestic abuse.

In an open letter to the government, the signatories argued that the longer the lockdown lasts, the worse this ‘collateral damage’ would be.

NIGERIA STOCK EXCHANGE MARKET CAP ▶ N21,515,154TR (2.18%) ↑ ALL SHARE INDEX ▶ 41,147.39POINTS (2.18%) ↑ MARKET TURNOVER ▶ 211,929,100BN SHARES

Monday, January 4, 2021

OIL AND GAS	BANKING	CONSUMER GOODS	INSURANCE	INDUSTRIAL
 226.41 0.09%	 407.47 3.68%	 581.45 1.41%	 197.82 4.39%	 2,147.93 4.66%

NSE GENERAL INDEX

COMPANY NAME	MARKET(NM)	PRICE	CHANGE	TRADES	VOLUME
BANKING					
ACCESS BANK PLC	312,797.99	8.80	4.14	212	9,599,824
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	302,664.88	8.85	2.31	133	6,018,723
ZENITH BANK PLC	806,889.89	25.70	3.63	325	8,773,419
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
FBN HOLDINGS PLC	281,778.05	7.85	9.79	134	8,609,530
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES					
MTN NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS PLC	3,458,231.77	169.90	-	111	86,319
BUILDING MATERIALS					
DANGOTE CEMENT PLC	4,173,220.26	244.90	-	113	321,850
LAFARGE AFRICA PLC	369,673.91	22.95	9.03	293	9,947,542
BERGER PAINTS PLC	2,130.20	7.35	-	0	0
BUA CEMENT PLC	2,878,470.10	85.00	9.89	109	948,009
CAP PLC	14,000.00	20.00	-	7	57,911
MEYER PLC	265.62	0.50	-	0	0
PORTLAND PAINTS & PRODUCTS NIGERIA PLC	1,951.80	2.46	-	2	30,000
PREMIER PAINTS PLC	1,156.20	9.40	-	0	0
EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION					
SEPLAT PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC	236,731.25	402.30	-	15	6,890
WASTE MANAGEMENT					
THE INITIATES PLC	462.79	0.52	-	0	0
AGRICULTURE					
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	1,584.00	0.72	9.09	45	5,902,490
OKOMU OIL PALM PLC	86,805.81	91.00	-	19	5,709
PRESCO PLC	70,950.00	70.95	-	10	7,706
ELLAH LAKES PLC	8,500.00	4.25	-	0	0
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	4,170.00	1.39	-	21	67,869
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES					
JOHN HOLT PLC	198.47	0.51	-	1	107
S C O A NIG. PLC	1,903.99	2.93	-	0	0
TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	40,241.51	0.99	10.00	97	12,776,643
U A C N PLC	21,465.66	7.45	2.76	53	1,404,845
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION					
ARBICO PLC	152.96	1.03	-	0	0
INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION					
JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC	28,195.20	17.80	-	19	98,215
ROADS NIG PLC	165.00	6.60	-	0	0
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT					
UACN PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC	14,662.38	0.79	-	6	63,776
AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS					
DN TYRE & RUBBER PLC	954.53	0.20	-	0	0
BEVERAGES - BREWERS/DISTILLERS					
CHAMPION BREW. PLC	6,733.37	0.86	-	7	138,157
GOLDEN GUINEA BREW. PLC	829.98	0.81	-	0	0
GUINNESS NIG PLC	41,617.27	19.00	-	61	334,700
INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC	175,677.93	6.54	9.92	45	389,366
NIGERIAN BREW. PLC	447,826.51	56.00	-	28	109,400
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	224,717.25	18.50	5.11	133	2,605,162
FLOUR MILLS NIG. PLC	110,505.23	26.95	3.65	73	1,708,540
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	10,467.86	1.32	10.00	15	462,577
MULTI-TREX INTEGRATED FOODS PLC	1,340.10	0.36	-	0	0
N NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	1,201.07	6.74	-	4	6,420
NASCON ALLIED INDUSTRIES PLC	38,416.86	14.50	-	19	120,816
UNION DICON SALT PLC	2,993.06	10.95	-	0	0
CAOBURY NIGERIA PLC	16,903.82	9.00	-	27	117,511
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	1,192,947.66	1,505.00	-	23	6,402
HOUSEHOLD DURABLES					
NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC	1,680.31	22.10	-	0	0
VITAFARM NIG PLC	10,694.72	8.55	9.62	5	301,705
P 2 CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	21,043.53	5.30	-	7	55,000
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	79,855.58	13.90	-	28	72,377
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL INCORPORATED	119,272.08	6.50	8.33	49	1,915,790
FIDELITY BANK PLC	80,260.19	2.77	9.92	61	2,039,082
GUARANTY TRUST BANK PLC	985,944.50	33.50	3.55	259	5,708,918
JAIZ BANK PLC	19,446.40	0.66	-	0	60,842
STERLING BANK PLC	60,459.88	2.10	2.94	11	568,550
UNION BANK NIG. PLC	155,796.03	5.35	-	48	144,586
UNITY BANK PLC	7,481.18	0.64	-	10	54,000
WEMA BANK PLC	28,930.85	0.75	8.70	6	268,342
INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES					
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	4,117.00	0.20	-	0	0
AICO INSURANCE PLC	24,807.92	1.20	6.19	25	87,515,523
AXAMANSARD INSURANCE PLC	41,400.00	1.15	9.52	25	1,051,500
CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSURANCE PLC	3,425.44	0.32	-	1	100,000
CORNERSTONE INSURANCE PLC	10,718.17	0.59	-	2	541
CORDINATION INSURANCE PLC	0,596.67	0.40	-	2	151,601
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	909.99	0.20	-	0	0
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	1,228.00	0.20	-	0	0
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSURANCE PLC	487.95	0.38	-	0	0
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	2,782.90	0.38	8.57	29	6,815,000
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	5,200.00	0.52	-	0	0
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSURANCE PLC	3,240.09	0.29	7.41	12	1,353,074
NEM INSURANCE PLC	17,958.99	1.79	-	0	0
NIGER INSURANCE PLC	1,547.90	0.20	-	0	0
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	6,228.70	0.47	2.17	6	269,780
REGENCY ASSURANCE PLC	1,467.13	0.22	-	2	700,000
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSURANCE PLC	2,500.18	0.22	10.00	4	257,047
STACO INSURANCE PLC	4,483.72	0.48	-	0	0
STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	2,582.21	0.20	-	0	0
SUNU ASSURANCES NIGERIA PLC	2,800.00	1.00	-	0	0
UNIC DIVERSIFIED HOLDINGS PLC	516.46	0.20	-	0	0
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE PLC	3,200.00	0.20	-	0	0
VERITAS KAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	2,773.33	0.20	-	1	50,000
MICRO-FINANCE BANKS					
NPF MICROFINANCE BANK PLC	3,887.28	1.70	-	27	2,551,639
ABBEY MORTGAGE BANK PLC	6,784.62	1.05	-	0	0
ASD SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	7,370.87	0.50	-	0	0
INFINITY TRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	5,671.82	1.36	-	0	0
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	2,265.95	0.20	-	0	0
UNION HOMES SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	2,949.22	3.02	-	0	0
AFRICA PRUDENTIAL PLC	12,800.00	6.40	2.40	17	187,105
CUSTODIAN INVESTMENT PLC	34,408.91	5.85	-	1	1,985
DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	375.00	0.25	-	3	3,000
FCMB GROUP PLC	61,982.48	3.13	-6.01	7	19,670,671
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	1,440.70	0.28	7.69	3	103,500
STANBIC IBTC HOLDINGS PLC	489,219.19	44.05	-	9	10,397
UNITED CAPITAL PLC	29,640.00	4.94	4.88	99	4,079,460
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS					
EKOCORP PLC	2,991.61	6.00	-	0	0
UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERVICES PLC	1,101.47	0.31	-	1	1,000
MEDICAL SUPPLIES					
MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC	484.69	0.49	-	0	0
PHARMACEUTICALS					
EVANS MEDICAL PLC	366.17	0.50	-	0	0
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	9,805.89	4.70	4.44	21	735,210
GLAXO SMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC	8,251.55	6.90	-	14	99,009
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	6,055.57	3.51	-	11	50,870
NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICALS PLC	4,235.12	2.23	-	11	116,213
NIGERIA-GERMAN CHEMICALS PLC	556.71	3.62	-	0	0
PHARMA-DEKO PLC	325.23	1.50	-	0	0
COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS					
COURTVILLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PLC	745.92	0.21	-	0	0
COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS					
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	588.36	0.20	-	0	0
IT SERVICES					
CWG PLC	6,413.06	2.54	-	0	0
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	211.68	1.96	-	1	500
TRIPPLE GEE AND COMPANY PLC	326.67	0.66	-	0	0
PROCESSING SYSTEMS					
CHAMS PLC	1,080.09	0.23	-4.35	11	1,075,937
E-TRANZACT INTERNATIONAL PLC	9,786.00	2.33	-	0	0
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES					
AIRTEL AFRICA PLC	3,201,193.45	851.80	-	43	994
ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS					
AUSTIN LAZ & COMPANY PLC	2,192.12	2.03	-	0	0

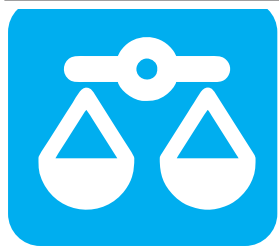
COMMODITIES PRICE	PRICE	CHANGE	TRADES	VOLUME
CRUDE OIL (BRENT)	\$50.87	-	-	-
NATURAL GAS	\$2.63	-	-	-
COPPER	\$7,764.50	-	-	-
GOLD	\$1,877.59	-	-	-
SILVER	\$25.77	-	-	-
SUGAR	\$0.15	-	-	-
COCOA	\$1,710.0	-	-	-
LIVE CATTLE	\$1.12	-	-	-
COTTON	\$0.76	-	-	-

GAINERS

BUACEMENT	7.65	9.89%
WAPCO	1.9	9.03%
GUARANTY	1.15	3.55%
FLOURMILL	0.95	3.65%

LOSERS

FCMB	-0.2	-6.01%
CAVERTON	-0.07	-3.41%
MOBIL	0	0.00%
OMATEK	0	0.00%



LAW

Legal Quotes >>

The course of justice often prevents it
- JEdward Counsel

Judiciary's handling of COVID-19 second wave

Stories by John Chuks Azu

The COVID-19 global pandemic, which eased a bit in the middle of 2020, relapsed to the second wave in the latter part of the year and there are predictions the casualty figures will surge in the first quarter of the year 2021.

In the judiciary, the ease of lockdowns and resumption of activities have also seen some relaxation of the earlier adopted measures during this second wave.

The pandemic hit Nigeria in March 2020 forcing economic lockdowns for almost three months. Since then, 90, 000 cases have been reported, 75, 044 have recovered while 1, 311 have died as of January 3. Lagos, FCT and Plateau States lead the infection figures in the country.

There have been 84, 382, 669 infections globally with a total of 1, 805, 417 deaths as of January 2. The three leading figures in the world are US -20, 636, 663 cases with 351, 580 deaths; UK- 2, 654,779 with 75, 024 deaths and Brazil 7, 733, 746 cases with 196, 018 deaths.

Despite reported cases of some more rapidly transmissible variants across the globe under the second wave, it has been observed that public places, including the courts in Nigeria, have reduced compliance with the health protocols, which were earlier enforced under the first wave. Although courts have wash handstands, many court users do not feel compelled to use them. Also, there is a reduction in the use of hand sanitisers, face masks, temperature checks and social distancing.

This current apathy, which experts have blamed on protocol fatigue, contrasts with the earlier measures put in place in courts nationwide between March and June to support the government's stringent efforts to flatten the curve of infections. Among the measures by some heads of courts nationwide was the formulation of the COVID-19 Practice Direction.

Further, the National Judicial Council (NJC) in their meeting of May 7 directed the use of face masks, social distancing measures and temperature tests at court premises.

The council also expressed its determination to implement the use of Information and Communications



Technology (ICT) in court proceedings not only to address the need to create less physical attendance in courts during the COVID-19 period but also to expedite dispensation of justice in the country going forward.

The Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Tanko Muhammad said the council approved virtual sittings for all heads of courts using collaborative platforms such as MS365, Zoom, Google Meetings and other tools with electronic recording functionalities.

In the guideline titled: 'National Judicial Council COVID-19 Policy Report: Guidelines for Court Sittings and Related Matters In the COVID-19 Period', the NJC also said social media channels shall be used to live stream court proceedings to the public while

the court shall publish on a weekly basis the matters that would be heard remotely for that week.

"Physical sittings by courts in courtrooms should be avoided as much as possible during this COVID-19 period. Such physical court sittings must be limited only to time-bound, extremely urgent and essential matters that may not be heard by the court remotely or virtually," he said.

Some judicial officers were said to have died from COVID-19 related complications in 2020. Also, the CJN Tanko Muhammad in December denied rumours that he was flown to the UAE on a COVID-related ailment. In July, the Chief Judge of the Federal High Court, John Tsoho and members

of his immediate family and close aides, were forced to self-isolate following a confirmed case of COVID-19 among his official aides.

From the experience, Justice Tsoho in an end of the year message to the staff of the court on December 15, 2020, cautioned that the pandemic is still around, while assuring that the court is not overwhelmed by the challenge.

"I feel compelled to state that as far as the pandemic is concerned, we are not out of the woods yet. It is for that reason that I urge caution. Let us continue to maintain permissible social distancing and necessary measures for the prevention of the spread of COVID-19," he said.

Also speaking with Daily Trust, the Director of Information of the Supreme Court, Dr Festus Akande said the measures already put in place by the apex court remain in place.

"We can't relax the measures now; we have to still maintain them. Even if they tell us that COVID-19 is over, we still have to maintain them for some time. So, all measures that remain in place have to be measured," he said.

Reacting, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria, Dayo Akinlaja called for rigorous enforcement of the COVID-19 pandemic as a way of preventing the spread.

"That is the clarion dictate of the time and season we are in. The pandemic is very much around and sufficiently lethal. It is sheer foolishness if not suicide for anyone to ignore the protocols. More and more people are being lost to the pandemic and it is only wise for everyone to be more vigilant and careful," he said.

Sunusi Musa Esq commended the Supreme Court for maintaining the protocol put in place during the first wave of the pandemic, adding that virtual hearings will be better.

Former Secretary of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Abuja branch, Noah Ajare said of all the courts he had been to in Abuja, only the Federal High Court, Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court still maintain reasonable compliance with the protocols.

"In most courts, there are no wash handstands, sanitisers, temperature checks and social distancing. The courts are not complying but COVID is real," he said.

Let us continue to maintain permissible social distancing and necessary measures for the prevention of the spread of COVID-19.

NIALS seeks implementation of correctional reforms, social media regulation

Members of the Presidential Committee on Correctional Reforms have called for a strategic and holistic approach to the implementation of the Reforms of Correctional Centres in Nigeria.

Their position was made during programme organised by the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) in November 2020, which were part of the last

quarter activities between October and December 2020, presented in the institute's news digest.

Speaking, the Director General of NIALS, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, who was also a member of the committee called on the federal government to implement the Correctional Service Reform Bill in 2019, which is one of the success

stories of the committee after 10 years of struggle.

Ladan also called for the implementation of the National Justice Policy adopted in 2019 by the Federal Executive Council, which has one thematic area on Prison Reform and Decongestion and have been implemented in three states.

The NIALS, in another programme, called for the

regulation of social media due to the dangers associated with fake news and hate speeches in the country.

Stakeholders, however, said the regulation must strike a balance between the fundamental rights of citizens as guaranteed in the 1999 Constitution and other regional and international instruments.

Speaking at the forum,

Prof Ladan drew attention to existing laws, which can be used to address the challenge, without legislating on a new Bill.

On her part, the General Manager, Nigerian Television Authority, News 24, Asabe Abubakar opined that "Everyone has a responsibility to combat the scourge of fake news by verifying information."



Our Quintessential MOTHER

JOURNEYS HOME

The Royal family of Late Chief Edward Ohaa Nwannaji Nwagu of Amangwu Autonomous Community, Obuoffia Awkunanaw, Nkanu West L.G.A. Enugu State announces with regret, but in total submission to the will of God, the triumphant exit of our Matriarch

Ezinne **JANET
NWACHI
OHAA** (JP)

30th Jan. 1932 - 26th Nov. 2020

(AGED: 88 YEARS)

BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS:

WEDNESDAY 6TH JANUARY, 2021

5PM: Wake, Service of Songs/Night of tributes at her family compound, Amangwu Obuoffia Awkunanaw.

FRIDAY 8TH JANUARY, 2021

8AM: Body leaves Eastern Nigeria Medical Centre Mortuary in a motor-cade for her family compound, Amangwu Obuoffia Awkunanaw.

9AM: Lying in state

11AM: Burial Service at her family compound, followed immediately by interment.
Entertainment of guests and other funeral activities commences after interment.

SATURDAY 9TH JANUARY, 2021

Funeral Ceremonies continue

SUNDAY 10TH JANUARY, 2021

Outing/Thanksgiving Service at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Obuoffia Awkunanaw

CHILDREN:

1. Prince Edwin Ohaa – Son (Abuja)
 2. Prince (Sir) Chinyeaka Ohaa – Son (Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Power, Abuja)
 3. Prince Chibuike Ohaa – Son (Enugu)
 4. Prince Eric Ohaa – Son (Abuja)
 5. Late Prince (Hon) Williams Ohaa – Son
 6. Prince, Engr. Sunday Sebastian Ohaa – Son (London)
 7. Princess Ngozi Loveth Ezeani – Daughter (London)
 8. HRH Igwe Moses Ohaa – Stepson
 9. Princess (Mrs.) Janet Nweji Nwobodo Arum – Step daughter
- And numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren*

NOTE: ALL COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS TO BE STRICTLY OBSERVED

Signed: H.R.H IGWE MOSES OHAA
Amangwu II of Amangwu Obuoffia (For the Family)



CITY NEWS

Contacts
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citynews@dailytrust.com

Plateau Speaker urges Muslims, Christians to live in peace

From Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos

Speaker of the Plateau State House of Assembly, Abok Ayuba, yesterday, called on Muslims to ensure peaceful coexistence in the state.

The Speaker made the call at the N25m education fund raising, by the State chapter of Jama'at Izalatil Bid'ah Wa'lkamatis Sunnah (JIBWIS), held at

Yantaya Friday Mosque in Jos.

He said the need for continuous unity and understanding amongst Muslims and Christians is significant to the development of the state.

Represented by his Special Adviser, Alhaji Sanusi Nyam, the speaker said through religious organisations, people could understand the importance of peace and unity in society, adding that religious bodies should

continue to educate their followers on togetherness, tolerance and oneness.

"Education is an important thing to every human development, it is with education that people get to understand themselves," Ayuba said.

He further called on both Muslims and Christians to be brothers' keepers and avoid anything capable of destroying the peace currently being enjoyed in the state.

Kogi LG boss tasks newly recruited constabulary on dedication

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The Chairman of Kogi Local Government Council of Kogi State, Alhaji Isah Abdulkarim Sani, has urged the newly recruited police constabulary of the community policing to be dedicated in the discharge of their duties.

Sani made the call when he hosted a contingent of the newly recruited police constabulary officers who are indigenes of the area in his office yesterday, after they returned from their four weeks training in Ilorin, Kwara State.

The chairman congratulated them on the successful completion of their

training, and urged them to uphold truth and justice without fear or favour while discharging their duties.

"And more importantly, you all must be law abiding as you take up the challenge of protecting the lives and properties of the people of Kogi local government, which is your primary function," he said.



■ Federal Secretariat complex after the new year holiday in Abuja yesterday.

Photo: NAN.

COVID-19: FCTA seals 4 parks, prosecutes 12 over protocols' violations

By Terkula Igidi

The Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) COVID-19 Taskforce has sealed up four parks and gardens while 12 people were arraigned in court over safety protocols violations.

Speaking to newsmen after the enforcement exercise, the Head, Media and Enlightenment, FCT COVID-19 Taskforce, Comrade Ikharo Attah, explained that the order to seal up the four gardens for a period of two weeks was issued by an FCT mobile court.

The parks and gardens are Byuan Resources Ltd Resort, Skychef Park and Garden, 7th Option Park and Leisure Service all in Garki II, and Eden Park and Garden, Utako.

He said the parks and gardens had contravened the Presidential Task Force (PTF) on COVID-19 regulations, regarding operation of bars, night clubs, gardens and the like.

Ikharo also revealed that about 12 people earlier arrested at the four gardens very late in the night, would be prosecuted in court over COVID-19 offences.

"We went out just before Christmas celebration and met some parks violating COVID-19 regulations and we did our operation.

"Because we are enforcement officers and not the judge, we arrested and took them to the judge through our prosecutor and the judge found them guilty. The judge gave those arrested the option of fine, and gave

seal up order for the four parks and gardens affected.

"What we observe is that most of them operate beyond the period. The persons who were in the shops didn't comply with physical distancing. Face masks weren't there at all and no hand washing points.

"They were totally in breach of the COVID-19 protocols and the judge in his wisdom, Magistrate Egbe Arafe, issued seal up order for two weeks.

"After the two weeks, we will now come back to the court and continue the trial."

Ikharo, advised other gardens and parks to do the needful, saying the taskforce would focus on night clubs and ensure strict compliance to the safety protocols.

QUICK READ

FG inaugurates rural women's grant project in Jigawa

The Federal Government has inaugurated the Rural Women Grants Project in Jigawa to cater for 4,350 beneficiaries across the state.

Hajiya Sadiya Farouk, Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development gave the figure at the inauguration in Dutse on Monday.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the project was introduced by President Muhammadu Buhari administration toward achieving its social inclusion agenda of lifting 100 million Nigerians out of poverty within 10 years.

The minister, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary in the ministry, Nura Alkali, announced that the government spent several billions of naira on poverty reduction project.

Edo regulates motorcycle, tricycle operations

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

Edo State government has rolled out modalities for the issuance of rider's permits to private and commercial operators to regulate tricycle and motorcycle operations across the state.

The governor, in a statement signed by the Secretary to the State Government, Osarodion Ogie, said the initiative was part of the state government's efforts to improve security, as there have been reported cases of the use of tricycles and motorcycles in criminal activities including armed robbery and kidnapping in the state.

"The state government is sensitive to the plight of genuine operators in the event of a total ban and has therefore taken this measure to properly organise and regulate all those in the genuine business of transportation both private and commercial," he added.

Kwali chair urges Bassa natives to uphold culture

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The Chairman of Kwali Area Council, Danladi Chiya, has called on Bassa natives in the council to continue to uphold their culture and traditions.

Chiya made the call at the celebration of Bassa Ogunu cultural festival at Ubosharu-Awawa community on Sunday.

Represented by his special adviser on Education, Adamu Yakubu, the chairman appealed to the ethnic group to see culture as a way of life because ethnic groups in the world are easily identified by the way they practice their culture and traditions.

The chairman commended the organisers of the event, saying the cultural festival would foster peace and unity among ethnic groups in the area.

CRIME

Contacts
08054263517

Police arrest 2 kidnappers, rescue 6 victims in Osun

From Hameed Oyegebade, Osogbo

The Nigeria Police Force, Osun State Command, has arrested two suspected kidnappers and rescued six persons from them.

It was learnt that the six persons were kidnapped while travelling along Ila road and

taken to a forest.

Our correspondent gathered that the kidnappers were negotiating for a ransom with the victims' relatives when the police rescued them.

Sources said the Deputy Commissioner of Police in the state, who is in charge of the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department,

DCP Raji Hamzat, led the rescue operation.

It was also gathered that some local hunters who are members of the Hunters Group of Nigeria (HGN) teamed up with the policemen for the operation.

The Commissioner of Police in the state, Mr Olawale Olojede, confirmed this to

Daily Trust in Osogbo, the state capital.

Meanwhile, the CP said another victim was equally rescued from the kidnappers at Ilesa axis but the kidnappers had escaped.

He said policemen are on the trail of the fleeing kidnappers and assured that they would be arrested and brought to book.



■ Musa Hamza

Man beheads, removes eyes of teenager in Bauchi

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

Bauchi State Police Command has arrested Musa Hamza, 22, who beheaded Adamu Ibrahim and removed his two eyes at Unguwar Wake Village, Alkaleri Local Government Area of Bauchi State.

The Command's Public Relations Officer, DSP Ahmed Mohammed Wakil, who disclosed the suspect's arrest to Daily Trust said the incident happened on the 21/12/2020.

He said "Detectives of Alkaleri Divisional Police Headquarters arrested one Hamza, the suspect, after killing of the victim, burning his body and head, and burying them separately in a shallow grave located in the nearby bush."

Wakil explained that during an investigation, all the body parts buried were exhumed and taken to General Hospital, Alkaleri, for autopsy.

"Upon interrogation, the two eyes were recovered from the principal suspect, who voluntarily confessed to have committed the crime, adding that he was asked by a ritualist to bring the eyes for ritual to enable him to be rich," he explained.

The PPRO added that exhibits recovered from the suspect include a Knife, one mp3 player, one pair of rubber shoes, and one lighter.

He said investigation was on-going after which the suspect will be charged to court for prosecution.

My wife often threatens stabbing me to death - Husband

From Jeremiah Oke, Ibadan

A factory worker, Kazeem Adebisi, has told a Customary Court sitting at Ile-Tuntun in Ibadan to dissolve his 3-year-old union because his estranged wife, Rukayat, often threatens to stab him to death at any slightest provocation.

Delivering the judgment, the President of the court, Chief Henry Agbaje, held that the court dissolved the union so as to allow peace to reign between Adebisi and Rukayat.

Agbaje also granted the custody of the two children to Rukayat and ordered Adebisi to pay N8,000 monthly as the children's feeding allowance, in addition to being responsible for their education and other kinds of welfare.

Earlier, Kazeem said that he had left his matrimonial home because his wife had made it inhabitable for him through constant nagging and threat to life.

He said, anytime there was a misunderstanding between him and Rukayat, she ensured that she tore up his dress into a rag.

"There is nothing I have not done to make Rukayat conduct herself in a civil and responsible way, but she has remained a devil to me.

"For the past four months, I have sought refuge in a location unknown to her, because she has vowed to stab me to death anywhere she finds me.

"She even attempted to kill me before I managed to escape, and when I reported the incident to her mother, she told me to approach the court if I was not comfortable.

"I have done everything I can to satisfy Rukayat, including giving cash of N100,000 to start a business, which she squandered it.

"When I refused to give her more money, she began to threaten my life," Kazeem said.

However, Rukayat objected to the suit, but could not deny most of the allegations levelled against her.

She, instead, contended that her children were still small and might suffer if their father part ways with her.

"Adebisi is not a responsible husband; he doesn't even fend for the children and me," she said.

Police confirm Edo cell-break, re-arrest 2, trail 8 others

The Police Command in Edo, on Monday, confirmed a cell-break incident at the Command Headquarters in Benin and dispelled the rumour on the number of escapees.

The confirmation was contained in a statement signed by SP Chidi Nwabuzor, the Police Public Relations Officer of the command.

According to the statement,

the incident occurred at about 02:45 hours of Friday, Jan. 1.

Nwabuzor said the command decided to set the record straight, contrary to publications that had gone viral on social media and other platforms alleging that hundreds of armed robbery and kidnap suspects had escaped.

"Only 10 suspects escaped

after the cell-break but two of the escapees have already been re-arrested while we have intensified the hunt for the remaining eight."

It said that the publication on social media and other platforms alleging that hundreds of suspected armed robbers and kidnappers escaped from the State Criminal Investigation Department (SCID) facility

was false.

"Edo Police Command wishes to inform the general public that 10 suspects escaped on Jan. 1, 2021, at about 02:45hrs (2.45 a.m).

"Out of this figure, two have been re-arrested and brought back to custody.

"The figure is not as being maliciously and falsely speculated on social media." (NAN)

Ogun Police arrest three brothers for killing guard

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

Operatives of Ogun Police Command have arrested three brothers for killing an officer of the state-owned security outfit, So-Safe Corps, Segun Godfrey Barde, on the Christmas eve.

The three brothers namely Okiki Mulero 23, Micheal

Mulero 21, and Joseph Mulero 17, allegedly hit the victim with a plank, and which led to his death.

The victim was reportedly on duty alongside his colleagues at OGD Estate Asero, Abeokuta, when the incident happened.

The Police Spokesman, Abimbola Oyeyemi, said the

trouble started on Monday, when one of the suspects, Okiki Mulero, who is a commercial cyclist, was denied entrance into the estate for carrying more than one passenger contrary to the rule of the estate.

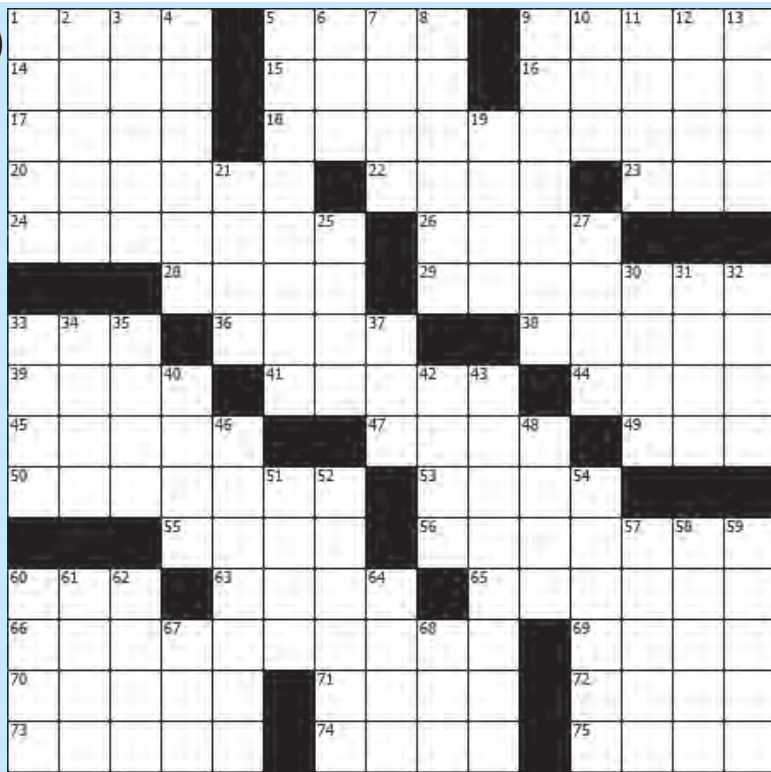
"This infuriated him and he called his two brothers, Micheal and Joseph Mulero,

who came to the scene and they jointly attacked the two security guards with planks. In the process, one of the security men by the name Segun Godfrey Barde was hit with a plank and he slumped.

"He was subsequently taken to O&A Hospital where he died on Friday, 25th December, 2020, while receiving treatment," he said.

(172)

EASY CROSSWORD >>

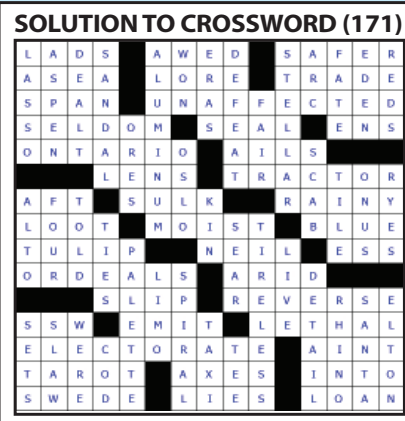


Across

- 1. Boys
- 5. Dazzled
- 9. Less hazardous
- 14. Between continents
- 15. Folk knowledge
- 16. Commerce
- 17. Stretch across
- 18. Not influenced
- 20. Not often
- 22. Embossed emblem
- 23. Navy officer (abbr.)
- 24. Toronto's province
- 26. Is sick
- 28. Camera glass
- 29. Farm vehicle
- 33. Rearward
- 36. Pout
- 38. Drizzly
- 39. Plunder
- 41. Slightly wet
- 44. Sad
- 45. Spring flower
- 47. Playwright ____ Simon
- 49. Highway curve
- 50. Difficult experiences
- 53. Dry
- 55. Lose one's footing
- 56. Car gear
- 60. Compass pt.
- 63. Send forth
- 65. " ____ Weapon"

Down

- 1. Rodeo rope
- 2. Poplar type
- 3. Handed out cards
- 4. Open shoe
- 5. Soda can material
- 6. Came in first
- 7. Historic periods
- 8. Vanquish
- 9. Outstanding
- 10. Circle part
- 11. Destiny
- 12. Paradise
- 13. Cincinnati baseballers
- 19. Unbiased
- 21. Mine finds
- 25. Scandinavian capital
- 27. Strike-breaker
- 30. Floor piece
- 31. Responsibility
- 32. Deli breads
- 33. Female singer
- 34. Quartet count
- 35. Narrated
- 37. Relatives
- 40. Formal accessories
- 42. Burn
- 43. Having endless energy
- 46. Artist's board
- 48. Reside
- 51. Chauffeured car
- 52. Type of staircase
- 54. Minor item
- 57. Horned animal, for short
- 58. Christmas visitor
- 59. Rock star ____ John
- 60. Gels
- 61. Shredded cabbage
- 62. "The Way We ____"
- 64. Car for hire
- 67. Food fish
- 68. Ess follower



SUDOKU >>

How to play: The number 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3 x 3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid. There is only one correct Solution to each sudoku.

Good luck!

172

Solution to Sudoku 171

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

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

SNAPSHOT >>

Mum accused of 'child abuse' after sharing snap of her baby's fingernails



When it comes to parenting, everyone has their opinions on how you should take care of your children - from what you should feed them, to what they can play with, you can be criticised for almost every choice you make these days. An Australian parent, known only as April, has recently been slammed after sharing a picture of her baby's fingernails on social media, with some so appalled by the image they accused the woman of "child abuse". The photo has made its way onto Reddit's r/Trashy forum and it shows a "baby manicure" with the little one's nails transformed into long, pointy talons. Parents were outraged by it, with over 300 people commenting to share their thoughts. A concerned user asked: "Would this count as child abuse or endangerment if the child hurt itself with these nails? "It's technically giving a child several sharp objects." "That baby could poke its eyes out, terrible parent," wrote a second. "Baby nails are sharp enough as it is, those things would tear your face right up"; "The stupidity of some people... words fail me," proclaimed others. A few others on Reddit thought the photo might have been edited or that the nails were fake ones that had been stuck on, as baby's nails are too thin to shape like that. "The more I think about this the worse it gets. Sooo disgusting," said another after reading through the possible theories. By Courtney Pochin

- mirror.co.uk

SIGN LANGUAGE >>

Funny signs that prove COVID will never take our sense of humor



- twistedifter.com

DAILY TRUST Classifieds made easy

MAMMAN: I formerly known as HAUWA MOHAMMED WAKIL, now wish to be known and addressed as ZAINAB MUSA MAMMAN. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note

I, ARUM DANIEL ATANG, My name was wrongly captured on my Voter's card as DANIEL AFAN ARUM instead of ARUM DANIEL ATANG. Henceforth I wish to be known as ARUM DANIEL ATANG. All former documents remain valid. Access Bank Plc and general public should please take note.

FATIMA, I formerly known as FURERA MUHAMMAD BABA now wish to be called and addressed as FATIMA MUHAMMAD JAMBO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as UMAR MUSA now wish to be called and addressed as HUSSAINI MUSA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

EZE, I formerly known as UKWUEZE. JOY. ADAORA. now wish to be called and addressed as EZE JOY. ADAORA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AMINA: I formerly known as AMINATU YUSUF DIKKO now wish to be called and addressed as AMINA YUSUF DIKKO all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

IKWU: I formerly known as GRACE IFEYINWA OKPALA, now wish to be known and addressed as GRACE IFEYINWA IKWU. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

SAFIYA, I formerly known as KARE WARD WOMEN SCH FEEDING now wish to be called and addressed as SAFIYA SANI UBANDI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

HANZA, I formerly known as HAMZA TSOHO MUNTARI DATE OF BIRTH 12/01/1968 now wish to be called and addressed as HAMZA DANTSOHO DATE OF BIRTH 16/06/1963. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as YAKUBU IBRAHIM now wish to be called and addressed as YAKUBU IBRAHIM FANINI. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

NAZIFI, I formerly known as NAZIFI SAAD now wish to be called and addressed as NAZIFI USMAN SA'AD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

SHAMSUDDEN: I formerly known as SHAMSUDDEN YAHAYA USMAN, now wish to be known and called SHAMSUDDEN YAHYA. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

SULAIMAN: I, formerly known and addressed as SULEMAN UMAR, now wish to be called and addressed as SULAIMAN UMAR GOSUN, and my correct DOB is 22/02/1988. All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities, ACCESS BANK and the general public should please take note

MOHAMMED, I formerly known as HALLIRU ISMAILA now wish to be called and addressed as MOHAMMED HALLIRU ISMA'IL. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ABUBAKAR, I formerly known as ABUBAKAR MUSA DOB=1/1/1975 now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR MUHAMMAD DOB = 1/1/1991. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as RAHILA YAHAYA now wish to be known as MAGAJIYA YAHAYA all former documents remain valid authorities concern and general public to note

ISMAIL, I formerly known as MUHAMED. ISA. 1/2/1972 now wish to be called and addressed as ISMAIL. MOHAMMED. ISA 11/6/1972. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AMINA: I, formerly known as MAGAJIYA ABBAS, now wish to be known and addressed as AMINA ABBAS. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

Name Reconciliation This is to inform the general public that my name was wrongly captured during my NIMC Registration as MUHAMMAD ABDURAHMAN, and that my correct name is ABDURAHMAN MOHAMMED ALI ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid constituted authorities and NIMC should please take note.

ABDULKADIR, I formerly known as AMINU MAGAJI now wish to be called and addressed as ABDULKADIR USMAN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MOSES, I formerly known as OLASANMI TOYIN BOSEDE now wish to be called and addressed as MOSES TOYIN BOSEDE. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as ABUBAKAR MUSTAFA 12/04/1990 now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR SULAIMAN MUSTAPHA 25/03/1995. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

JAMILAT: I, formerly known as JAMILA ISAH JUMARE, now wish to be known and addressed as JAMILAT ISHAQ JUMARE. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

EGBEYEMI: I, formerly known and addressed as ADEBANJO BUSOLA SUNKANMI. Now wish to be known and addressed as EGBEYEMI BUSOLA SUNKANMI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ABRAHAM: I formerly known as UMARU ABRAHAM, now to be known as HARUNA ABRAHAM. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

MUHAMMED, I formerly known as DANGOTE ADAMU now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMED ADAMU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MUSA, I formerly known as MUSA UMAR SANKARA now wish to be called and addressed as MUSA UMAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as HALIFA MUKTAR BABA now wish to be called and addressed as AHMAD MUKTAR BABA DOB 16/11/1996. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

ABUBAKAR: I formerly known as AMINU HASHIM now wish to be called as ABUBAKAR HASHIM all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

ADEKOYA: I, formerly known and addressed as AWONUGBA ADEDOYINSOLA ABISOYE. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEKOYA ADEDOYINSOLA ABISOYE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

THERESA: I formerly known as JULIUS THERESA PAM, now wish to be known as THERESA SHA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should take note.

CHANGE OF NAME, I formerly known as ADAMU MUSA ALHAJI now wish to be called and addressed as NASIRU ADAMU mistakenly USED 10/04/1999 AS DOB & THE CORRECT DOB IS 10/04/1999. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ADAMU, I formerly known as ADAMU MUHAMMAD now wish to be called and addressed as ADAMU ISYAKU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as MUSTAPHA BELLO now wish to be called and addressed as MUSTAPHA BELLO KIBIYA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

NAYARA: I, formerly known as ISYAKU YUSUF, New D.O.B: 27-01-1990, now wish to be known and called NAYARA ISYAKU YUSUF. All former documents remain valid. Access Bank Plc, general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

AJAYI: I, formerly known and addressed as AJAYI DOLAPO ADETOBA. Now wish to be known and addressed as AJAYI DOLAPO EMMANUEL. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

FOLUKE: I formerly known as MISS. ADEDAYO FOLUKE, now wish to be known as MRS. FOLUKE OLUWANIYI. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

Change of name, I formerly known as YAGANA UMAR MUHAMMAD now wish to be called and addressed as YAGANA UMAR KARETO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

TIJJANI, I formerly known as YASULUM YANI now wish to be called and addressed as TIJJANI AMINA SHETTIMA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as Hassan Aminanow wish to be called and addressed as Ibrahim Amina Hassan. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

USMAN: I, formerly known as MUHAMMAD USMAN IDRIS, now wish to be known and called USMAN NAZIFI. All former documents remain valid. Zenith Bank Plc, general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

AKANNI: I, formerly known and addressed as SOLAGBADE OLUBUKOLA ADEBOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as AKANNI OLUBUKOLA ADEOLA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

NANDIR: I formerly known as NANFA NANDIR LUCY, now wish to be known as NANFA, NANDIR NIMFEL. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

MUBARAK, I formerly known as MUBARAK SANI now wish to be called and addressed as MUBARAK SANI ABDULKADIR date of birth 19/10/1991 old date 19/10/1988. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

FARIDA, I formerly known as FARIDA SALE now wish to be called and addressed as FARIDA ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

IBRAHIM, I formerly known as IBRAHIM UMAR now wish to be called and addressed as IBRAHIM UMAR HUUU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

SAIFULLAH: I, formerly known as ALIYU USMAN, now wish to be known and called SAIFULLAH USMAN. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

DIMEJI-KEHINDE: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss BABALOLA ELIZABETH OLUWATOSIN. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. DIMEJI-KEHINDE ELIZABETH OLUWATOSIN. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

GRACE: I formerly known as AUTINE ORAKAMMA GRACE and ORAKANMA, CHINLEO G captured on my current Voter's card wish to be known as ORAKAMMA, CHINLEO GRACE. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

ABDULMUMINI, I formerly known as UMAR SHUAIBU now wish to be called and addressed as ABDULMUMINI SHUAIBU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MUKTAR, I formerly known as MUTARI ZAKAR now wish to be called and addressed as MUKTAR MOHD ZAKAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ABUH, I formerly known as ABUBAKAR OCHAI now wish to be called and addressed as ABUH OCHAI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ALHASSAN: I, formerly known as ALHASSAN USUMAN SHEHU, now wish to be known and called ALHASSAN SHEHU. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

OLUGA: I, formerly known and addressed as FOWOSIRE OLUGBEMISOLA OWOBUSAYO. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. OLUGA OLUGBEMISOLA OWOBUSAYO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

CYNTHIA: I formerly known as CYNTHIA OGOCHUKWU JOHN, now wish to be known as CYNTHIA OGOCHUKWU IFEJKA. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

IBRAHIM, I formerly known as IBRAHIM ALI now wish to be called and addressed as IBRAHIM ALIYU IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

SALIHU, I formerly known as SANI ISA now wish to be called and addressed as SALIHU TUKUR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

TASIU, I formerly known as TASIU UMAR now wish to be called and addressed as TASIU MUKADDAS. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AMINU: I, formerly known as ZUBAIRU GADDAFI, now wish to be known and called AMINU SHAMSU. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

DAVID: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss OYESANYA YEWANDE SARAH. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. DAVID YEWANDE SARAH. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OJOCHONA: I formerly known as OJOCHONA OGUICHE, now wish to be known as MRS. OJOCHONA GODSPOWER. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

KABIRU, I formerly known as KABIRU MAGAJI MUSA now wish to be called and addressed as KABIRU SHU'AIBU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

HAUWA, I formerly known as HAUWA MUHAMMAD H. now wish to be called and addressed as HAUWA TUKUR HASSAN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as NURA YARO ISYAKU & NURA YARO DAMBATTA Now wish to be called and addresses as NURA .A. YARO All former document remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

MUHAMMAD: I, formerly known as TUKUR MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD, OLD D.O.B: 01-12-1990, now wish to be known and called MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD, New D.O.B: 06-12-1993. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

KEHINDE: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ADEYEMO OPEYEMI ADELAYO. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. KEHINDE OPEYEMI ADELAYO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

LABI: I formerly known as NYAM LABI, now wish to be known as NYAM DENNIS LABI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should take note.

UMAR, I formerly known as HASSAN YAHAYA now wish to be called and addressed as UMAR YAHAYA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as B. ABDULLAHI ABUBAKAR now wish to be called and addressed as ABDULLAHI ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

NABILA, I formerly known as MASUDA ZUBAIRU GALADIMA now wish to be called and addressed as NABILA BELLO YUSUF. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AMINA: I formerly known as FATIMA YUSUFU now wish to be called as AMINA USMAN all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

BLESSING: I, formerly known and addressed as ADEENJI KEHINDE CHRISTINE. Now wish to be known and addressed as BLESSING KEHINDE CHRISTINE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

PRASE: I formerly known as OGBU THADEUS OKWUDILI, now wish to be known as OGBU PRAISE OKWUCHUKWU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should take note.

That I was formally being called and address as BABAGIDA AYUBA of the same address, but now I wish to be called and address as BABAGIDA AYUBA of the same address. All former document should valid, the authority should concerned.

I formerly known as MUHAMMAD ALIYU now wish to be called and addressed as ALIYU MUHAMMAD LAWAN. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

FAVOUR, I formerly known as FAVOUR UGWU now wish to be called and addressed as FAVOUR UGWU CHEKWUBE. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ALASAN: I, formerly known as RABIU RABIU, now wish to be known and called ALASAN RABIU. All former documents remain valid. The general public to please take note.

ERIKOWA: I, formerly known and addressed as ADEROLU ADESOLA FELICIA. Now wish to be known and addressed as ERIKOWA ADESOLA IDAYAT. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

GONI: I formerly known as SHETTIMA GONI LADAN KINGIBE, now wish to be known and addressed as SHETTIMA ALHAJI GONI. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

HARDO, I formerly known as ARDU. WATIGANA now wish to be called and addressed as HARDO FAJIGANA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as RUKAYYA AUWAL now wish to be called and addressed as RUKAYYA AUWAL YAKASAI. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

ABUBAKAR, I formerly known as ABUBAKAR G IBRAHIM now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR GAMBO IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AHMAD: I formerly known as MUHAMMAD SANI now wish to be called as AHMAD MUHAMMAD SANI all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

DURODOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as OLUDIPE OLUWADARA. Now wish to be known and addressed as DURODOLA OLUWADARASIMI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ABIGAIL: I formerly known as ABIGAIL MINER MANNA, now wish to be known as MINER, ABIGAIL. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

ISYAKA, I formerly known as MADU ISYAKU now wish to be called and addressed as ISYAKA MADUNA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as JAMILA MUSA BALA now wish to be called and addressed as JAMILA MUHAMMAD BALA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

ABUBAKAR, I formerly known as ABBAKAR NUHU now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR GARO NUHU. All former documents remain valid. ACCESS BANK and members of the general public should please take note.

SULE: I Formerly known as SABO GRACE Now wish to be called and addressed as SULE GRACE NYAM D.O.B is 18/06/1985 All Former documents remain valid ACCESS BANK PLC Authority concern and the General public to please take note.

IDOWU: I, formerly known and addressed as AMOS MUSA IDOWU. Now wish to be known and addressed as IDOWU AMOS OWOYEMI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

DANLADI: I formerly known as NEENDEN DANLADI DAWEL, now wish to be known as NAWEN DANLADI DAWEL. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

JAMILA, I formerly known as JAMILA MOHAMMED now wish to be called and addressed as JAMILA HASSAN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as KABIRU AMINUBALESA now wish to be called and addressed as KABIRU AMINU BALESA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

AUWAL, I formerly known as AUWALU ASIRU, AUWAL ASHIRU now wish to be called and addressed as AUWAL ASHIRU ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

JESSE: I formerly known as JESSE NUHU SOLOMON now wish to be called and addressed as JESSE NAKU SOLOMON all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

ROBINSON: I, formerly known and addressed as ROBINSON AKUJUOBI NKEAKOLAM CHURUNWEREM NWAOBLO, (ROBINSON A.N.C. NWAOBLO). Now wish to be known and addressed as ROBINSON AKUJUOBI NWAOBLO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as OLIVER LA'AH, now wish to be known and addressed as HALIMA ISAH. All former documents remain valid. Stanbic Bank and general public should take note.

BABAYO, I formerly known as BABAYO ABUBAKAR now wish to be called and addressed as BABAYO BUBA ALH. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as SAEED ALPHA YOLAH now wish to be called and addressed as SAEED YOLAH. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

ABUBAKAR, I formerly known as ABUBAKAR AUWAL and my mistaken date of birth is 4th October 1997 now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR AUWAL BAFBA and my correct date of birth is 5TH September 2001. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AHMAD: I formerly known as AHMED MUSA now wish to be called and addressed as AHMAD MUSA all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

SANNI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss BOLARINWA BUSAYO GRACE. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. SANNI BUSAYO GRACE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

NENCHIN: I formerly known as MISS. DIMLONG ANTHONY NENCHIN, now wish to be known as MRS. DASHE NENCHIN. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

CHUKWUOKOERIE, I formerly known as CHUKWU CHUJOKE now wish to be called and addressed as CHUKWUOKOERIE CHUJOKE LOVECHUKWU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as Sunusi Yusuf now wish to be called and addressed as Sunusi Usman. 27/12/1992. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

HALIMA, I formerly known as AMINA AMADU now wish to be called and addressed as HALIMA ABDULLAHI MUHAMMED. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

KABIR: I formerly known as USMAN BILKISU now wish to be called and addressed as KABIR BILKISU USMAN all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH That my name was wrongly written as EMMANUEL WADANU instead of ANTHONY QUEEN SHEBA and my date of birth was also wrongly written as 2nd day of February, 1998 instead of 2nd day of February, 1993. That I make this affidavit for correction of my name as ANTHONY QUEEN SHEBA and my date of birth as 2nd day of February, 1993. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

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ALIYU : I, formerly known and addressed as Miss **MAHMUD SARATU**. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs **ALIYU SARATU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ADEOSUN: I, formerly known and addressed as **ADEOSUN BABATUNDE YUSSUF**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEOSUN BABATUNDE OLAWALE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

DAIKWO: I, formerly known as **ISAH HELEN AJUMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **DAIKWO HELEN AJUMA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

KALTUM : I formerly known as **FATIMA BABAGANA MARTE** now wish to be known as **KALTUM BABAGANA MARTE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

That I was formally known as **DISE MUHAMMAD GULA** now wish to be called and address as **DIJE MUHAMMAD GULA** and general public to take note

I, EZIHUO KINGSLEY. That my name was wrongly written on my PENSION CERTIFICATE as **EZIHOU KINGSLEY** instead of **EZIHUO KINGSLEY**. That my correct name is **EZIHUO KINGSLEY**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ENESEYE : I, formerly known and addressed as **ENOHASE IDEBALEMHEN MARY**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ENESEYE IDEBALEMHEN MARY**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OMOTAYO : I formerly known and addressed as **OGUNADE BALIKIS** now wish to be known and addressed as **OMOTAYO BALIKIS**. Due to marriage. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

MUSA I formerly known as **Musa Magaji** Now wish to be called and address as **Muhammad Magaji Musa**. All former documents remain valid general public and authority concern should take note

AISHA I formerly known as **AISHA ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known as **AISHA MODU**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

ALHAJI : I formerly known as **MALAM KACHALLAH MOHD** now wish to be known as **ALHAJI ABATCHA GONI**. With **D O B 15/05/1986 to 01/12/2000**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

NWOKONKWO - I was formerly known as **NWOKONKWO CHIMEREUCHA IKECHUKWU**. That I now wish to be known as **NWOKONKWO IKECHUKWU COVENANT**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

OLUWAGBOYE : I, formerly known and addressed as Miss **ADENIRAN OLUWAFOLAKEMI ADENIKE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OLUWAGBOYE OLUWAFOLAKEMI ADENIKE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

IBENANA : I formerly known and addressed as **okafor Maryjane Nkechinyere** now wish to be known and addressed as **ibenana Maryjane Nkechinyere**. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

MARYAM : I formerly known as **MARYAM ALI** now wish to be known as **MARYAM DUNGUS**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

USMAN. I formerly known as **USMAN MANSIR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN MANSUR DOB 15-11-1994**. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

USMAN : I formerly known as **USMAN MOHAMMED** now wish to be known as **USMAN AHMED**. All former document remain valid. General public should please take note.

NYONG - I was formerly known as **MISS. ESTHER ETIM EFFIONG ENE**. That I now wish to be known as **MRS. NYONG ESTHER MICHAEL**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ANOSIKE : I, formerly known and addressed as **ANOSIKE COURAGE OJICHUKWUJI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ANOSIKE CECILIA CHUKWUEBUKA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

EROMOSELE: I formerly known and addressed as **anyanwu moudline nwakaego** now wish to be known and addressed as **eromosele moudline nwakaego**. My date of birth was wrongly written as **2-2-1984** instead of **2-2-1988**. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

MUHAMMED I formally known as **MUHAMMED ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **LUMO SARKIN NOMA** all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

MOHOMMED. I formerly known as **MOHOMMED SHUAIBU YUSUF**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHOMMED SHUAIBU**. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

MOHAMMED : I formerly known as **UMAR DIKKO UMAR** now wish to be known as **MOHAMMED UMAR DIKKO**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

ECHIBE - I was formerly known as **OKOLUE NNENNA AVA**. That I now wish to be known as **ECHIBE NNENNA RACHEAL**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

NMOR : I, formerly known and addressed as **UMOR UCHE FRIDAY**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **NMOR UCHE**. My date of birth was wrongly written as 19th of December, 1987 instead of 19th of December, 1986. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

MATTHEW: I formerly known and addressed as **okafor Josephine Obiageli** now wish to be known and addressed as **Matthew Josephine Obiageli**. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

IDRIS: I, formerly known as **IDRIS UMAR** now wish to be known as **IDRIS UMAR MOHAMMED**. All former documents remained valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

ISHAKU. I formerly known as **GAMBO DAUDA ISHAKU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ISHAKU DAUDA**. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

UMAR : I formerly known as **UMAR MOHAMMED** now wish to be known as **UMAR MOHAMMED KARETO**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

CHIOMA - I was formerly known as **CHIOMA WILTON HARRY**. That I now wish to be known as **CHIOMA JANE NWOSU**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

NWANKPA : I, formerly known and addressed as **OLUSOGA ABOSEDE OLUWAFUNMILAYO**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **NWANKPA FUNMILAYO ABOSEDE ELIZABETH**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OGUNDALU:- I formerly known and addressed as **AGWI RUTH EBOSETALE**, now to be known and addressed as **OGUNDALU RUTH EBOSETALE**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public should take note.

I, MOHAMMED GREMA USMAN do solemnly declare that: the names **MOHAMMED GREMA USMAN, MOHAMMED KAKA GREMA** and **SHEHIMA MOHAMMED** are referred to me as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called **MOHAMMED GREMA USMAN**. All former documents remained valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

MOHAMMED. I formerly known as **MOHAMMED ABBAS**, with **DOB 26/03/1997**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. With **DOB 25th SEPTEMBER, 1999**, General public should please take note

LUKAS; I formerly known as **REBECCA LUCAS**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **REBECCA LUKAS**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

SUNNY: That I was formerly known as **EKE AJAH KALU**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **AJAH SUNNY EKE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

MRS. ANEHITA : I, formerly known as **MISS. ANEHITA IBHADE OJEBABULU**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. ANEHITA IBHADE IMAGUEZIE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

AKINYAMOJU-FRANCIS :- I formerly known and addressed as **NDAK QUEEN OSCAR** now to be known and addressed as **AKINYAMOJU-FRANCIS QUEEN OSCAR**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public should take note.

NURA: I formerly known as **Muhammad Nura Umar**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mohammed Nura Umar**. All former documents remain valid. Zenith Bank, authority concerned and general public should please take note

YAKUBU: I formerly known as **YAKUBU K. ADAMU** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAKUBU ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid. **KEYSTONE BANK PLC** And General Public Should please take note.

BELLO: I Formerly known as **Usuman yahaya** Now wish to be known and addressed as **Bello Mohammed yahaya** All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

CHIJOKE: That I was formerly known as **ONYECHE DONALD FELIX**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **ONYECHE DONALD CHIJOKE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

OWOADE: I, formerly known and addressed as **ABOLARIN DEBORAH MOJISOLA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OWOADE DEBORAH MOJISOLA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ANEDO : I, formerly known and addressed as **GIFT REBECCA ANEDO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **GIFT OMACHILE ANEDO**. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

ISMAIL : I formerly known as **I ALI GARBA** now wish to be known as **ISMAIL ALI GARBA**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

ABDULMALIK: I formerly known as **ABDULMALIK POLYCARP MARK** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULMALIK IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. **GTBANK PLC** And General Public Should please take note.

CHIMA: That I was formerly known as **MBILA CHIGOZIRIM UKPAI**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **MRS. CHIMA CHIGOZIRIM**. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

OGANUZOR: That I was formerly known as **SOCHIMA ESTHER OGADI**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **SOCHIMA ESTHER OGANUZOR**. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

MRS. IFENYINWA : I, formerly known as **MISS. IFENYINWA HELEN NZE**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. IFENYINWA HELEN MBIELU**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

OCHUKO: I, formerly known and addressed as **AHANTE OGHENE-OCHUCKO ISAAC**. That I also confirm that I am the same person bearing **EDWARD ISAAC OGHENE-OCHUCKO**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

SALE: I formerly known as **Lakan A Sale**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Babangida Alhaji Sale**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

INUWA: I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD BUHARI** now wish to be known and addressed as **INUWA MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. **NIMC** And General Public Should please take note.

I, SYLVANUS UGWEM-ORE-UBON NATHANIEL. That the **SYLVANUS UGWEM-ORE-UBON NATHANIEL** which appear on my National Identity Card and **SYLVANUS UGWEM** which appear on my STANBIC IBTC Bank Account Details and BVN are my names. That I now wish to be known called and addressed as **SYLVANUS UGWEM-ORE-UBON NATHANIEL**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, OFULUE ONYEBUCHI CHRIS. That during the registration of my (BVN) my name was wrongly written as **CHRIS BUCHI OFULUE** instead of **OFULUE ONYEBUCHI CHRIS**. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ORONG : I, formerly known as **ORONG PHILIP NKPA**. Now wish to be known as **MR. GODSON PROSPER GOGO**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

YEKEEN: I, formerly known and addressed as **YEKEEN ISMAEL BAMIDELE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **YEKEEN ISMAEL BAMIDELE**. All former documents remain valid. **WAC** and General public should please take note.

ALKASIM: I formerly known as **NURA MUHAMMAD**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **NURA ALKASIM MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

RAKIYA: I formerly known as **RAKIYA MAMUDU** now wish to be known and addressed as **RAKIYA MAHMUD**. All former documents remain valid. **ACCESS BANK PLC** And General Public Should please take note.

BENOZIES: That I was formerly known as **ONYEKWERE GRACE KELECHI**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **MRS. BENOZIES GRACE KELECHI**. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, OKAZILA FAITHFUL EGLE. That on my Account details with **STERLING BANK**, my name appears as **OKAZILA FAITHFUL**. That I now wish to add **EGLE** to my name. That I now wish to be known called and addressed as **OKAZILA FAITHFUL EGLE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MRS. PROSPER : I, formerly known as **MISS. EDEM PAULINA PAUL**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. PROSPER PAULA GOGO**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

OLADIPUPO: I, formerly known and addressed as **AMINU SADIAT OLAWUNMI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OLADIPUPO SADIAT OLAWUNMI (MRS)**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

AHMAD I formerly known as **AHMED DAYYABU KURFI** now wish to be known and address as **AHMAD DAYYABU KURFI**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

SULEIMAN I formerly known and addressed as **FATI SULEIMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **MARIYA KOLO SULEIMAN** All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

EBIERE: That I was formerly known as **DANIEL SUOYO** and **EBIERE JONAH**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **EBIERE SUOYO**. All former document bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

O'TEMELAYE: That I was formerly known as **CLINTON AYIBAKURO**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **O'TEMELAYE CLINTON HARRY**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

JACOB :I, formerly known as **PEACE YAKUBU**. Now wish to be known as **PEACE JACOB**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ADEDIPE: I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss ADESINA OMOTOLA AJOKI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs ADEDIPE OMOTOLA AJOKI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as **FASUMA MUHAMMED NUR**, now wish to be known and address as **FATIMA MUHAMMED NUR**. All former documents remain valid. **FCMB** and general public should take note

ABUBAKAR : I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR M. DOWLI** now wish to be known as **ABUBAKAR MOHAMMED DAWULE**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

MBERE - I was formerly known as **MBERE VICTOR**. That I now wish to be known as **MBERE ADOMAGIOR KPAGEDIBA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

WOKEKORO: That I was formerly known as **NENE CHARITY ELSANDA**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **WOKEKORO, NENE CHARITY**. All document bearing my former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

TEMPLE : I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss OLADOSU RONKE CHRISTIANA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs OGUNLANA RONKE CHRISTIANA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OGUNLANA: I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss OLADOSU RONKE CHRISTIANA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs OGUNLANA RONKE CHRISTIANA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

LARABA I Formerly Known As **VICTORIA DAVID** now wish to be known and addresses as **VICTORIA LARABA DAVID** all former Documents remain valid general public should take note

LIMIMU I formerly known as **MOHAMMED LAMINU** now wish to be addressed as **MOHAMMED LIMIMU**. All former documents remain valid, General Public Should please take note.

ONYJE - I was formerly known as **ONYJE GODPOWER, ONYJE McEVANS CHIMA GODPOWER** and **ONYJE GODPOWER CHUKWUMA**. That I now wish to be known as **ONYJE McEVANS CHIMA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

PEACE : I, formerly known and addressed as, **MISS. UDOH PEACE ANIETIE**, now wish to be known and addressed as, **MRS. PEACE HONESTY AGHATISE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ENTEKUME : I formerly known and addressed as **OGALUE NGOZI JACINTA** and **OGALUE GRACE** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ENTEKUME NGOZI JACINTA**. All former documents remain valid, General public kindly take note.

I. Formerly known as **OLUSOLA ABUBAKAR YISA** now wish to be known as **ABUBAKAR ALI**. All former document remain valid, public to take note.

MANU: I formally known as **YAYAJO ADAMU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAMANA MANU**. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MUSA: I formerly known as **MUSA YUSUF**, now wish to be known as **MUSA YUSUF UMAR**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

CHUKWUMA - I was formerly known as **MISS. OKOYE NKIRUKA VERONICA**. That I now wish to be known as **MRS. CHUKWUMA NKIRUKA VERONICA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ETIPETIP : I, formerly known and addressed as, **AMIEBIBAMA THOMPSON**, now wish to be known and addressed as, **ETIPETIP KARIBI JOSHUA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ABANUM : I formerly known and addressed as **Miss ROSEMARY OGOCHUKWU MORDI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs ROSEMARY OGOCHUKWU ABANUM**. All former documents remain valid, General public kindly take note.

BARDE : I formerly known as **BARDE SAIDU ISHAKU** now wish to be known as **BARDE ISHAKU**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

ABUBAKAR I formerly known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR SALISU GJATA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR SALISU ABUBAKAR** All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

USMAN: I formerly known as **MODU BULLET MODU** now wish to be known as **MODU ALHAJI USMAN** All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

NDUBUEZE - I was formerly known as **NWANEVU JOHNPAUL UGOCHUKWU**. That I now wish to be known as **NDUBUEZE JOHNPAUL UGOCHUKWU**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **AHMED ALHAJI WAKILI** Now wish to be known and addressed as **AHMED AHMED WAKILI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MENOR: I formerly known and addressed as **Awanayi Benedicta Menor** now wish to be known and addressed as **Chukwu Benedicta Menor**. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

MOHAMMED; I formerly known as **MOHAMMED GONI ISA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED ALHAJI ISA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

LONGA I formerly known and addressed as **HUSSAINA LONGA** now wish to be known and addressed as **HUSSAINA ABUBAKAR LONGA** All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

IDRIS I formerly known and addressed as **ALIYU ZAKAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IDRIS ZAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

CONFIRMATION OF NAME - I, OSOGU IKECHUKWU BIGMAN, wish to correct that my name was wrongly arranged as **OSOGU BIGMAN IKECHUKWU** instead of **OSOGU IKECHUKWU BIGMAN**. That the correct arrangement of my name is **OSOGU IKECHUKWU BIGMAN**. All documents bearing the above names remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **YAKUBU IBRAHIM** Now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM YAKUBU HASSAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

UTI: I formerly known and addressed as **ADENIJI DORCAS ADEOLA** now wish to be known and addressed as **UTI DORCAS ADEOLA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

ABDULLAHI I formerly known as **ZAHARADDINI ABDULLAHI** now wish to be called and addressed as **ZAHARADDEEN ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and general public to take note.

DAUDA I formerly known and addressed as **AMADAMI A DAUDA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI DAUDA** All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ISMAIL I formerly known and addressed as **SULAIMAN TANKO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SUNUSI ISMAIL**. All former documents remain valid. With **DOB From 01/01/1970 TO 01/02/1992** All concern and authority General public should please take note.

CONFIRMATION OF NAME - I, EFFIONG DENNIS OKON, wish to confirm that the name **EFFIONG OKON, EFFIONG DENIS OKON** and **EFFIONG DENNIS OKON**. Belongs to one and the same person **EFFIONG DENNIS OKON**. That my correct date of birth is 28th August, 1996. All documents bearing the above names remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **SHA'AIBU ISAH WITH D.O.B 1-1-1999** Now wish to be known and addressed as **SHU'ABU ISAH WITH D.O.B 4-4-1999**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

OGODOGUN: I formerly known and addressed as **PAT OTOBOR ESTHER**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OGODOGUN PAT PATIENCE OGHENETIJIRI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

SALISU: I, formerly known as **SALISU BABAYO** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALISU ABUBAKAR BABAYO**. All former documents remain valid. And my correct **DOB is 20-08-1990**. General public should take note.

That I was formally known as **ALI ABUBAKAR** now wish to be called and address as **HABU MUHAMMAD** and general public to take note

BAKURA : I formerly known and addressed as **MUSTAPHA MOHAMMED** Now I wish to be known and address as **BAKURA MOHAMMED** all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

JOKPEYIBO - I was formerly known as **MISS. JACK KAINE SEKITA**. That I now wish to be known as **MRS. JOKPEYIBO KEINE SEKITA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MUSA UBA GAYYA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSA UBAL SAID** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

5 killed in renewed cult clash in Edo

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

Five persons have been reportedly killed by rival groups in a renewed cult clash in Benin City, the Edo State capital.

It was gathered that the cult clash started on January 1st and lingered till 3rd, 2021.

It was further gathered that two persons were shot dead in the Oluku Area, two killed

at Adolor College Area in Ugbowo while one other was shot dead at Ahunwan Street, Ugbowo quarters.

Edo Police Spokesman, Chidi Nwabuzor, could not be reached for comment on the cult-related killings as his phone was unavailable at the time of filing this report.

In a related development, the Edo State Police Command said it has begun

manhunt for the remaining eight criminal suspects, who escaped from police detention.

The command, in a statement by its Police Public Relations Officer (PRO), DSP Chidi Nwabuzor, said 10 suspects escaped from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) but that two of them have been rearrested.

Zulum signs 2021 budget

From Misbahu Bashir

Borno State Governor, Babagana Umara Zulum, yesterday assented to the state's 2021 appropriation bill.

The state's parliament increased the budget to N248 billion from N208 billion submitted by the governor.

Zulum had, in his initial presentation, proposed N135.1 billion for capital projects,

which represented 65% of the budget sum, and N72 billion for recurrent. The governor directed ministries, agencies and departments to comply with the provisions of the law and to accelerate project implementation.

Speaker, House of Assembly, Abdulkarim Lawan said the budget was increased to cater for industrial growth and job opportunities.

Minimum wage: Plateau LG protesters teargassed by security agents

From Ado A. Musa, Jos

Personnel of Operation Safe Haven (OPSH), a multi-security taskforce, yesterday dispersed angry local government workers, protesting the non-implementation of N30 minimum wage in the state.

Daily Trust correspondent, who visited the scene of the protest, reports that the workers, on Monday morning, converged at the main entrance to the state's

secretariat but were dispersed by OPSH's personnel.

The protesters later regrouped under the popular over-head bridge of Secretariat Junction in Jos, the state capital.

A protester, who does not want his name in print, said: "From the onset of the peaceful protest, we were at the entrance of the Secretariat but they came and dispersed us. We were all tear-gassed by the security who stormed

the area. They arrested some of our leaders and other members."

When contacted, the OPSH's spokesman, Major Shittu Ibrahim, did not respond to calls and text messages text sent to him.

Also, the state's Head of Service, Azi Izam, did not respond to Daily Trust enquiry on the state government's position on the implementation of N30, 000 minimum wage.

Herder killed, 5 arrested in Zangon Kataf

From Ahmed Ali, Kafanchan

A herder, identified as Ado Hassan, 22, has been reportedly killed while grazing in Matyei village in Atyap Chiefdom, Zangon Kataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

A statement yesterday by Kaduna State Commissioner for Internal Security and Home

Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, said troops of the military special task force responded to a report of a farm destroyed in the village on Sunday afternoon.

He said upon arrival at the scene, they discovered that a herder, one Ado Hassan, had been shot dead by unknown persons. He said the initial investigations into the killing led to the arrest of five persons.

BUK cancels 2019/2020 academic session

From Sani Ibrahim Paki, Kano

The Senate of Bayero University, Kano (BUK) yesterday approved the cancellation of 2019/2020 academic sessions for all undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in the school.

This is coming barely two weeks after the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) suspended its nine-month-old strike. The university announced the cancellation in a memo

by its Registrar, Fatima Binta-Mohammed. The BUK senate has also converted the 2019/2020 session to 2020/2021. The memo said for the undergraduate, new academic session will now begin on January 18, 2021, as the first semester, while the second semester will begin May 3, 2021.

For the postgraduate programmes, the senate slated January 18 as the first semester, while the second semester will begin on June 1.

Magistrates block Ayade's office over 2-yr unpaid salaries

From Eyo Charles, Calabar

Thirty magistrates in Cross River State yesterday blocked Governor Ben Ayade's office in Calabar over non-payment of their two-year salaries.

The magistrates, armed with placards with various inscriptions, chanted

solidarity songs while they blocked the second gate of the premises.

Speaking to newsmen in Calabar, the state's Chief Magistrate, Solomon Abuo, said the protest was their last resort after several pleas and correspondences to the state government yielded no

desired result.

They threatened to boycott courts if the government failed to meet their demand.

Nobody from the governor's office agreed to address the magistrates, claiming that both Governor Ayade and his deputy, Professor Ivara Esu, were not available in the office.

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Lagos: 08038600327
Kano: 08068077562
Kaduna: 08063479316

I, formerly known as **MARYAM GARBA BASHAR** Now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM GARBA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF KATSINA STATE OF NIGERIA PROBATE DIVISION

WHEREAS the person/persons whose names are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and at place stated in the said column. AND WHEREAS the person/persons whose addresses claimed relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder have applied to the High Court of Justice Katsina for a grant of "letters of Administration" of the personal property of the said deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the "Letter of Administration" will be granted to such person/persons unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" the grant thereof is filed in the Probate Registry, High Court of Justice Katsina within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice.

DECEASED: LATE SAMINU BAWALE RUWASSA DIED 24/5/2020 AT KATSINA	APPLICANT FOR GRANT: SAFINA SAMINU OF KOFAR DURBI KATSINA THE DAUGHTER OF THE SAID DECEASED.
---	--

DATED THIS 4TH JANUARY, 2021.

AT THE PROBATE REGISTRY, HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, KATSINA
KABIR SHUAIBU
PROBATE REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ZAMFARA STATE OF NIGERIA PROBATE DIVISION ZAMFARA STATE

WHEREAS the person whose names and address are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column. AND whereas the person whose address(s) are set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship to the said deceased and has applied to the above court for a grant of "LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION" of personal property of the said deceased. NOTICE is hereby given that the LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION will be granted to such person unless notice to PROHIBIT the grant thereof is filed in the probate Registrar High Court of Justice Gusau, Zamfara State within TWENTY ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication this NOTICE.

SCHEDULE:- NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED HALILU RABIU OF INEC ZAMFARA STATE WHO DIED ON 04/05/2020 AT FMC GUSAU	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT ABUBAKAR HALILU OF NO 28 MAGAMI ROAD UNGUWAR MALAIMA T/WADA GUSAU THE BROTHER OF THE DECEASED
--	---

Dated this ... 4th ... day of JANUARY, 2021

PROBATE REGISTRY
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
GUSAU, ZAMFARA STATE
BELLO MUHAMMAD KUCHERI
PROBATE REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF KADUNA STATE OF NIGERIA PROBATE DIVISION

WHEREAS the person whose names and address are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column AND whereas the person whose address (s) are set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship to the said deceased and has applied to the above court for a grant of "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" will be granted to such person unless notice to PROHIBIT the grant thereof is filed in the probate Registrar High Court of Justice Kaduna State within TWENTY ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication of this NOTICE.

SCHEDULE:- NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED Late SAMSON AKINGBADE OF CREATIVE ASSOCIATES ABUJA WHO DIED ON THE 13TH DAY OF APRIL, 2019 AT BARNAWA KADUNA	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT MRS MOHAMMED IKEADE RASHIDAT AND STEPHANIE OGUNDIRAN OF NO.15, SAPE CRESCENT BADIKO, KADUNA.
--	--

Dated3rd ...day of March ,2020

Signed:
Probate Registrar

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

THIS IS TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF THE LOSS OF ORIGINAL G.C.E O'LEVEL BELONGING TO ONE ADAMU ABUBAKAR BARDE 'm' OF JAHUN WARD BAUCHI. CAME TO 'A' DIVISION BAUCHI, WITH AFFIDAVIT NO.425658 ISSUED TO HIM BY CMC 4 BAUCHI STATE, AND REPORTED THAT, ON 05/12/1997, HIS G.C.E O' LEVEL CERTIFICATE 1988 ISSUED TO HIM BY WAEC BOARD THROUGH GCSS BAUCHI WAS BOUNED. ALL EFFORT MADE TO TRACE THE SAID DOCUMENT PROVE ABORTIVE DUE TO FIRE INCIDENT. ACTION: COMPLAINANT WAS ADVISED TO GO AND OBTAIN REPLACEMENT FROM THE ISSUING AUTHORITY. ENTRY MADE BY INSP. MOHAMMED MATO. SP ABDULLAHI S. MU'AZU DIVISIONAL POLICE OFFICER, 'A' DIVISION BAUCHI STATE. PUBLIC SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ZAMFARA STATE OF NIGERIA PROBATE DIVISION ZAMFARA STATE

WHEREAS the person whose names and address are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column. AND whereas the person whose address(s) are set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship to the said deceased and has applied to the above court for a grant of "LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION" of personal property of the said deceased. NOTICE is hereby given that the LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION will be granted to such person unless notice to PROHIBIT the grant thereof is filed in the probate Registrar High Court of Justice Gusau, Zamfara State within TWENTY ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication this NOTICE.

SCHEDULE:- NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED ABUBAKAR A YUSUF OF FEDERAL ROAD SAFETY CORP WHO DIED ON 7 DECEMBER 2017 AT FMC GUSAU	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT NASIR YUSUF MOHAMMAD OF DAMBA GUSAU ZAMFARA STATE BROTHER OF THE DECEASED
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Dated this ... 5th ... day of JANUARY, 2021

PROBATE REGISTRY
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
GUSAU, ZAMFARA STATE
BELLO MUHAMMAD KUCHERI
PROBATE REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF KATSINA STATE OF NIGERIA PROBATE DIVISION

WHEREAS the person/persons whose names are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and at place stated in the said column. AND WHEREAS the person/persons whose addresses claimed relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder have applied to the High Court of Justice Katsina for a grant of "letters of Administration" of the personal property of the said deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the "Letter of Administration" will be granted to such person/persons unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" the grant thereof is filed in the Probate Registry, High Court of Justice Katsina within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice.

DECEASED: LATE MURTAL SANI OF SUBEB MATAZU DIED 19/3/2020 AT MATAZU	APPLICANT FOR GRANT: SULE IBRAHIM OF KOGARI VILLAGE MATAZU LGA BROTHER OF THE SAID DECEASED
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DATED THIS 4TH JANUARY, 2021.

AT THE PROBATE REGISTRY, HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, KATSINA
KABIR SHUAIBU
PROBATE REGISTRAR

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original document of land Sub-lease offer/deed of sub-lease on Plot No. 1aa, Tanzania Avenue, Malali Estate, Kaduna by KSDPC. Belonging to ALH. SANI HABIBU who purchased the said plot from the original Allottee, ALH. ABDULRASHID AUDI of No. 15, Upper Volter Street, Malali Low cost, Kaduna. All effort to trace the said missing document proved abortive. If found please return to the Nearest Police Station.

INSIDE POLITICS

PoliQuote

He (Governor David Umahi of Ebonyi State) has not resigned from PDP. He only resigned verbally and declared for APC, but we will teach him how to declare for a new party properly - **Fred Udogu**

PDP failing as opposition - Lai Mohammed

● Nigerians tired of Buhari - Opposition party

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

The Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, yesterday hit at the opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) over its ceaseless criticism of the President Muhammadu Buhari-led federal government.

He accused the opposition party of messing up while in government and also doing worse even as leading opposition party.

At a press conference in Lagos, the minister condemned what he called the "constant infantile press releases by the unserious, unimaginative and drab opposition, which misconstrues opposition as constantly shooting down anything the government of the day does or badmouthing whatever Mr President does or says."

He said: "There is more to opposition than predictable and bring-it-down-at-all-cost media interventions. They messed up in government, and they are messing up even more in opposition. No



■ Lai Mohammed

lessons learnt either way."

The Buhari government had in recent times

come under scathing criticism from the opposition PDP.

The party in its latest intervention condemned the New Year broadcast of Buhari, describing it as "empty and directionless."

Responding to Lai Mohammed's statement yesterday, the PDP National Publicity Secretary, Mr Kola Ologbondiyan, said the minister was not conversant with the reality of the day, saying that was why he was criticizing the PDP.

He said the minister failed to understand that Nigerians were fed up with the Buhari administration and the ruling APC.

"The worry of every Nigerian today is how to survive the next two years and five months of Buhari," Ologbondiyan said, adding that the minister is still in the pre-2015 era.

"The APC and the Buhari's administration would always live a life of lies and nothing can stop them from doing that until they are voted out in 2023 election," he said.

Ndume wants Buhari's cabinet rejigged

From Misbahu Bashir, Maiduguri

The Federal Executive Council (FEC) should be reconstituted because most of its members who ought to have helped in addressing public concerns are disconnected from their localities, the Chairman Senate Committee on Army, Senator Ali Ndume (APC Borno South) has said.

Ndume made the assertion at a media conference in Maiduguri, saying there was widespread distrust for the government as a result of the disconnect.

He said: "The problem is the disconnect between the people in government who will assist the president to get most programmes done from the public. Since the inception of

this country, no government has rolled out programmes for the youth like that of President Muhammadu Buhari. N500 billion was approved for programmes including the N-Power, and the kleptocrats in the government have frustrated the process but that is not Mr President.

"Another N75 billion was released for youth investment fund. And the 774 project was introduced but some people have not been able to implement it because of interest.

"Mr President should look at his cabinet especially the FEC; there are people that are not connected with the people, ministers who do not know anybody in their local government areas. FEC should

be reconstituted and people connected with the grassroots should be brought.

"During the #EndSARS protests, ministers were asked to go and talk to their people but some could not," he said.

Speaking on counterinsurgency operations, Ndume said troops lacked what they needed in the previous years but that their allocation in the 2021 budget had been increased.

He said the funds for capital expenditure for the army had been approved and would be released to enable the procurement of counterinsurgency equipment.

"The army will be given the money that would have been shut down by January. The

capital allocation shall run concurrently with the budget that was signed, up to the end of March," he said.

He said the money needed to motivate personnel on ground was also provided.

"The personnel and recurrent expenditure of the army this year is over N500 billion.

"Last year, the budget for Operation Lafiya Dole was N75 billion but this year because they complained of lack of funds, we approved N100 billion and that was signed by Mr President," he added.

Sen. Ndume said the number of recruits was increased from between four and six thousand to eight thousand who were being trained in Zaria and Falgore.

LG polls: Gov Sule, LG chairmen meet

From Ibraheem Hamza Muhammad, Lafia

Governor Abdullahi Sule of Nasarawa State has met with chairmen of the Local Government Areas (LGAs) in preparation for the coming council election.

The meeting, which was held yesterday at government house, Lafia, was attended by the 13 chairmen in the state.

Governor Sule said: "I want to use this opportunity to assure you that I have nothing against any one of you.

"My call for the ruling party - APC - to ensure only competent persons secure the ticket of the party in the forthcoming council poll is only predicated on the sincere desire to move the state ahead and to be less dependent on monthly subvention."

The governor said though the local government election was expected to hold next month, he needed to meet with the chairmen regarding the issue of funds to be used in conducting the election.

Governor Sule thanked them for the support they accorded the Deputy Governor, Dr Emmanuel Akabe, when he (governor) was on vacation.

S'East needs additional state not presidency - Prof Gregory Ibe

From Linus Effiong, Umuahia

The founder of Gregory University Uтуру, Professor Gregory Ibe, has called on Ndi Igbo to jettison the agitation for Igbo presidency in 2023 and strive for the creation of additional for the South East geo-political zone.

He said the creation of a new state would create avenue for more Igbo senators as well as additional members of the House of Representatives and State House of Assembly

The don said that development also meant more jobs for the unemployed youths and more

funds for the development of local government areas.

He said: "These are things that will have a direct impact on the lives of Ndi Igbo rather than agitating for Igbo presidency in 2023."

Professor Ibe, who disclosed that he made personal efforts before the 2019 general elections and briefed President Muhammadu Buhari on the need for equalization of states, a request he said the president graciously agreed to.

He said the president asked him to schedule a meeting between himself and some Igbo leaders but regrettably his name

was removed from the list of the delegation.

"After they returned from the meeting with Mr President, they set up a strategic committee to select a new state. I quickly reminded them that in the 2014 confab, issues on state creation and the name of the state were discussed and I told them it's either Etit State or nothing else.

"I wrote to the president and told him of Etit State, that was what happened before 2019 general elections," he added.

Prof Ibe said the agitation for the creation of Etit State can still bounce back if Ndi Igbo decided to jettison the agitation for Igbo

presidency and fight for the creation of an additional state for the South East.

"It's more rewarding to Ndi Igbo to get additional state than Igbo presidency because we will have more Igbo senators, more jobs, more development in Igbo land.

"The president can pick his successor from any geo-political zone but let him give us additional state, the whole South South states belong to one party, while in the South East, APC, PDP have two states each. It is difficult to speak with one voice and get federal government's attention," he added.

Reps mum as FG flags-off 774,000 jobs today

By Idowu Isamotu, Balarabe Alkassim (Abuja), Ado Abubakar Musa (Jos), Victor Edozie (Port Harcourt) & Ibraheem Hamza Muhammad (Lafia)

The federal government will today flag off the Special Public Works (SPW) programme designed to engage 774,000 unemployed persons nationwide after three consecutive postponements.

A formal invitation sent to Daily Trust, yesterday, to provide media coverage for the flag-off, said it would come up today at the Sports Complex, Old Parade Ground, Area 10 Garki, Abuja by 11am.

The Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Festus Keyamo, had on Sunday night via his official

Twitter handle, explained that President Muhammadu Buhari had approved the commencement of the initiative.

Our correspondent recalled that the programme, designed to employ 1,000 Nigerians from each of the 774 local government areas in the country, was initially scheduled for launch on October 1, 2020.

It was, however, stopped following the power-play between Keyamo and a former Director-General, National Directorate of Employment, Nasir Ladan Argungu, who was sacked December 8, last year.

The initiative was listed to be funded from the N60bn COVID-19 Intervention Fund, according to the Minister of

Finance, Budget and National Planning, Zainab Ahmed and each of the 774,000 workers will earn N 20,000 monthly for three months duration of the job, amounting to about N46.44 billion.

The ministers are expected to launch the scheme in their respective states in collaboration with the governors.

Meanwhile, members of the House of Representatives have kept mum on the decision of the federal government to flag off the programme despite their resolution halting its commencement.

The House had on December 14, 2020 passed the resolution after adoption of a motion moved by Rep. Olajide

Olatunbosun.

The House resolved that the programme be put on hold until funds are provided for it in the 2021 budget while the recruitment of 1000 youths from the 774 local government areas is also reviewed.

Some of the members of the House contacted by our reporter declined comment on the issue.

The Chairman, House Committee on Labour and Employment, Rep. Ali Muhammad Wudil, did not return or answered calls as well as messages sent to his phone by our reporter.

Similarly, the House spokesman, Rep. Benjamin Kalu (APC, Abia) did not

answer his calls.

Meanwhile, one of our correspondents reports that there were no signs that the programme will take-off in Oyiibo and Port Harcourt City LGAs in Rivers State, where he visited yesterday. It was a similar scenario in Plateau State as the local government secretariats in the state were deserted following the on-going strike by LG workers in the state.

But the chairman of Lafia LGA and the Chairman of Association of Local Government of Nigeria, (ALGON) in Nasarawa State, Alhaji Aminu Muazu Maifata, said they are ready for the commencement of the exercise in the state.



Local Government workers from the 17 LGA protesting over none implementation of N30 minimum wage, at Secretariat Junction, Jos yesterday. Photo: Ado Abubakar Musa

2021 Hajj: NAHCON directs pilgrim boards to continue registration

By Faruk Shuaibu

The National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) yesterday told states pilgrims' boards to continue with the registration and preparation for the 2021 Hajj and Umrah services.

In a statement signed by its Head of Public Affairs, Fatima Sanda, the Chairman of NAHCON, Alhaji Zikrullah Kunke Hassan, said the lift of suspension of international flights by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, gave high hopes for the possibility of intending pilgrims to embark on Hajj and Umrah this year.

Recall that the kingdom last year suspended all international flights into the country due to the COVID-19

pandemic, resulting in only 1,000 pilgrims performing the 2020 hajj, a stark reduction of over two million Muslims that undertake the annual pilgrimage.

He assured Nigerian Muslims that as soon as the kingdom communicated new guidelines on Hajj and Umrah, the commission would take appropriate actions in the interest of intending pilgrims.

"In the meantime, the commission urges intending pilgrims, states and other Hajj and Umrah licensed operators to continue with preparations and registration while exercising patience until clear directives are released by Saudi Arabia," he was quoted in the statement.

We're not under threat in Ebonyi - MACBAN

From Nabob Ogbonna, Abakaliki

Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACBAN), Ebonyi State chapter, yesterday said the lives of its members are not in danger in any part of the state.

A video posted on social media two days ago alleged that Fulani cattle breeders were being

attacked and chased out of Ebonyi State.

But MACBAN's Chairman in the state, Alhaji Usman Ishiaku and the Secretary, Alhaji Dani Inusa dismissed the video as fake and misleading at a joint press briefing in Abakaliki, the state capital.

They urged security agencies to fish out the perpetrators of the act.

6 soldiers, 1 civilian killed in Chibok

From Olatunji Omirin, Maiduguri

Six soldiers and one civilian have been killed and eight others wounded when terrorists, suspected to be Boko Haram insurgents, attacked a military base in the southern part of Borno State on Sunday, sources said.

It was learnt that the terrorists stormed Kuda, a settlement near Chibok town at exactly 4:30 pm and engaged troops in a gun battle, killing 6 soldiers including a

master warrant officer.

Kuda village is 3 kilometres away from Chibok town.

A member of a vigilante group, Yohanna Bitrus, said the attackers burnt down houses, numbering 40 and carted away three vehicles after they have looted the community.

A military source, who preferred not to be named, confirmed the incident, saying they lost some soldiers and others suffered injuries during the attack on troops' location.

Ganduje: Shekarau, Kwankwaso's new romance raises dust about 2023

From Clement A. Oloyede, Kano

Senator Ibrahim Shekarau and Senator Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso, both former governors of Kano State, are believed to be sworn political enemies, people who cannot exist together in the same political setting.

Shekarau (then of the All Nigerian Peoples Party, ANPP) defeated Kwankwaso (of the Peoples Democratic Party, PDP) in 2003 when he (Kwankwaso) was seeking re-election as Kano State governor, but Kwankwaso got his pound of flesh eight years later when he defeated Shekarau's protégé, Salihu Sagir Takai, to re-emerge as governor in the 2011 gubernatorial election in the state.

Kwankwaso again came out on top in 2015 when his 'appointed' candidate, incumbent Governor Abdullahi Umar Ganduje defeated Takai.

Shekarau, a founding member of the All Progressives Congress (APC), had to leave the party in 2014 for the PDP when the APC's leadership in Kano was handed over to Kwankwaso, who was then the governor and had also crossed carpet to APC.

Four years later, the swap of party between the two will again take place when Kwankwaso, who had

gone back to the PDP was again given the leadership of the party, a decision that pushed Shekarau out of the party and back to APC. This development led many analysts of Kano politics to conclude that it is practically impossible for both of them to remain in the same party.

Shekarau will later replace Kwankwaso at the red chamber after emerging as the senator representing Kano Central, defeating Kwankwaso's appointed candidate for the PDP, Ali Madakin-Gini, who many believed was only on the ballot paper as a proxy for Kwankwaso who had lost the presidential ticket to Atiku Abubakar.

However, following the death of Kwankwaso's father on December 25, a condolence visit by Shekarau on December 30 and several other recent utterances have gotten political analysts in Nigeria's commercial centre opining that the two might be planning to bury their hatchet to take control of the state's political leadership from the current governor come 2023.

Daily Trust reports that there has been no love lost between Kwankwaso and his former deputy, Ganduje, since the latter succeeded him in 2015.

Responding to questions from journalists during a media parley in

Kano on Sunday, Shekarau insisted there is no rivalry between him and Governor Ganduje on one hand, and him and Kwankwaso on the other hand, saying he maintains a cordial relationship with them.

"You may not be seeing us regularly now, because you sent me to Abuja and I am busy representing our people there. So, in short, my relationship with Ganduje has been very cordial.

"The same thing applies to Kwankwaso; we are in a good relationship. Our political differences have not, and will not, affect our relationship. I have never defected from one party to another because of him.

"When I was in APC, Kwankwaso joined the party, and I left, not because of him, but because of the leadership of the party. The same thing when I was in PDP; I later left, not because he joined the party," he said.

But with permutations towards 2023 already gaining momentum, analysts are saying there may be more to Shekarau's statements on Ganduje and Kwankwaso with many insisting they were mere political statements and insisting his visit to Kwankwaso may be a sign that Ganduje may have both former governors to wrestle with during the electioneering period.



SPORT

Joshua has confidence problem - Fury

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■ Craig Tiley

Australian Open quarantine plan faces legal challenge

Apartment owners on the premises of a luxury Melbourne hotel are seeking to quash plans by Australian Open organisers to use the hotel to quarantine players ahead of the Grand Slam.

The apartment owners at the Westin Melbourne are concerned for their health and never agreed to international players quarantining at the hotel, their lawyer Graeme Efron told Reuters on Monday.

"My instructions are to get an injunction. So at this stage, that's where we're going," Efron said.

Hundreds of players are expected to arrive in Melbourne in mid-January and undergo a mandatory 14-day quarantine as part of COVID-19 protocols before the Feb. 8 to Feb. 21 Australian Open.

Efron said the Westin had informed the owners on Christmas Eve about the quarantine plans and presented

it as a "done deal."

"No-one has told us that this has been mandated by a government authority to turn a partly residential city hotel into a quarantined hotel," he said.

Owners, who include some of the country's top business people, said they felt "ambushed" by the quarantine plan.

"At 84, I'm in the vulnerable group and it's shocking the way they tried to ram this through without any attempt to consult

with us," owner Digby Lewis told Fairfax media.

Westin management said their "COVID safe" plan had been shared with the owner's corporation, adding that residents would use a separate entrance and lifts and have no contact with players and quarantine staff.

"Their floor will remain exclusive, while there will be no reticulation of ventilation between the floors," the Westin said in a statement.

NPFL21: Wikki Tourists, Plateau Utd share spoils in Bauchi

By Olusola 'Jide @jide_olusola

Plateau United are yet to secure their first win of the 2020/21 Nigerian Professional Football League following a 0-0 draw with Wikki Tourists yesterday.

The Jos-based side whose players have been placed on half-salary as 'punishment' for their recent poor performances were unable to secure the much-needed win at the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Stadium, Bauchi.

It will be recalled that the 2017 champions were roundly defeated 2-0 at home by Kwara United in Match Day 1 of the season.

The hosts, Wikki Tourists who are also yet to win a game after losing 2-1 to table toppers, Nasarawa United were the better side in the game as they tried to earn their own first win.

In the 37th minute, Plateau Utd had the first real chance as Jesse Akila's weak attempt at goal was easily claimed by Wikki's goalkeeper, Stanley Nwabali. Three minutes later, the home side also had its chance but the alertness of Plateau's defender, Gabriel Wassa denied Idris Mohammed Guda from putting the home team in front.

At the restart of the second



■ Nasarawa United's Reuben Nichodamus tries to dribble past Wikki Tourists' Idris Guda and Promise Damala during the Match Day 1 of the ongoing NPFL season.

half, Wikki had another chance in the 70th minute but Arinze Madu's effort was deflected for a corner while in the 74th minute, Nwabali was called to action again as he denied Plateau's Oche Ochoweche from giving his side the lead.

The best chance of the game fell to Akila who was through on goal

in the 83rd minute but the ball hit the woodwork to the anguish of the players and technical bench as the game ended 0-0.

The Abdu Maikaba led side have now gone six games unbeaten on their travels in the league while failing to score in two consecutive NPFL matches for the first time since January

2020.

With this result, Wikki Tourists is 16th on the table with one point from two games while Plateau Utd is 18th with one point from two games as well.

Meanwhile, the last rounds of the Match Day 2 fixtures will be on Wednesday between Kwara United and Enyimba of Aba.

Cricket Federation postpones National U-17 championships

The Nigeria Cricket Federation has postponed the second edition of the National U-17 championships earlier scheduled for Jan. 7 to Jan. 31.

The federation made this known via its official Twitter handle @cricket_nigeria yesterday.

According to the statement by NCF Secretary-General, Taiwo Oriss, the decision was necessary "to enable the federation to put all modalities in place in line with COVID-19 guidelines.

"The proposed new date for the tournament is Jan. 15 to Feb. 7, 2021," Oriss said.

The period will witness the zonal qualifications for both girls and boys as well as the finals.

The tournament sponsored by Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC) did not hold in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are on track to win 2020/21 NPFL season - Salisu

By Olusola 'Jide @jide_olusola

Rangers International FC, Technical Adviser, Coach Salisu Yusuf has given the assurance that his side is on track to emerge the champions at the end of the 2020/21 Nigeria Professional Football League (NPFL) season.

In a statement signed by the club's media officer, Norbert Okolie, the

players are developing with each game being played in the season.

Speaking after a hard-fought 1-0 win over Akwa United in the Match Day 2 fixture at 'The Cathedral', Nnamdi Azikiwe Stadium, Enugu, Salisu stated that there was no reason to be apprehensive about the number of goals returned by the team in the games played thus far.

"We are not struggling to score goals. We have played two games, scored one goal but it's not yet time to know whether the team cannot score. What we're doing is that the team is developing per game in all departments," he said in a statement.

Speaking further on the victory over visiting Akwa United, Salisu acknowledged the challenge posed by the team during the game.

"It was a tough game. They are a good team too. They possessed the ball, they move forward but it's about taking your chances. In the second half, we played better and created more chances. Thank God, we won the game. The introduction of Madaki for injured Olawoyin added aggression in the attack for us just as that of Abia and Ajayi and at the end of the day, it paid off," he said.

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with Tunde Asaju
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The beauty of hypocrisy

If you follow Nigerian social media, the New Year 2021 has taken off on a sex start. So, let's be Nigerian and start with a wish (prayer) – may this year end without you becoming a subject of lurid scandals. A nation of real scandals so very often scandalises the mundane and normalises the scandalous.

It is scandalous that while the only reason anyone could not drive between Canada—USA-Mexico today is the ravaging COVID-19 pandemic. Nobody needed a permit to move freely anywhere in the free world. In Nigeria, we are at the level where when 80 humans were slaughtered on their farms, our official response was that they did not take permission from the army to harvest their crops! If I wasn't a full-blooded Nigerian, that would have been scandalous. Indeed, it would have been stranger than fiction, but we are used to that.

We are the only country that owes our sleeping and waking, going to work and returning safely and the supply of electricity to God. These things are taken for granted in Saudi Arabia. We are the only country that votes in people to solve our problems pay them hugely for them to tell us to take our problems to God. This may be incredibly scandalous to non-Nigerians, for us it's normal. Nobody goes from one part of the town to another without saying a prayer. We think it is a measure of our spirituality, but in actual fact, it is a hallmark of our stupidity.

So, a certain billionaire gentleman who is single has ditched his date. Their affair was hidden until an aggrieved party made it public. That's as it should be. The single woman was counting her chickens before her eggs were hatched. So, when reality overshot the runway of her expectations, she crash-landed on social media looking for our bucket of tears. She says her heart was broken into a thousand pieces, which she displayed on social media for anyone collecting broken hearts as a hobby. Adults move on, but immature children kiss and tell, money doesn't usually go where love lives!

We have closed land borders in the hope that it would boost local production and induce local consumption, but if you watch the lurid dance of the Naira with foreign currencies, you will understand why the egg is on our face. The neighbour's economy we thought would collapse did not. Indeed, we lost many gallant officers trying to police a porous border and made millionaires of smugglers. Ironically, whenever there is an international vacancy, we tend to forget that Africa has 54 countries; we field candidates for every

opening!

In Nigeria, we tend to forget what is important only to cry over spilt milk items. We had hardly finished with our billionaire lover boy when other scandals surfaced in high places. Two bank executives have been fingered in tsunami-inducing extramarital affairs that could bury their moral standing but thankfully spared the shares of the banks and the stock market. Nigeria cannot survive the burden of two failed banks on the infidelity of their chief executives.

How many giants should we bury till we know that we are a nation high on the opium of fake morality and counterfeit piety? Every suspect on trial belongs to a



Governments should concentrate on creating an enabling environment for legitimate businesses to grow not to kill them before they grow or tax them into oblivion. If the federal government fails to withdraw the operating license of the two banks whose bosses are believed to have wrecked two marriages and caused the vicarious death of one spouse, how do we justify the demolition of a business because someone printed a poster and circulated it on social media?

religion, just like failed leaders. Advanced nations make no claim to godliness but they are higher on the morality and development to attract our citizens – young and old.

In Kaduna, the state's urban planning and development agency, KASUPDA razed down a business based on a social media advert that listed it as a venue for a 'sex party'. The invite published on KASUPDA Twitter handle mentions no venue. KASUPDA cannot go to court on verifiable evidence but received beatitudes from the beautiful hypocrites applauding its vendetta. If you know Nigeria, you could ask the question – whose advances did the poor lady turn down to earn this shock? KASUPDA went in with bulldozers before its officials could ask themselves

the probing question – what if this was a hoax? This is typical zombification of governance – act first even if illegally, think later.

The concept of breaking heads to cure a headache is a military hangover. When soldiers suspect each other, they do not wait for the culprits to march into radio stations before rounding them up, initiating sham trials and executing the culprits. Even for normal crimes, America has discovered through DNA evidence that many innocents have been killed. In Nigeria, DNA is the new evil that breaks down homes. Nature has inducted people as parents of every child that addresses them as parents.

Our democracy is very young; maybe when it reaches maturity, it would begin to separate religion and state. So far, it is difficult to separate a fundamentalist from the secularist in governance. There are too many hypocrites adorned as moral compasses. Wherever the state tries to legislate on morality, it exhibits its misunderstanding of the concept of governance. A government is made up of the godly and the skeptic, just like the public it serves.

The Kaduna victim is heading to court but how is she compensated for lost income and emotional trauma. Who compensates her staff for loss of employment and wages in a pandemic? Who reimburses her legal fees for a case whose legal outcome is faintly known?

From the outside looking in, Nigerian women in business face double jeopardy. The ceilings are cemented against their rise while hypocritical society judges them for their appearance. The other day, it was another female proprietress of a business venture in Abuja hyperventilating over the way she has been treated by the authorities there. Nigeria can do better than work on the premise that every woman in business is a whore. It's a vain attempt to domesticate every woman with a degree or business sense. Staying at home is not for every woman. Staying at home doesn't prevent adultery. Laws and not whimsical morality should govern society.

Governments should concentrate on creating enabling environment for legitimate businesses to grow not kill them before they grow or tax them into oblivion. If the federal government fails to withdraw the operating license of the two banks whose bosses are believed to have wrecked two marriages and caused the vicarious death of one spouse, how do we justify the demolition of a business because someone printed a poster and circulated it on social media?

The way we overreact when it comes to 'moral' issues we should have no single person in jail. But our jails are bursting at the seams. The world's top five countries with the lowest crime rates are secular nations and neither Saudi Arabia nor Israel features on that list. Expect bulldozers in your home based on someone's mischievous tweet. Government treats its citizens like an army of occupation. If KASUPDA had closed down this business, it would have had enough time to investigate and catch the culprits red-handed thereby saving us this senselessness and a vain attempt to showcase fake piety. When you realise your mistake is the best time to say you're sorry!

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Curry scores career-high points total in Warriors win



■ Stephen Curry

Stephen Curry scored a career-high 62 points as his Golden State Warriors beat the Portland Trailblazers 137-122.

The 32-year-old is the second oldest player to score over 60 points in a game - Kobe Bryant is the oldest at 37.

Curry's previous best performance was 54 points against the New York Knicks in February 2013.

NBA games are being played behind closed doors because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Joshua has confidence problem – Fury



■ Tyson Fury

Tyson Fury believes Anthony Joshua has a confidence problem after "shaky performances" and claims he could beat his British rival inside two rounds.

A fight between the two men who hold the four major world heavyweight titles is being negotiated by their teams.

Fury, 32, told Fox Miami: "On his last two fights, he's not in form. On mine, I am, so momentum is with me."

Fury holds the WBC world title, while 31-year-old Joshua is in possession of the IBF, WBO and WBA belts, meaning all four could be contested in a heavyweight fight for the first time.