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Yar'adua's health: Senate to give FEC one-week ultimatum

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

THE Federal Executive Council (FEC) is expected to receive later today a 7-day ultimatum from the Senate within which to produce a comprehensive report on President Umaru Yar'adua's

health status. *Daily Trust* learnt yesterday that this was the conclusion arrived at by senators after 5 hours' intense debate behind closed doors in Abuja.

Sources said the consensus was that the FEC must be made to furnish to the National Assembly the

details of President Yar'adua's health in order for the legislature to ascertain whether or not he can continue in office. The Senators agreed that though they lack the power under Section 144 of the Constitution to direct the FEC to determine the president's ability to perform his

duties given his poor health, they would rely on Section 88 of the 1999 Constitution, which gives the National Assembly powers of investigation into matters under its jurisdiction.

But briefing newsmen after yes-
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PHOTO: AFP



UKRAINIAN lion tamer Vladislav Goncharov puts his head into the mouth of a lion in Budapest Capital Circus during a rehearsal of the upcoming five-day long 8th international Circus Festival, yesterday.

VP: This is the last Jos carnage

From Andrew Agbese & Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

THE carnage unleashed in Jos and surrounding areas of Plateau State last week would be the last in the town, Vice President Goodluck Jonathan declared yesterday. Addressing refu-

gees from the communal crisis at the Police College in Jos, he said, "We have resolved that this crisis must be the last.

"We were told that the first crisis happened in 1965 or thereabout and since then the state has been witnessing a recurrence of crisis. We are

determined to come out with policies and programmes that will stop the carnage."

Jonathan said he had summoned a meeting of all the 36 state governors, security agencies, military, police and the senior elders and statesmen in

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Sultan, Shagari task Shekarau on Sardauna title

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

SULTAN of Sokoto Alhaji Muhammad Sa'ad Abubakar III and former President Shehu Shagari have called on the newly turbaned Sarduanan Kano Governor Ibrahim Shekarau to emulate the late Sardauna of Sokoto, Ahmadu Bello, and remain a good ambassador of the title.

Both men spoke yesterday when Malam Shekarau went to

Sokoto to pay homage. Speaking at his palace, the Sultan harped on the need to uphold the attributes of the original title holder of Sardauna. Alhaji Sa'ad said he was contacted before the title was given to Governor Shekarau and that he agreed because of his track record. The sultan said they would be in touch with Governor Shekarau from time to time to ensure that he lives up to his promise of upholding the attributes of the

late Sardauna.

Also, former president Shehu Shagari who spoke at his residence in Sokoto when the new Sardauna paid him a visit, urged him to follow the footsteps of the late Sardauna of Sokoto, noting that anyone who does so would succeed. He noted that Sokoto maintained its relevance due to the exemplary leadership of the past leader whom he noted people should learn from.

Earlier at Government House Sokoto, Governor Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko expressed confidence that Governor Shekarau would do his best to justify the title.

In his remarks, the Sarduanan Kano Governor Shekarau said he was in Sokoto to pay special respect and regard to the Sultan of Sokoto who is known to be a leader regardless of state.

Malam Shekarau, who noted that the late Sardauna of Sokoto

gave Nigeria a purposeful leadership that people continue to cherish, described his new title as an honour and challenge and promised to be a good ambassador of the title.

"It is a responsibility and duty to protect the good name and image of this title and everything that goes with it, particularly the conduct, behaviour and fruitful life that was lived by the earlier Sardauna, Ahmadu Bello", he said.



DEMONSTRATORS at a pro-Yar'adua rally in Katsina yesterday

Yobe remembers late Mamman Ali

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

PRAYERS will be offered today in mosques across Yobe State for the repose of the soul of late former governor of the state, Senator Mamman Ali, who died last year.

Senator Ali was just a few months into his second year in office when he died on January 27, 2009 in the United States after a brief illness.

A statement signed by Abdul-lahi Bego, the Press Director to Governor Ibrahim Gaidam, said Yobe State and its people mourn the passage of a visionary and indefatigable leader who lived in the service of God and the people.

"Yobe State as a whole remains grateful to the late governor for the pacesetting development and reconstructive services he rendered and are now being carried on by his successor, Governor Ibrahim Gaidam", the statement said.

PLSHA slams Bauchi Assembly over Jos crisis

From Mahmud Lalo, Jos

THE Plateau State House of Assembly has condemned comments made by the Bauchi State Assembly calling for the imposition of state of emergency in the state over the recent carnage in Jos and environs.

The Assembly made the condemnation yesterday during an emergency sitting presided over by the Speaker of the House Istifanus Mwansat which cut short its recess following the recent crisis in the state. While making their submissions on the crisis, the members condemned the crisis, describing it as barbaric and an action that could deny the state meaningful development. They further decried the comments of the Bauchi Assembly, describing it as retrogressive and capable of jeopardizing democratic structures.

4 die in Navy helicopter crash

From Mohammed Bello, Port Harcourt & Benjamin Auta, Abuja

THREE Naval officers and one rating on board a Nigerian Navy helicopter died yesterday when it crashed in Ogbodo in Isikopo Village in Ikwere Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Our correspondent learnt from military sources near the

crash site yesterday that the helicopter pilot lost control and it plunged into a forest. Identities of the victims are yet to be ascertained. It was also learnt that it was on trail of some oil bunkers but ran out of fuel and had to re-fuel in Warri when it crashed. The Chief of Naval Staff is expected to visit the crash site today, officials said. Our cor-

respondent sighted the serial number N771 on one of the propellers of the helicopter.

The Director of Naval Information Commodore David Dung Nabaida, told *Daily Trust* in Abuja yesterday that the Naval officers were on routine patrol of the Port-Harcourt area in the Niger-Delta region. He said the crash occurred at 1.30 p.m. when

the helicopter was returning to Warri in Delta State to refuel. Nabaida said investigation was on to establish the cause of the crash, while arrangements were being made by the Naval authorities for burial of the victims. He said their identities were being withheld because the families had yet to be contacted as at press time yesterday.

Ex-bank chiefs want court to drop charges

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

FORMER Chief Executive Officer of Bank PHB Francis Atuche and his counterpart, Charles Ojo, yesterday asked a High Court in Lagos to quash the corruption charges levelled against them by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC). The two in sepa-

rate applications are asking the judge, Justice Akinjide Ajakaiye, to dismiss the criminal charges against them on the ground that the allegations are frivolous and defective, insisting that the proof of evidence attached to the charge did not disclose any reasonable allegation against them.

Atuche's counsel, Tony Idigbe,

told the court that the EFCC and the Central Bank of Nigeria issued misleading press statements to turn the public against the ex-bank chiefs. He expressed fear that Atuche would not get a fair trial because of the manner in which the matter had been conducted so far, particularly in the media. Idigbe said the allegations were baseless

because the EFCC failed to attach documentary evidence to substantiate its claims. The accused persons were earlier arraigned on a 26-count charge ranging from criminal grant of loans, abuse of office and granting loans beyond the limit laid down by the bank. The EFCC has however increased the charge from 26 to 45.

VP orders security agencies to find Dina's assailants

By AbdulFattah Olajide

Vice President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan has directed the police to act in concert with other security agencies and fish out without delay the killers of Otunba Dipo Dina, the Action Congress (AC)'s gubernatorial candidate in Ogun State in the

2007 general elections.

A statement released yesterday by the Senior Special Assistant on Media and publicity to the vice president, Mr. Ima Niboro said Jonathan also directed the Inspector General of Police to furnish him with the preliminary report of the investigation on the matter within the next one week.

He said the police boss would brief the vice president on the matter weekly until the murder is solved. Otunba Dina was shot dead on Monday at Sango Ota, near Lagos.

Niboro said "the vice president received with shock and dismay, news of the murder of Otunba Dina by armed assailants. The

Vice President extends deep condolences to the entire Dina family and the Action Congress, and prays the Almighty God to give them the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss."

"We are committed to ensuring that the days where our citizens, whether prominent or not, are casually felled by gunmen of

whatever description, are gone forever.

The relevant intelligence agencies must rise to the occasion; they must find and arrest those behind this dastardly act, and by their punishment, signal to their kind that this administration will not tolerate killings of any sort", he said.

...AC decries Dina's murder

By Maideen Olaniyi

THE Action Congress (AC) yesterday condemned the assassination of its gubernatorial candidate in Ogun State during the 2007 general elections, Otunba Dipo Dina, calling on the police authorities to find his killers.

AC National Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, described Dina's murder as the latest indication of a rising culture of intolerance and insecurity in the country.

Mohammed said "indications are that the killing was not as a result of armed robbery, especially given Otunba's Dina's political battles in Ogun State and the fact that the other two occupants of his car were reportedly unharmed by the killers."

He said "whatever is the motive for killing Otunba Dina - whether it is social, economic or political - it signals a dangerous trend that must be curbed urgently, and the police must start by finding Dina's killers and bringing them to book."

"We know the antecedents of the police vis-à-vis unravelling high level killings in Nigeria does not give room for much optimism, but since we remain a country governed by law, we are left with no choice than to call on the police to do whatever they can to find Dina's killers and make this the last such killing in our country," he stated.

'Death of ex-NEXIM MD is big loss to manufacturers'

By Sunday Williams

THE Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) has described the death of the immediate past Managing Director of the Nigeria Export and Import Bank (NEXIM) Alhaji Mohammed Baba Yusuf as a big loss to manufacturers and by extension Nigeria.

Vice President of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria Senator Walid Jibrin said Yusuf was keen at seeing that the textile sector is revived.

"He was a complete gentleman and hardworking. He was a lover of results and religious. It is unfortunate that the loan he fought for (N100bn textile fund) was not realised in his life time. May his soul rest in peace," he said.

Baba Yusuf died on Saturday at Zankli Hospital, Abuja, aged 50.



ANAMBRA State governorship candidates at a grand political debate in Akwa yesterday.

Screen all passengers at the airports – FG orders

By Shelu Abubakar

ALL passengers travelling on international routes through the nations' airports must submit themselves for screening under the full body scanners irrespective of their status in the society, otherwise they would not be allowed to board any aircraft, the Minister of Aviation, Engineer Babatunde Omotoba said yesterday.

Speaking during a ministerial briefing in Abuja, Omotoba said he has instructed all airlines operating in the country and security agencies to enforce the measure.

The minister said he was subjected to full body scanning at the Lagos airport in compliance with federal government directive subjecting every traveller to such screening. He said following the averted December 25 attempt to blow up an American passengers' plane by a Nigerian, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, Nigeria like many other countries ordered the

installation of full body scanning machines at the nations' airports.

The Minister said a total of 13 body scanners have been ordered at the sum of N48.8 million each. He said the face of global aviation industry has changed completely following the averted December 25 incident, adding that every country of the World is making efforts to upgrade its level of security.

Omotoba said the United States government was not being fair to Nigeria by including it among terrorist prone nations' even when there was no evidence confirming that Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab acquired or passed through Nigeria with his explosives.

He said Nigeria would go through the Commonwealth group of nations to seek redress on the matter, warning that Nigeria would treat the nationals of any nation of the World the way they treat Nigerians in their countries.

Army denies involvement in Anambra guber election

THE 82 Division of the Nigerian Army has denied involvement in any plan to rig the February 6 governorship election in Anambra.

Lt.-Col. Sigr Musa, an Assistant Director of Army Public Relations Department, 82 Division, said in Enugu on Tuesday that "constitutionally the Army has no business in politics".

The PDP, South East, on Sunday had alleged that some of its opponents in the polls had perfected plans to use the military to intimidate the electorate and rig the election.

It alleged that huge sums of money exchanged hands to facilitate the job and called on the Chief of Army staff, Lt.-Gen. Abdulrahman Dambazau, to resist such a move.

Musa said the General Commanding Officer (GOC) and other senior officers of the command had been busy in recent times, inspecting various formations of the Division.

When asked about plans of the Division to deploy troops to Anambra, ahead of the elections, he said: "We are insulated from politics."

"We can only be involved on grounds of securing lives and property, if we are invited by the civil authorities."

"So, there is no iota of truth in the allegation, because I am sure that the GOC or other senior officers have not been approached by anybody, although we are used to such accusations."

On disciplinary measures to check activities of troops posted to road check points on the Enugu-Onitsha dual carriage way, alleged to have joined the police in extorting money from motorists, Musa said the Army would not comprise standards.

He the Division would decisively deal with any soldier found to have flouted the ethics of the job and called on the public to forward evidence of extortions by members of the force. (NAN)

PIC: NAN

Customs recovers N12bn in 3 months

By Sunday Williams

BETWEEN October and December last year, the Nigeria Customs Service investigated 118 cases and recovered N12 billion underpayments back to the government coffers, the Comptroller General of Customs, Dikko Inde Abdulahi has said.

He disclosed this yesterday in Abuja while speaking at the 2010 international Customs day with the theme; Customs and

Business: Improving performance through partnerships.

Represented by DCG Munikat Adegoke, the Comptroller General said while the volume of underpayments is huge, it is more worrisome that corporate giants including oil majors, commercial banks, and many others are involved in the fraudulent practices.

He said the World Customs Organisation (WCO) under whose umbrella the Interna-

tional Customs Day is celebrated annually recognised the organised private sector as important partner in realising its objectives.

He said the ongoing Custom Reforms and modernization projects and the Port concession projects underscore the faith of the Federal Government in the strength of effective Public Private Partnership (PPP).

He said the Customs has identified over 60 companies and have been admitted into the fast-clearance concession scheme adding

that other companies who demonstrate such honesty and diligence will be considered as worthy of being trusted and will be admitted into the scheme."

He said some of the fraudulent acts are facilitated through collusion with officers in the customs pointing that they are addressing the problems including prompt investigation of cases, adding 2 officers were dismissed while six others were reduced in ranks in the last quarter of 2009.

PIC: NAN



EMIR of Mubi, Adamawa State, Alhaji Abubakar Isa (middle) with officers from the Command and Staff College, Jaji Senior Course 32 who paid him a courtesy call at his palace in Mubi.

Nigeria has over 300,000 ounces of untapped gold – Minister

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

MINISTER of Mines and Steel Development Mrs Diezani Alison-Madueke has said Nigeria has over 300,000 ounces untapped gold, which could help government actualise its efforts of diversifying the economy and solve the problem of unemployment in the country.

The minister who disclosed this yesterday at the public presentation of the Airborne Geophysical Survey of Nigeria, said Nigerian gold is similar to that of Ghana, which is producing the 10% of the world's gold and is the second largest producer.

She said her ministry adopted a strategy placing special focus on seven of the minerals available in the country, adding that from the survey carried out last year "by one of our junior mining companies, to the depth of 3,000 meters has proved that more than 300,000 ounces, with 2 million ounces estimated."

The minister said noted that the discovery of oil in the late 1950s robbed minerals of its primacy in the country's economy. She observed that the country has "gone from being, at one time, the world's largest exporter of Columbite and the 6th largest producer of Cassiterite (Tin), to a net importer of solid mineral material, for industry."

Jos crisis culprits 'll be prosecuted – Aondoakaa

By Boco Edet

SUSPECTS identified to have been involved in the recent crisis in Jos, Plateau state would be prosecuted no matter how highly placed, Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice Michael Kaase Aondoakaa said yesterday.

Aonodoakaa who called an emergency meeting of the Body of Attorneys-General from 36 states of the Federation in Abuja said the Federal Government can no longer tolerate such incidents which dent the country's image.

"As the chief law officers of our respective jurisdictions, we bear a great burden in ensuring that the law is used as a potent instrument to punish these sorts of criminal action through the impartial investigation of all infractions and the prompt pros-

ecution of all identified suspects, no matter how highly placed," the minister said.

He said Section 15 of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) Act provides a legal strategy to deal with the mounting concern about terrorism and terrorist activities.

The AGF said, "While the Federal Government is engaged in intense diplomatic efforts to address issues arising from this misclassification by the American Government, we must equally demonstrate the necessary political will and legal strategies to deal with all internal criminal actions which reinforce this unfortunate perception of Nigeria in certain foreign circles."

He said the Federal Government would continue to abide by all judgements of the court regarding the absence of President Umaru Yar'adua.

Abuja Court says it lacks jurisdiction on oil well suit

By Sunday Ejike Benjamin

A Federal High Court in Abuja yesterday declined the call by the Rivers State Government to make pronouncement on the legality of the transfer of about 76 oil wells allegedly belonging to it to Akwa Ibom State for want of jurisdiction.

Justice Adamu Bello, in a ruling that lasted for about two hours said it is only the Supreme Court that has the jurisdiction to entertain disputes between two states and therefore has the exclusive jurisdiction to adjudicate the case, given the subject-matter of the lawsuit and the parties

involved.

Justice Bello who observed that although the case has some trappings of lawsuits which fall within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal High court however said, "looking at the parties involved in the case and nature of the dispute submitted for determination which involved questions of law and facts on which the existence or extent of a legal right depends, it was clear that by virtue of section 232 (1) of the 1999 constitution, only the Supreme Court had the jurisdiction to entertain the case."

NDE state coordinators visit Turkey for capacity building

By Francis Okeke from Turkey

NATIONAL Directorate of Employment (NDE) coordinators in the 36 states of the federation and Abuja are in Sanliurfa Turkey for a two weeks capacity building tour on skills acquisition and employment generation.

Led by the Director Small Scale Enterprises of the directorate Alhaji Isma'ila

Umar, the team which includes staff from the directorate's headquarters Abuja will use the visit to understudy the Turkish system of self empowerment through skills acquisition and trade.

The team will also meet experts in small scale enterprises and visit various training centres across the Turkish town of Sanliurfa.

The team which arrived Turkey on

Sunday has already visited a training centre for women where hair dressing, embroidery, tailoring, pastry and home economics amongst others are taught.

They will also visit irrigation aided all year farming communities, soap, informatics as well as copper and glass workshops.

Highlights of the tour include a visit

to old traditional style markets, meeting experts from Turkey's Ministry of Trade and Industry, officials of the country's medium enterprises development organisation, confederation of Turkish tradesmen and craftsmen, association of tertiary education management Inc, bazaar developers, ministry of public works and housing, Turkey Employment Agency and the youth culture house.



PHOTO: FELIX ONIGBINDE

FROM left: House of Representatives member Chris Ettah, Dean of Faculty Board of Initiatives, House of Reps member Esemey Eyiboh, Emir of Minna Alhaji Umar Farouq Bahago; House of Reps members Lanre Agoro and Kamil Akinlani during their visit to Minna yesterday.

UK to partner Nigeria on job creation

By Yunus Abdulhamid & Maureen Onochie

THE United Kingdom through the British Council is requesting to partner the Nigeria government to generate employment opportunities for young graduates in Nigeria.

The Programmes Director of the British Council in Nigeria, Ben Fisher yesterday led a four-man delegation to visit the minister of Science and Technology, Dr Alhassan Bako Zaku in Abuja.

Ben told the minister that the council was interested in building an employment model called Africa Knowledge Transfer Partnerships where young graduates are placed on temporal employment with companies where they garner hands-on experience, thereby enhancing their employability.

He said the model was time tested having been in operation in the United Kingdom for the past 30 years following the recession of that era and had been found to be worth the effort at generating employment and improving on commercialisation of researches from universities and research centres. "The number of partners has increased to 2000 in the past years. It helps create employment and build future business leaders. For the programme to work, universities are needed for partnering with research institutions as the academics usually find it problematic relating with the business people," Ben said.

Jos: State of emergency unnecessary - Sen Dantong

By Abbas Jimoh & AbdulMutallib A. Abubakar

DECLARING state of emergency in the crisis-ridden Jos, Plateau State would not have solved the problem, Senator Gyang Dalyp Dantong, representing Plateau North Senatorial district said yesterday. Reacting to questions posed to him by Al-Jazeera network, Senator Dantong said that if the state of emergency declared

in 2004 did not work, it would not have worked now.

"The state of emergency will not solve this type of problem. And actually what we have been made is that is to encourage to enforce more security. And the state of emergency will not and it has not solved the problem.

In 2006 or so there was a state of emergency but it did not solve the problem and if we put a state of emergency now it will still not

solve the problem. What we need is people coming together to talk to another and to see how the federal government can enforce security and may be employ more funds," Dantong said.

When asked to comment on allegation that security forces were involved in the crisis, he said that persons dressed in military uniform were involved in the mayhem, adding that those persons made the matter worse.

He said, "The opinion of the people though I was not there on the ground but certainly there were some people dressed in security uniform which did not look like soldiers and they were involved in this crisis. I think these people were the ones who really made the crisis worse. The casualties would have been less but these people who dressed in army uniform having army ammunitions.

Senate to give FEC one-week ultimatum

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terday's session. Chairman of the Senate Committee on Information and Media, Senator Ayogu Eze (PDP, Enugu North) said the Senate was yet to reach a conclusion on the matter, as some senators have not had the opportunity to express their minds on the issue due to time constraint.

He said, "Everybody who wants to speak will be given the opportunity to do so. The discussion will continue tomorrow in closed door session and we are going to conclude and come out with a position." Eze parried all questions put to him by reporters on the matter, saying "We are still integrating the issues. We have not concluded the matter."

But reliable sources told *Daily Trust* that the senators had

a stormy session as they were sharply divided on the issue of whether or not Vice President Goodluck Jonathan should officially take over as acting president.

The source said the session was rowdy because of the disagreements between senators moving for immediate swearing-in of the VP as acting President and those that insisted on the President remaining in charge even while on sick bed.

One of the immediate past state governors who spoke in support of President Yar'adua remaining in charge was said to have been shouted down by his colleagues who accused him of working against national interest.

"Even senators from Katsina state who were against the debate on the president's health have

agreed that there is a problem due to the president's ill health. The matter is beginning to divide the country on North/South basis and this is dangerous for the unity of the country. It is not about an individual now. Nobody is against the president but this is about our collective interest," a source said.

Daily Trust also learnt yesterday that the Senate leadership will shortly put forward a motion raised by a group of senators seeking to give the Vice President powers to assume duties as acting president while the health status of President Yar'adua is being investigated.

As the debate on the matter continues today, some senators have moved that the issues must be put to voting in order to allow for a democratic resolution of the matter.

This is the last Jos carnage

Continued from page 1

in Plateau State to work out a lasting solution. "Apart from the top government functionaries and top security men who came with me, six governors representing the six geopolitical zones are also here," he said.

Vice President Jonathan was in Jos for about five hours yesterday, visiting areas affected by the recent crisis in Plateau State. He was received on arrival at the airport by Governor Jonah Jang and top officials of the Plateau State government, and he was also briefed by security agencies in the state.

On his entourage were Secretary to the Government of the Federation Mahmud Yayale Ahmed as well as Governors Bukola Saraki of Kwara, Muazu Babangida Aliyu of Niger, Isa Yuguda of Bauchi, Olagunsoye Oyinlola of Osun, Sullivan Chime of Enugu and Timipre Sylva of Bayelsa States. Minister of State for Information and Communication Ikra Bilbis was also on the entourage.

Speaking later at the Police College, the vice president also said he had directed the police to commence investigations in earnest into the causes of the recent crisis. He said the Federal Government would prosecute those found culpable and bring them to book.

He said he felt bad with the level of destruction and carnage resulting from the crisis and condoled with those who lost loved ones.

He told newsmen while rounding up his visit that the Federal Government was putting machineries in place to ensure that the violence did not spread to other parts of the country. Jonathan said he travelled with governors from the six geopolitical zones in the country so that they would assess the state of affairs in the state first hand and brief their colleagues in order to forestall reprisal attacks. Governor of Kwara State Dr Bukola Saraki, who spoke on behalf of the Governors' Forum, also commiserated with the affected people. Saraki said the 36 governors had put up a fund to assist those who lost their property in the crisis.

Speaking earlier, Governor Jonah Jang of Plateau State urged the Federal Government to deal with the culprits of the various crises in Jos. Jang said that the culprits of the 2008 crisis in the state were not dealt with, adding "If they had been dealt with, maybe we will not have had a repeat." He appealed to the people in the state to give peace a chance. Jang also said the report of the Ajibola Panel on the 2008 crisis in the state would soon be ready and he promised to forward it to the Federal Government.

What section 88 of the Constitution says

Section 88 (1) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, each House of the National Assembly shall have power by resolution published in its journal or in the Official Gazette of the Government of the Federation to direct or cause to be directed investigation into - (a) any matter or thing with respect to which it has power to make laws, and (b) the conduct of affairs of any per-

son, authority, ministry or government department charged, or intended to be charged, with the duty of or responsibility for -

(i) Executing or administering laws enacted by National Assembly, and (ii) disbursing or administering moneys appropriated or to be appropriated by the National Assembly.

(2) The powers conferred on the National Assembly under

the provisions of this section are exercisable only for the purpose of enabling it to - (a) make laws with respect to any matter within its legislative competence and correct any defects in existing laws; and (b) expose corruption, inefficiency or waste in the execution or administration of laws within its legislative competence and in the disbursement or administration of funds appropriated by it.

Katsina replies Obj on Yar'adua

From Lawal Ibrahim, Katsina

IN an apparent response to the call for President Umaru Yar'adua's resignation by former president Olusegun Obasanjo, the people of Katsina State yesterday warned the former president and others to realise that the ill-health of the president should not be a basis for political manipulation in the country.

At a rally and prayer ses-

sion attended by politicians and clergymen from the 34 local government areas of the state at Kangiwa Square yesterday, the people urged Nigerians to regard Yar'adua's ill-health as a call from his creator and pray for his speedy recovery.

In a remark, Governor Ibrahim Shema cautioned against politicization of the president's ill-health and described as inappropriate, utterances on the sub-

ject and advised people to engage in intense prayers and sober reflection.

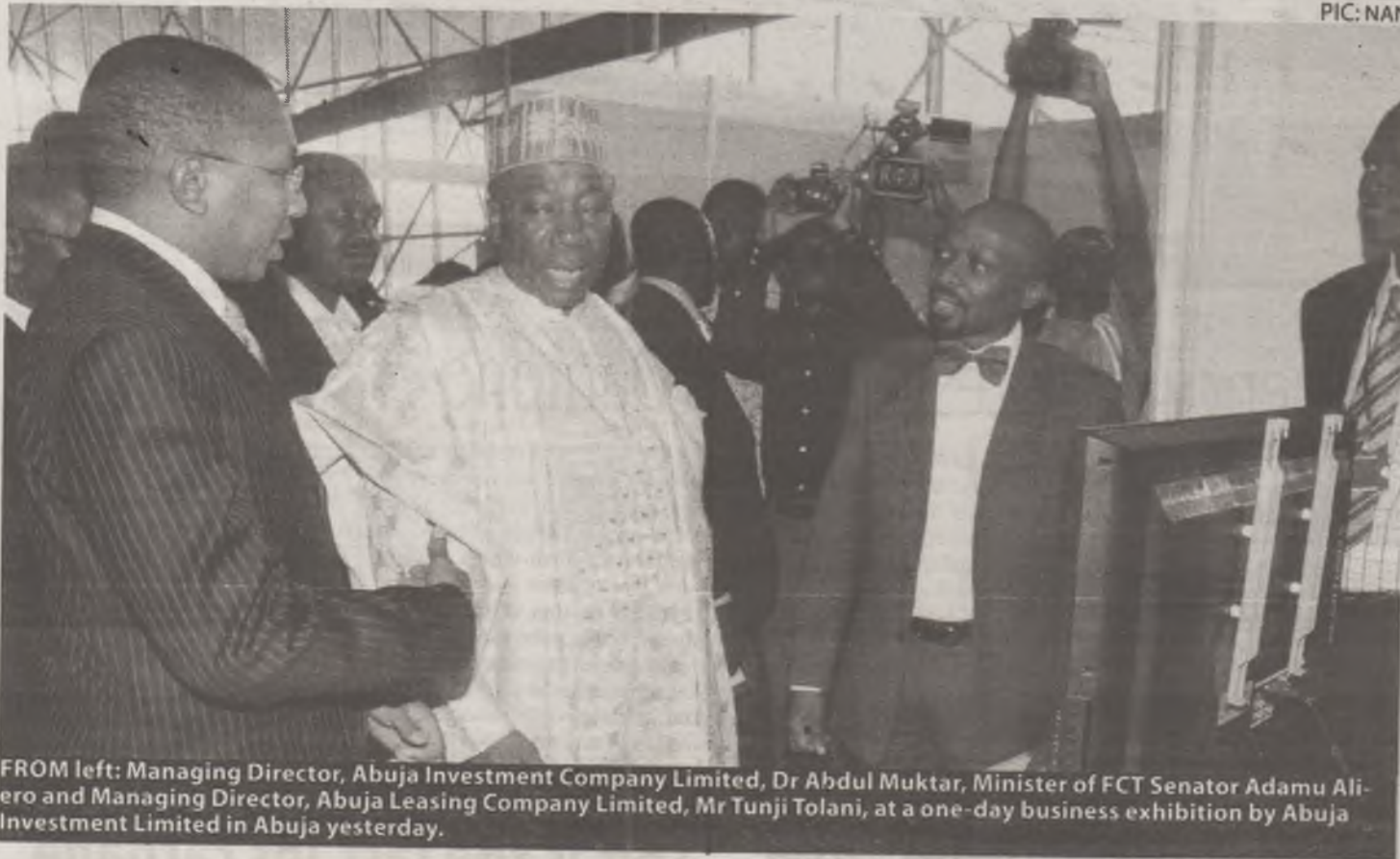
"We all have the responsibility to offer prayers for the speedy recovery of the president because he is in a state accorded by his creator which simply requires intense prayers for him to recover and continue with the good works he has started for Nigeria", he said.

Hundreds of youths also

besieged the venue with placards. Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Katsina vowed to deal with all those calling for Yar'adua's resignation declaring, "We know the enemies of President Yar'adua and we will tackle them no matter how highly placed".

The rally and prayer session was attended by the emirs of Katsina and Daura, business mogul Dahiru Bara'u Mangal,

Action Alliance (AC) chieftain Alhaji Lawal Kaita, PDP BOT member Alhaji Iro Danmusa and all party elders across the state. Others include members of the state executive council, state assembly and local government chairmen as well as leading Imams of the two major central mosques Imams Muhammadu Lawal and Liman Abba and clergies and their followers from all the 34 LGC's of the state.



FROM left: Managing Director, Abuja Investment Company Limited, Dr Abdul Muktar, Minister of FCT Senator Adamu Aliero and Managing Director, Abuja Leasing Company Limited, Mr Tunji Tolani, at a one-day business exhibition by Abuja Investment Limited in Abuja yesterday.

Walid Jibrin asks Obj to resign as PDP BOT chairman

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

A member of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Board of Trustees (BOT) yesterday asked their chairman, former President Olusegun Obasanjo to resign following his remarks on the illness of his successor, Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'adua.

Former President Obasanjo had while chairing the annual Media Trust Dialogue in Abuja last week asked his successor to take the path of honour and resign following his ill health.

This is coming days after the national secretariat of the party described the former president as insincere and a subject of ridicule. Addressing newsmen in Kaduna yesterday, a member of the PDP BOT, Senator Walid Jibrin, said the former president does not deserve to continue as their chairman after what he called "shameful and deceitful remarks on President Yar'adua". He also asked the former president to apologise to Nigerians over the statement.

"Instead of Obasanjo to follow the real path of honour and morality, he went astray recommending resignation of President Yar'adua. He is encouraging demonstrators, thus adding fuel to the fire," he said.

He said Obasanjo was illegally occupying the position of chairman of the party's BOT because a new election should have been held in conformity with the decisions taken at the convention.

Jibrin said if the former president refused to resign, he would move a motion for the dissolution of the BOT to give room for fresh elections.

"As a former president of Nigeria and as the chairman of the highest advisory body of the PDP, Obasanjo has many avenues to address the issue of the president's ill-health such as the BOT, National Working Committee, PDP NEC, and the National Council of States, instead of going to the public," he added. He said Nigerians should concentrate on praying for the quick recovery of the president. Senator Jibrin also appealed to Nigerians to allow the National Assembly perform its functions, saying the country's legislature was capable of handling the matter.

Daniel, Adegbite, others condemn Dipo Dina's killing

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

OGUN State Governor Otunba Gbenga Daniel and the Secretary-General of the Nigerian Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (NSCIA) Dr. Lateef Adegbite yesterday joined other Nigerians and politicians to condemn the killing of the Action Congress (AC) governorship candidate in the 2007 general election, Otunba Dipo Dina at Ota Monday.

The governor described the killing as heinous and criminal, while Adegbite corroborated him, calling for caution in branding the killing "political".

Our correspondent recalled that a cousin of the former Com-

missioner for Agriculture in the state, Waliu Taiwo, was also killed by yet to be identified gunmen on October 16, 2009 at the same area. Dina according to reports was killed at about 9.30pm along the Ota/Idioko road close to Winners Church, Ota.

A cross section of politicians and associates who spoke with our correspondent yesterday expressed fear and concern on the killing, lamenting that the political terrain of the state, particularly ahead of the 2011 elections, had become a matter for second thought.

Former Deputy Speaker of the state House, Tokunbo Oshin said the death of Dina would no doubt

affect the psyche of the political class in the state.

"In fact, I have received no less than 100 messages appealing to me in particular and the rest of the G-15 in the House to tread softly and be careful of our movement." Oshin, a top PDP member described Dina, "As a young promising politician who fought a gallant fight and he had left for us the fight to carry on."

"He's death is a blow to Ijebu-ode, Ijebu land and the entire Nigeria", he said. Secretary of the Action Congress (AC) in the state Alhaji Abimbola Awofeso said the political field would no longer be same, as more vibrant and resourceful citizens would

now have to think twice before coming on board.

Governor Daniel in a statement signed by his Chief Press Secretary Adegbenro Adebajo said, "I am saddened by the reprehensible and ungodly act. It is a condemnable act and those responsible must be speedily brought to justice by security agencies.

This is one case that the police must do all that is possible to crack. On behalf of the government and people of Ogun State, I commiserate with the family and friends of Otunba Dipo Dina and pray that God will give them the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss", he said.

Lagos taskforce nabs 96 suspected prostitutes

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

ABOUT 96 suspected prostitutes have been arrested by the Lagos State Taskforce on Environment and Special Offences.

Addressing newsmen yesterday in Lagos, the chairman of the taskforce, Mr. Bayo Suleiman, said the suspected prostitutes were picked up on Vic-

toria Island, Lagos. According to him, the suspects were picked up between 1:00am and 3:00am Saturday.

He said two of the women were pregnant, yet were clad scantily.

Some of the suspects who spoke with our correspondent said they were victims of failed relationships. Others amidst tears vowed never to return to the trade.

Borno gets c'tte on pension payment

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

THE Borno State government has appointed an eight member committee for the payment of arrears to pensioners at the state and local government levels.

The Director of Press to Governor Ali Modu Sheriff, Usman Chiroma disclosed in a statement issued yesterday.

He said the governor approved N44.438 million for the payment.

Sheriff urged members of the committee to ensure transparency and accountability in the disbursement of the money.

The state Commissioner for Urban and Rural Water Supply Abubakar Kyari is to serve as the committee's Chairman.

It would be recalled that weeks ago pensioners in the state gave the state government an ultimatum to pay their gratuities, threatening to demonstrate.

Compliance with helmet order poor in North — Chidoka

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

ONE year after the crash helmet order for motorcyclists, the Corps Marshal of the Federal Road Safety Corp (FRSC) Mr Osita

Chidoka has said that motorcyclists in the northern states were yet to implement it.

He said lack of publicity made usage of helmets in the region difficult and the FRSC would solicit

the help of emirs and the media to educate the people.

He said plans had reached an advanced stage to ensure full compliance with the order.

Mr Chidoka who led a del-

egation of officers to Minna yesterday to condole former Military President Ibrahim Babangida over the death of his wife, Maryam, described the deceased as a philanthropist and

mother of all.

Responding, General Babangida thanked Chidoka for the visit and urged him to continue the good work of ridding Nigerian roads of accidents.



STOLEN Nigerian antiquities recovered from France arriving back home yesterday.

Niger pilgrims to pay caution deposit

FROM Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

INTENDING Muslim pilgrims from Niger State will henceforth pay a refundable N25,000 as caution deposit, the state Pilgrims welfare Board (NSPWB) has said. In a statement signed by the Executive Chairman of NSPWB Engineer Mammam Muhammad, the N25,000 would serve as a valid condition for securing seats for hajj.

“With effect from 2010, every intending pilgrim will pay a caution deposit of N25,000. The caution deposit will be refunded after the hajj if pilgrims do not violate rules stipulated by the NSPWB”, he said. He said the by-law also mandated pilgrims to take part in the Saudi Arabia backed Hadaya arrangement under the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and Al-Rajhi Bank.

“Each pilgrim will pay the full amount due to the Hadaya under the IDB Al-Rajhi Bank in addition to the hajj fare. No seat will be allocated to any intending pilgrim until the Hadaya money has been paid”, he added.

Rival gangs clash in Gusau

From Sadeeq Aliyu, Gusau

TWO rival gangs of suspected criminals Monday clashed in the Tullukawa area of Gusau, Jigawa State. Witnesses said the incident made residents to run for safety.

The cause of the clash is yet to be ascertained. The Police Public Relations Officer ASP Lawal Abdullahi said the police arrested nine persons including one of the leaders, Anas Balami, with daggers, cutlasses, knives and sticks.

He added that the state Commissioner of Police M.J. Abubakar had ordered an investigation into the incident.

In a related development, three men, Aliyu Sirajo, Muntari Ibrahim and Abubakar Mohammed, were yesterday arrested at Bakin

Kasuwa in Gusau town for breaking into a house and stealing.

Property recovered from them include handsets, generators and tape recorders. The police spokesman maintained that they had intensified patrols to check crime in the state.

Yuguda promises free education for displaced children

From Muhammad Abubakar, Bauchi

BAUCHI State Governor Isa Yuguda has promised to provide children whose parents fled Jos to Bauchi free education up to secondary school level.

The governor who spoke when he visited Toro where thousands are taking refuge also promised to make them comfortable.

He went there in company

of his deputy, Babayo Garba Gamawa and other top government officials.

The governor also presented some relief materials, including bags of rice, bags of maize, buckets and spoons. About 8,000 persons are taking refuge in Magama Gumau, Toro, Tilden Fulani in Toro Local Government Area and Boto in Tafawa Balewa Local Government Area of the state.

Forum lauds police handling of Etsako re-run

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

THE Isoko Consultative Forum in Edo State has commended Assistant Inspector General of Police Force Headquarters, Mr. Felix Ogbaudu for his competent handling of the Etsako Central House of Assembly re-run election.

In a statement signed by the Chairman of the Forum Senator Francis Okpozo, it said the impartial and non-partisan disposition of the police in the conduct of the election had raised hope that free and fair election was possible in the country if those entrusted with the responsibilities could muster the cour-

age to do the right things.

“No doubt, there was high tension before the election because of the utterances of political party leaders involved in the election. We are however relieved and happy that the election was incident-free, free and fair”, the statement said.

“The Isoko Consultative Forum is particularly happy and proud that Mr. Ogbaudu, our kinsman, has not let us down in the discharge of his duty. We congratulate him and pray that God should strengthen him just as we urge other Isoko sons and daughters in positions of authority to stand up and be counted on the side of the peo-

ple”, it added.

The forum called on the Federal Government to do everything possible to ensure that the feat achieved by the police in the area was replicated in the Anambra gubernatorial election slated for February 6, 2010.

According to the Isoko forum, the time has come for Nigerians to rise to take positive steps to re-position the country and arrest the decline in all facets of national life, especially in ensuring that electoral reform hinged on one man one vote takes root, saying, “For that is the only way those elected into offices can be held accountable by those who elected them”.

Court rejects application for stay of proceedings

By Sunday Ejike Benjamin

AN Abuja High Court has rejected an application for stay of proceedings brought by the Chief Security Officer (CSO) to President Umaru Musa Yar'adua, Yusuf Tilde who is standing trial for alleged dispossession of plots of land belonging to one Bello Umar without due process.

Tilde had approached the Court with an oral application for stay of proceedings in the suit pending the outcome of an appeal for inter-

locutory injunction, but the court said the application lack merit.

The presiding Judge, Justice Mudashiru Oniyangi adjourned till February 10, 2010 for adoption of written addresses by parties involved in the suit.

The Federal Government had earlier told the court that it has no jurisdiction to entertain Umar's application against the President's Chief Security Officer accused of dispossessing him of his plot of land located in Asokoro district of Abuja without recourse to due

process of the law.

Tilde had in a notice of preliminary objection through his Counsel; Mr. Malik Akhunegebe challenged the competence of the suit as well as the jurisdiction of the Court to entertain same.

Akhunegebe told the Court that the only application ripe for hearing by the court is the notice of preliminary objection and that the competence of the suit and the jurisdiction of the Court to entertain same are being challenged.

He said if the Court decides to

consolidate the preliminary objection and the substantive suit; it will amount to shutting the door against the defendant in respect of the application for stay of proceedings. But the Counsel representing Umar, Ben Anachebe (SAN) told the Court that the application is a procedural one which calls for the discretion of the Court whether to take the notice of preliminary objection separately or together with the substantive suit.

Drawing the Court's attention to a precedent of the Supreme Court

judgment, Anachebe maintained that: "In a situation where an action is commenced by originating summons, the apex court held that substantive suit and notice of preliminary objection should be taken together"

Justice Oniyangi therefore ruled that the two applications will be taken together, adding that all the parties will be given a level playing ground if the two applications are taken together as parties will be given equal opportunity and right of appeal.



MINISTER of Aviation Mr. Babatunde Omotoba (right) with the Minister of Information and Communications Professor Dora Akunyili during the 2010 ministerial press briefing in Abuja yesterday.

US Asst Sec to visit Nigeria and five other countries

By Aisha Umar

U.S. Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Johnnie Carson will be visiting Nigeria and five other countries which include Spain, Ethiopia, Ghana, Togo and Benin. It will take place from January 26 and February 10.

A statement from U.S embassy said that during his trip to Nigeria, Assistant Secretary Carson will visit Lagos and Abuja. While in Lagos he will meet with members of civil society and representatives of the state government. Bilateral talks with Vice President Goodluck Jonathan and Foreign Affairs Chief Ojo Maduekwe will highlight the Abuja part of the trip.

Assistant Secretary Carson will also travel to Madrid, Spain where he will be meeting with his counterparts from the European Union. Spain holds the Presidency of the EU.

Assistant Secretary Carson will go to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for the African Union Summit. The U.S. delegation is being led by Under Secretary Maria Otero. Apart from the Summit, the U.S. delegation will hold bilateral discussions with African leadership.

He will later travel to West Africa beginning in Ghana where he will confer with President Mills, meet with representatives of the business community, and deliver remarks at a regional USAID conference in Accra. In Togo, he is scheduled to meet with President Faure, Prime Minister Houngbo, and Foreign Minister Esaw. Similarly, the Assistant Secretary has meetings in Benin planned with President Yayi and Foreign Minister Ehouzou.

Culture minister challenges security agencies on artifacts recovery

By Benjamin Auta

SECURITY agencies in the country have been charged to take their responsibility of preventing protecting and recovering the nation's stolen artifacts at all ports of entry and exit more seri-

ously. Minister of Culture, Tourism and National Orientation, Senator Bello Jibrin Gada gave the charge while declaring open a one day national workshop on illicit trafficking of cultural properties in Abuja yesterday.

The Minister who described

cultural properties as the "soul of the nation and the pages of our history" said that early antiquity legislations in the country have been repealed to give way to the expansion of authority regulating the institution.

Earlier, the Director Gen-

eral of the National Commission for Museum and Monument (NCMM) Malam Yusuf Abdallah Usman, lamented that illicit trafficking of artifacts was impoverishing the growth potentials of the art and culture sector.

State of emergency not solution to Plateau crisis –Dariye

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

THE former Plateau State governor, Joshua Dariye yesterday rejected the calls to impose a state of emergency in the state because of recent sectarian violence, saying it would not provide lasting solution, saying when it was

enforced during his reign the situation became worse.

He said since the country is practicing democracy any decision to be taken must be in tandem with constitution of the country, stating that state of emergency is unconstitutional.

He noted that the constitution

provides for the establishment of military troops between Federal and state governments to restore law and order.

Dariye who spoke to BBC Hausa Service yesterday after their meeting with former Head of State General Yakubu Gowon and the state ex-governors Chief

Solomon Lar and Michael Botmang said that for a lasting peace to prevail the recommendations of panel of inquiry must be implemented without bias, emphasizing the need for both federal and state government to work together to fish out the culprits and bring them to justice.



ECW/PARL/GAT/31/19-01/jak

PARLIAMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES

INVITATION TO BID

The Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States, otherwise called the ECOWAS Parliament, hereby invites bids from reputable firms for a consultancy for the review of the structure of the General Secretariat of the ECOWAS Parliament. The Parliament, which is composed of 115 seats (with each of the fifteen Member-States having a minimum of five seats), was established by Articles 6 and 13 of 1993 ECOWAS Revised Treaty. The Protocol on the Parliament was signed in Abuja on 06 August, 1994, and entered into force on 14 March, 2002.

2. In the course of the on-going transitional period, and pending the election of the members by universal adult suffrage, hopefully in 2010, the Parliament performs a consultative role in matters concerning the Community, especially matters of human rights and fundamental freedoms. At the end of the transition period, the Parliament will transform from making recommendations to other organs of the Community to the status of a co-decision-making body with the Council of Ministers, and subsequently, a legislative role in specific areas.

3. At its inception in 2002, the ECOWAS Parliament had a singular Department of Administration and Finance. However, following the restructuring of the ECOWAS Parliament undertaken in 2006, the Parliament now has a political wing and a two-department administrative wing.

4. The political wing of the Parliament comprises three organs: the Plenary, the Bureau of parliament, and the Conference of Committees Bureaux. The Plenary which is the General Assembly of Parliament is the highest decision-making organ of the Institution. The Bureau of parliament, which is made up of the Speaker and the four deputy Speakers, is the governing body and draws its powers from and functions from the Rules of procedures and other legal texts of the Institution. The third political organ is the Conference of Committees Bureaux and comprises the Speaker, the four Deputy Speakers and the First as well as the Second Rapporteurs of each of the 13 (thirteen) Standing Committees. It derives its powers and functions from the Rules of Procedure and the Terms of Reference of each Committee.

5. The administrative wing of the ECOWAS Parliament is headed by the Secretary-General, who, as the institutional memory of the Parliament, is the professional chief adviser to the Honourable Speaker on all issues of administration and procedure. The two departments in the administrative wing are: the Department of Administration & Finance and the Department of Parliamentary Affairs.

6. Based on the experience gained in the last three years of the operationalization of the present structure, the Bureau of Parliament, at its last sitting in October, 2009, directed the General Secretariat to undertake a consultancy to make recommendations on a more appropriate structure for the General Secretariat.

7. Against this background, the consultant selected is expected to, with reference to relevant texts which will be made available, propose a new structure for the General Secretariat that should in addition to better equipping the administrative wing to meet the contemporary challenges of regional parliaments, would also, inter alia:

- Make the Secretary-General more responsive to the demands of the legislative organs of Parliament;
- Achieve a better synergy between the Political Organs on the one hand and the individual departments of the general Secretariat on the other;
- Recommend an appropriate size for the various departments as well as make proposals on the job profile for each post in order to create conditions for better segregation of duties, aimed at achieving a more effective accomplishment of tasks by the staff members (the current staff disposition list of the General Secretariat is attached as Table);
- Advise on the efficacy or otherwise of the existing two-department structure of the institution and make appropriate recommendations;
- Examine any other issues relating or incidental to the foregoing terms of reference and formulate necessary proposals for the purpose of enhancing the responsiveness and effective service delivery by the General Secretariat of the ECOWAS Parliament.

8. This consultancy which should have a duration not exceeding 60 (sixty) working days, will attract appropriate fees to be paid in United States Dollars. Interested management firms are therefore invited to submit bids indicating Currency and validity period of quotation along with the following documents:

- i) A copy of valid business registration certificate;
- ii) A copy of Tax Clearance Certificate (for the three years)
- iii) Documentary evidence of at least three similar consultancies undertaken in the last three or four years;
- iv) A statement of the firm's technical equipment and facilities;
- v) Financial statements, including balance sheet, statement of turn-over.

9. Sealed bids along with the required documentation, should be addressed to:

The Secretary-General,
ECOWAS Parliament,
International Conference Centre,
Area 10 Garki,
P. M. B. 576,
Abuja, Nigeria.

The closing date for the receipt of bids is Monday, 15 February, 2010

**Secretary-General
ECOWAS Parliament
Abuja**

Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON www.dailytrust.com



1,265 orphans, 213 widows in Bauchi camps

MY heart bleeds, tears of sorrow and anguish run down my cheeks for this inhumanity of man against fellow human beings. This is a version of an earthquake in Nigeria, of equal mag-

nitude to a Tsunami. All NGOs and humanitarian organizations should please rush to these camps and others where ever located to render humanitarian assistance. NEMA, NSCDC

and other states agencies must be commended. Individuals and philanthropists should complement the government's efforts in this direction. The situation at hand is urgent before it degen-

erate further. Little children are exposed to the risks of all sorts of outbreaks. Imagine if it was your family or yourself that is in this situation. God will certainly not let the perpetrators of this cruelty

go free. If they do not pay for it here on earth, they will pay in the hereafter.

Badamasi Haiba
badhaiba@yahoo.com

Former President Shagari speaks on Jos crisis, Yar'adua

DEAR Sir, I think that on the issue of President Yar'adua's health, you are playing to a gallery. It seems you are trying to 'play safe' on an issue of this magnitude. Yar'adua is not an Emir, Oba, or Obi, who must rule till his ultimate end. Our nation Nigeria is in crisis, and we expect our elder statesmen to be less economical with the truth on the way forward!!

Thomas George
okirika_george@yahoo.co.uk

I think the Federal Government should stand boldly against these 'shadow elites' of Plateau state before they plunge the country into full blown war. Mr Obasanjo had to declare a state of emergency as a warning to them. You have to act now.

Pedr
pedbabs@gmail.com

I think his Excellency is not been honest on his comment about the Yar'adua situation. The president made a constitutional error of not communicating his medical leave in writing which will enable the Vice President take over in acting capacity till his return, which if done will have avoided the power vacuum he created. The agitation at present is not for him to resign but rather to follow the required constitutional provision. Think of it, if he can sign the budget on his sick bed and grant an interview to the BBC, he can surely sign a letter of absence.

Abdulfattah Muhammad
abdulfattahmuhammad@yahoo.com

Shagari's advice is belated. It won't change anything. We are tired of praying and begging God to come and solve man made problems.

Abdulhakeem Bello
abdulhakeem@yahoo.com

Police: 362 died in Plateau crisis

THE best solution for lasting peace in Jos is the permanent stay of military. The Federal Government should please declare state of emergency in Plateau, period.

Ade Mbare
ade123M@yahoo.com

If the Nigerian police confirmed the death of 326 people then the true figure is most likely twice that number. The repeat of this type of crisis in future must be guarded against.

Aminu Tukur
orierr@hotmail.co.uk

Why Plateau CP was redeployed

I will recommend that the former Plateau State Commissioner of Police Gregory Anyanting should not only be as redeployed but should be investigated. As a peace officer, his comment was very unfortunate especially at such a sensitive moment. Rather than helping the situation, Gregory's made it worse and may have even contributed to the later killings Jos witnessed. It is equally important that the police authority ensure all senior police officers are properly trained in public relations to prevent a future reoccurrence.

Jan Fanuel
janfanuel@yahoo.com

That was the best action taken. However, the former Police Com-

INSPECTOR General of Police Ogbonna Onovo

missioner should be disciplined and not just redeployed to Abuja. How could he, less than one hour after the fracas in Nassarawa

Gwom, call a press conference and apportion blame?

Joseph
bigboi9@yahoo.com

We are handicapped in prosecuting suspects –PLSG

IF what the Plateau State Attorney General has said about the 300 case files of suspects arrested during the last October crisis in Plateau state is true, then the Nigerian Police should carry the larger blame for the latest crisis. How can you imagine a suspect that committed a heinous offence of that gravity being released without being made to go through the course of the law? By these kinds of actions by the police, Nigerians will feel increasingly more insecure since the perpetrators of dastardly acts like killings can go scot-free. What option is there for the people then? Is it to go the way of a jungle justice and take the law into their hands to protect themselves? I fear for and sympa-



PLATEAU State Governor Jonah Jang

thize with my country people if the authority concerned cannot guarantee them security and justice. The police must be made to

explain this inaction and negligence. If it is a cover up, then our fears are worsened. The various investigative panels set up by the NASS and the FG must address this angle for a lasting solution.

Badamasi Haiba
badhaiba@yahoo.com

This information is truly revealing on the impact of public service inefficiency in the recurring ethno-political crises in Jos and, possibly, other parts of northern Nigeria this past decade. The NASS committees on Police Affairs should take note of this. The nation is tired and in real danger.

Yakubu Atang
sarkinkuduntoro@yahoo.com

Nigerians should pay appropriate prices for fuel, power –Asiodu

IT sounds easy to ask Nigerians to pay "appropriate price" for utilities. But the real problem is the endemic corruption in anything to do with the government. Right now, PHCN has steadily raised tariffs by about 400% over the last decade. What do we have in return to show for this? The same can be said about petroleum products.

Until and unless the government sincerely tackles corruption in the Public sector; noth-

ing will work.

To confirm this, where are the Railways, Airways, NITEL and other public corporations? The very officers who ran them aground are still running the government in various capacities. Until it becomes clear that corruption has a high cost nothing will change; 20-2020 or not sir. That is the reality 'not appropriate pricing'!

Muhammad Na'ya
naiyamd@yahoo.com



CHIEF Philip Asiodu

Life should always be respected. Part of the crisis was fuelled by the CP's statement. By virtue of his position he ought not to have made such an outburst so swiftly. Please the Police should take courses in Crises Management, to forestall such situations.

Sani
silly76@yahoo.com

The Commissioner of Police caused more harm than good. His utterances as a police officer breached the peace of the people of plateau state. I think the Police Service Commission should call him to order.

Kabir Ibrahim Gusau
ahlulzikri@yahoo.com

Retirement age should be abolished –Rights group

THERE is nothing wrong with retirement age pegged at 60 years and 35 years of service in the Nigerian system. I would even advocate them being cut down to 55 and 30 years respectively. We cannot keep the young and able bodied graduates roaming the streets in search of jobs while ageing civil servants occupy positions.

Samuel
sobeko54@yahoo.com

Gumel emir assures of PDP victory

IF the above headline is true, then with due respect, I am highly disappointed. As a traditional ruler, we don't expect such partisan utterances from him. The Emir is the father of everybody in his domain or are some of our Emirs now politicians? By assuring PDP of victory in your domain, you are now a politician on the side of one of the parties and no longer a father to all in your domain and the nation at large.

Ali Umar
alikuram@yahoo.com

Saudi Embassy: No visa request from MPs

THE removal or 'stepping aside' of Yar'adua will not and cannot solve the problems of the masses. Things will not change whether he's here or not. The situation is only being played to serve the interest of some people.

Adamu Ibrahim Chiroma
chiromaad@yahoo.com



By Emmanuel Yawe

Haiti, where is your Fidel Castro?

The recent natural disaster has again put Haiti on the spot. Natural disasters as the name suggest are things that happen just like that. Science has tried to understand and explain them. But to the extent that they take the most scientifically conscious country, the United States of America by surprise suggests that these are products of cosmic order or disorder that defy rational comprehension.

The tragedy of it all is that disasters like earthquake do not even spare ill fated countries like Haiti - castrated as they already are - with avoidable human disasters. This is one country in the world, first only to our dear Nigeria, which should have been spared the additional baggage of the most recent calamity.

A brief look at the chronology of Haitian history reveals that this is a country with a truly resilient people. Her citizens defiantly fought off slavery, oppressive leadership and survived countless massacres and civil wars. Haitians proudly proclaimed themselves the first black republic in the world in 1804. Against all odds, they have stubbornly remained one to this day.

What is known as Haiti today is said to have been 'discovered' by the adventurer Christopher Columbus on December 5 1492. He called it the island of Hispaniola. At the time the island was under the control of Spain. But in 1697, they ceded it to the French crown at the treaty of Ryswick and it became known as "Saint Domin-

A brief look at the chronology of Haitian history reveals that this is a country with a truly resilient people

ique". From that time to 1791, it became the richest colony in the world and its capital, Cap Francais was known as the Paris of the New World. But that was the biggest contradiction that plagued and still plagues Haitian history up till day.

The seeming prosperity of "Saint Dominique" was founded on unsustainable injustice. Its economy was based on slavery. It was a regime of extraordinary cruelty. The 500,000 black slaves were routinely flogged, starved and buried alive for minor offences. Naturally, it got to a point where the black slaves who were domiciled in the northern section of the country revolted against their mulatto tormentors and overlords from south. Led by Boukman, a voodoo hangman, the black slaves in 1791 started a mass rebellion to assert their fundamental rights as human beings.

By 1796, the revolt had produced a leader by the name Toussaint L'Ouverture, an educated herb doctor and military leader. He managed to restore order, ended the mindless massacres and restored some of the prosperity for which Saint Dominique had been famous world wide. But the gains attained by the black revolutionaries attracted the attention of Napoleon Bonaparte who dispatched an army of 34,000 to subdue the slave armies and retake the colony for France. The leader of this campaign, Leclerc

failed in his mission but ultimately succeeded in seizing Toussaint L'Ouverture and deported him to France where he died in a year. By 1802, the French arrogantly reintroduced slavery thus triggering off another round of rebellions and massacres.

The anarchy thus introduced led to the unilateral proclamation in 1804 of an independent black Republic of Haiti by Jacques Dessalines. But by 1806, Dessalines the liberator became victim of an assassin's bullet for his efforts. His death led civil war again between the south (under General Petion) and the north (under Henry Christophe). Christophe turned out to be a tyrant who tortured his people until he committed suicide in 1820. General Boyer took over, ended the civil war and paid 150 million French Francs to obtain official independence from France. The history of the country for the rest of that century is a chronicle of rivalry and violence between mulatto and elite blacks. We had a succession of heads of states who took office by violent means and were also taken out in coffins.

It would have been a different story if Haiti's prosperous, strong and powerful neighbour, the United States of America had taken progressive interest in the affairs of the troubled country. But up this point the USA was itself bogged down by its own slavery practices and racial problems that gave birth to a fratricidal civil war. Thus Haiti entered the 20th century on a grim note. When the USA moved in 1915, they did so, on a wrong note. They simply invaded the country and took it over. Haitian patriots resisted the occupation until the Americans were forced to leave in 1934.

The biggest all time disaster for Haiti came in 1957 when François Duvalier, a doctor and union leader was elected president. Duvalier, also known as 'Papa Doc', terrorized the country, rooting out any and all opponents to his administration. He was a practicing voodooist, his loa being Baron Samedi, the guardian of cemeteries and a harbinger of death. He ensured his power through his private militia, the tonton macoutes (which means in Creole, "uncle bogeyman"). By 1964, Duvalier changed the constitution and installed himself president for life.

He died in 1971 and was succeeded by his son Jean Claude, at age 19 (also known as 'Baby Doc'). By this time Haiti became the poorest country in the western hemisphere (and remains so to this day). It is not just material poverty that plagues Haiti; it is poverty of ideals that exhibits itself in a primitive political system.

The Haitian system of government in this digital age is based amazingly on sorcery and voodoo. This explains why when a disaster like the recent earthquake takes place; there is no system to fall back on in the country to absorb the shocks. All forms of relief have to come from abroad. It is during such times that USA tries to make the point that they are the paragon of human civilization.

But Haiti deserves better. The resilient people of this country need to look inwards for their salvation. Cuba with its tortured history was in a similar mess before 1959. Fidel Castro led a revolution that ended it all.

Yawe, a former magazine editor, wrote from Abuja



By Mohammed Hassan

Remembering Mamman B. Ali

It is one year ago today since we lost a great visionary, Senator Mamman Bello Ali, former governor of Yobe State, who died on January 27, 2009 in a US hospital. He was a mentor par excellence. We were very close.

The day before he left for the US, he called me around 8:30pm and asked me to meet him at his residence in Abuja. When I got there, nobody was in the compound except the policemen at the gate. He was alone in his living room and I asked why there was nobody with him, because it was unusual. He said: 'I asked everybody to go; it is only you I want to see.' We discussed many issues for about 45 minutes and he saw me off to my car. I asked him when he would return and he replied: "Mohammed, sai kun ganni" meaning: Until you see me. It was the last time I would see him alive.

Many knew Ali first as a Senator and later as Governor of Yobe State. But few people knew the quintessential Mamman Ali beyond his forays in politics. I had watched and admired Ali for a long time but our paths finally crossed in January 2007. Our relationship was based on true friendship, mutual respect, and robust intellectual interaction. Beyond the political exploits of Ali, he was a man of courage. He was purpose-driven, especially propelled

While in government it was obvious to even the most cynical that Mamman Ali meant well for the state

by high principles which he never compromised before his death.

While in government, it was obvious to even the most cynical that Mamman Ali meant well for the state. His capacity for work was prodigious. He was not only extremely hardworking but equally devoted to his duties. Indeed, he was a selfless leader.

Ali lived his life guided by the principle of service to humanity. Indeed, his principled view of issues underlined his actions. In his own words: "one thing that is controlling my actions is principle. You can decide to die for your principle; you can refuse to change because of your principle. It is not how old you are or how experienced you are, but how you have been cultured over life. I have been cultured to appreciate nothing more than my principle which I have built over time." Sadly, while serving as a Governor of Yobe State, Mamman Ali was completely misunderstood by a lot of people.

In his 5/4 days in office, Ali shone like a million stars driven by principles. As a strong advocate of accountability, he sanitized the civil service and embarked on upward review of workers' salaries. Among his most memorable projects included the construction of about 600 housing units. The late governor built 17 boarding primary schools, Yobe Turkish College and FM radio station. He awarded the contract for the reconstruction of Potiskum-Gashua road, construction

Among his most memorable projects included the construction of about 600 housing units

of three ultra modern hospitals and also revitalized decaying infrastructures including, Damaturu ring road, Yobe Aluminum factory, fertilizer blending plant (in fact a great deal of effort was made to set up a fertilizer blending plant in the state). He also had his sight set on expanding the business potentials of his people by facilitating trade with neighbouring countries in the spirit of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). That was the principle behind the construction of Geidam-Mainasorowa road which links the state with Niger Republic. Undoubtedly, Ali left an indelible footprint on the sands of time.

Born in Jimeta town of Adamawa State in 1958, he attended Kaduna Polytechnic for his HND and also bagged two degrees in Construction and Extension from Tuskegee University, Alabama, United States. He worked for 15 years as Senior Engineer in the Borno State Ministry of Works and retired in 1990. He also established private companies before venturing into politics. He was first elected Senator to represent Yobe South Constituency in 1999 and re-elected in 2003.

He became the 7th Governor of Yobe State on May 29, 2007.

The memory of his greatness however lingers in our minds. And his achievements and vision will continue to serve as the benchmark for responsible and effective governance for years to come. Mamman Ali may be gone, but he lives in the minds of his true friends and the millions of people upon whose memory he left unforgettable marks as a progressive leader. May his soul rest in perfect peace.

Hassan was Commissioner for Finance in the administration of late Governor Ali.



Your Letters

Letter to CBN governor

While your courage and determination in exposing the enshrined culture of brazen thefts, betrayal of trust with impunity by the sacked bank MDs and their Boards is worthy of commendation by all genuine stakeholders in the banking industry, your obviously well intended and publicly applauded efforts at sanitizing the nation's banking industry appears to be heading for derailment if care is not taken.

It is fundamental to observe that any CBN initiated policy of allowing the new managements to accommodate the yet to be determined losses arising from deliberate and gross betrayal of trusts by the sacked bank Boards

and Chief Executives is, to say the least, carpeting their irresponsible acts of dishonesty. Such CBN - Decision will send wrong signal to the investing public because it is certain to trivialize the on-going investigations into the extent of fraud committed. Besides, it will tempt the security agencies and other institutions involved with the investigations and recovery into complacency and complicity with the shameless thieves and betrayers of trust.

Secondly, the CBN and the anti-corruption authorities need to be carrying the investing public along by giving details of further discoveries by the new managements to all stakeholders and the general public, unless the intention of the authorities is to carpet

or sweep under, the startling new discoveries. The more wrongdoings discovered the more charges and intense recovery efforts for avoidance of easy reoccurrence.

The CBN should therefore enlighten the Nigerian Public of their new discoveries against the sacked executives and their Boards as to do otherwise will mean or mark a U-turn on the part of the CBN authorities from their noble course.

While hoping for more grease to your elbows, this is to also wish you good luck in your efforts to become the Emir of Kano in future.

Dr Maude Aminun-Kano,
Department of Accounting, ABU,
Zaria.

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

Who to blame for Jos crises?

FEDERAL Government, of course. They should tell us what happened to all those taken to the Police Force Headquarters following the 2008 and 2010 Jos crises. The police released them without prosecution. Now let's see what will happen to those taken to Abuja for their involvement in the 2010 crisis.

SUNDAY I. Igbe, 08060085233.

Another sign of failure

THE National Assembly has failed the nation on Jos crises. First it was constitution review, electoral reform, and now this. There is no point the nation wastes fund on them.

LAWAN Abba Shettima,
08065454130.

What about us?

SO Nigeria donated \$1.5 million to Haiti. What has Nigeria donated to Jos victims?

KHALEEL, Karu, Abuja,
08037872545.

We hear you, too

THE Jos crisis is beyond the manipulation of your paper. It is in public domain. Was it Christians that attacked the church that fateful Sunday? Why always the Hausa-Fulani of Jos? What about Igbo, Yoruba, Kanuris, Urhobo, Nupe, Tiv and others? This ongoing propaganda, as crude as it is by your paper will not stand the test of time. Truth pressed to the ground will rise again.

SAMITI, Jos, 08052194515.

Kuru Karama

THE massacre in this village must be investigated. The U.N., A.U and all human rights groups must stand up to ensure the perpetrators are brought to book. Sweeping this under the carpet may mean we haven't seen the end. Allah forbid!

MALLAM Mohammed, Kano,
08030432366.

The message in Obasanjo's ranting
OBASANJO bared his mind dur-

ing the *Media Trust* Dialogue and the rumblings and flurries that follow did nothing to address the real issue he raised. The real issue is of Obasanjo choosing a president for us. What section of the constitution gives an incumbent president or governor the right to choose his successor? That is what we should be talking about, because it is becoming like tradition for our rulers to impose whoever they like, not who we like, on us.

SABO A. Shehu, Kaduna,
07039107332.

Not for an elder statesman

WHAT was attributed to him is odious..! Obasajo should mind his own business since there has never been a time when his predecessor engaged in any poke-nosing mission during his eight years of economic mismanagement. He should also realise that, his calculation against a section of this country is a failure. Baba! Think of another agenda.

ABDULLAHI Dangaladiman
Takatuku, Abuja, 08035861962.



By Tunde Asaju

Obasanjo's Hilton declaration

Next time you hear or see Maurice Iwu yapping about being the umpire of the most credible elections ever conducted in Nigeria, please don't blame him. He would be right. Only he truly didn't know that. He couldn't have known it until last Thursday when his big boss, Olusegun Obasanjo made the Hilton Declaration. Truth is there was no election in 2007, but for compensation there was a selection. Now, if you majored in pharmacology, you could be pardoned if you don't know the difference between the two, after all, they have sonic similarity. In fairness, Iwu was not a member of the selection panel. He was not even an umpire; rather he was a regent, called to coronate a successor. Let the reader be conscious that Nigeria is not a democracy, it could hardly be. Even chanced Liberian leader, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf now understands it. In Africa power is not bestowed, it is taken. The violent take it by force and the cunning take it by *wuruwuru*. Any semblance to Iwu's name is pure onomatopoeia.

Children, like imbeciles think that they know what is best for them, but their parents know better. Now we know how much Obasanjo loves Nigeria - so much he does the thinking for us; so much he chooses what is best for us. After all only a wicked parent will allow his child put his nimble hands in fire just because it resembles a rose flower. Obasanjo believes that all Nigerians are fools and that he is PDP's benign sage appointed to save us from ourselves. Never mind that there is one Nobel laureate, one Pulitzer Prize winner and several internationally acclaimed gurus and geniuses among us. To which of them did Abdulsalam Abubakar turn before going to Yola prison to release a sage. Who did he consult before Obasanjo's coronation as president? If there was such a one, let him speak on behalf of Arewa or forever keep quiet.

I am therefore bitter, that, rather than carry OBJ shoulder high and write eulogies about his patriotism, some people are saying that he insulted us by confessing that he single-handedly picked Umoru as a successor. As chief examiner the successor criteria he set is so hard to fill especially from educationally disadvantaged northern Nigeria. How many educated people come from the north? Very few? In 1983, his long search only produced a retired school teacher in Sokoto; in 2007, with higher entry credentials he found one in Katsina with a master's degree, shows how far the north has improved in a mere 24 years. If the successor's certificate of fitness was bought from Oluwole must you blame Obj for that? After all we all know that doctor's scribble to confuse us and preserve their certificate-endowed license to either kill or cure us.

Except you come from Ekiti where there are one professor for every thatched hut, you should appreciate that the north cannot boast of too many people qualified to hold Nigeria together better than Umoru. He has done a good job of it with the elasticity of snail spittle. We northerners should all be grateful to OBJ for favouring us always. And those of you who think he should have spoken about the Jos crisis, how naive could you all be. The Yoruba have a saying - *Gambari pa Fulani, ko lejo* - meaning if a Hausa man kills a Fulani man, its merely a quarrel between brothers, let no outsider intervene. If some people say they are middle belt in the north, OBJ knows about a monolithic north and Plateau would forever remain part of it. Only wise men know this.

OBJ advised Umoru to tow the path of honour. It takes an honourable man to come up with such counsel. How honourable could a man be, spending N15 billion on third term and losing it in the process without prosecution and yet endowed with the rare privilege of choosing a successor? That was an honourable project, ask Ibrahim Mantu. Which one of you has taken OBJ to task for selling our common patrimony to a select few of his lackeys? Which one of you has filed a case against him for embezzlement or corruption? I know honourable men like Lawrence Anini, Monday Osunbor, and Iyamu. All hail the honourable man of Otta. Umoru should toe the line of honour truly - he should return, not in a wheelchair, but on his feet and if that is medically impossible, NTA should have a way with it exclusively.

*I hear Fela's singing - Inject the second base -
Obj the basket mouth wan start to yab again o - well well;*

*na true him wan talk again o - well well;
If Baba dey lie o - well well,
Make landi punish him o, well well;
Edumare punish him o - well well...
Abeg inject bass guitar jare, Aremu of Otta wan dance naked;
make una encourage am.*

(tundeasaju@yahoo.co.uk)

Containing the quelea bird menace

Recent media reports have indicated the re-emergence of quelea birds in some parts of the country, especially in the North. The voracious birds are known to have infested states like Yobe, Bauchi and Gombe in the North East, and Katsina and Sokoto in the North West. Ministry of Agriculture officials of some of the affected states confirmed that the destructive birds invaded farms and decimated farmlands, eating up crops and other vegetation whose worth is estimated in the millions of naira. The annual migration of these flying pests, usually at this time of the year, is often a source for serious concern among farmers and others who depend on the land and its produce for subsistence and livelihood. As part of measures to curb the problem, the Federal Government has announced a plan to sign Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with 12 states namely Sokoto, Kebbi, Kano, Zamfara, Katsina, Jigawa, Bauchi, Gombe, Borno, Yobe, Adamawa and Taraba. The MOU is for 2009/2010 cropping season and is to cost N760 million with the states contributing N304 million. The Federal Government is expected to pay 60 percent and states, the balance of 40 percent.

Pests, such as locust, grasshoppers, among others are impediments to productive livestock and crop production in Nigeria and several other countries in the West Africa sub-region. However, quelea birds are known to be prevalent only in tropical Africa and they come in the dry season. They move in large numbers and destroy crops on their path. Virtually any green vegetation is fair game. Subsistence farmers are mostly the victims.

Although there is an organization known as West African Pest Control to deal with the problem, it is doubtful whether it is capable, or has been empowered by the regional inter-governmental organs to carry out its mandate. Moreover, it is on record that the ministers of agriculture of countries prone to quelea bird attacks in the region only once held a meeting on such impediments to protect and promote livestock and crop production in the continent; there is no evidence any effective solution has so far been found to deal with the quelea bird menace. There is an urgent need therefore to tackle the problem at sub-regional, regional and global levels. The problem is transnational and therefore international solution must be found for it. We recommend that Nigeria, being the acknowledged regional giant should lead the way in this regard.

The problem requires a concerted and comprehensive solution. The region has specialists that can be consulted on the way forward. For example, if there are treated seedlings or chemicals to be planted and spread to reduce the capability of the birds to reproduce, and thereby crippling their ability to migrate to subsequent farms or nations. Such treated seeds are available and should be procured and distributed to farmers for use, even if for a limited number of seasons until the menace is curbed, or reduced to a minimum. It is a sad situation that after farmers have worked very hard in a year and are about to harvest their produce, only for quelea birds, grasshoppers or locusts to descend on them and cause them havoc.

If efforts being made to improve food production are to succeed, much attention must be paid to stopping these impediments that could make nonsense of their work. Stakeholders must come together to discuss what steps to take to deal with these perennial problems. Many African countries face some problems that affect food production such as floods and drought which are natural disasters. Because most farmers on the continent do not engage in mechanized farming, and therefore may lack the required wherewithal, governments should come to their aid in fending off these threats.

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Towards lasting peace in Jos

Timawus Mathias

timmathias@yahoo.com

Plateau State was a tinder box waiting for just a small spark to ignite the explosion of violence witnessed from last Sunday. Prior to that, even if you were blinded and deafened by bias and insensitivity, you could not help but recognize that the Government and its agencies were walking the extra mile to counsel the communities to living at peace with one another. Catchy tunes of a new world on the plateau ruled by the sinking of differences and uniting to fight the common enemy of poverty and want were splashed persistently and intermittently between radio and TV programmes of similar themes. But you could also apprehend that there was tension in the air, with tremors each time the political gladiators poked the embers of hatred to maintain their relevance and stranglehold on the common folk that many of them economically abused black and blue while in office. It is indeed sad and unfortunate that the government's efforts were not rewarded with the peace prayed for, thanks to these callous tin gods. To their shameful credit, we did not successfully build reconciliation and confidence among the ordinary folk even as we preached peace. Inflammatory and abusive language was common on street corners with threats of retaliation from both religious groups, most of this, echoes of pronouncements of the opponents of Governor Jang.

Dealing with this would have taken care of the reported altercation over the rebuilding of Alhaji Garba's destroyed property that is said to have sparked of the riots. The media was itself mischievous in handling first press information (no fault of theirs; media needs managing), such that pitted the arbiter - the Police against Muslims.

The Commissioner of Police gaffed when he used only one truth - the fact that arrests made in the St Michaels Catholic Church attacks were of Muslim youth in fake military ordinances! The media reported this without adding what they already knew of the Saturday instance at Alhaji Garba's damaged property, until the JNIB brought its press release accusing the police of partisanship, as if that incident justified the killings at St Michael. Media also gave a blind eye to the mediatory efforts of the Government Inter-religious Committee, JNIB, CAN, and other notable patriots of both religions who stood side by side to stave off the conflict from spilling over into their area. Foreign media especially the Hausa Service has acted as if they stood to benefit if the wanton destruction of life and property continued or escalated and no chance should be given to reconciliation and peace.

Media handling of the crisis along partisan lines is capable of polarizing the Federal and State Governments on the one hand, and the security outfits who must play their specialized roles in dealing with this ticking time-bomb. The Police Commissioner going public with his arrest of Muslim combatants in fake military ordinances must have gotten 3 Armoured Division apprehensive. The army is sensitive to any hint of civilian misuse or any use of army uniforms. On the other hand, the

oversight of the Commissioner of Police on the previous day's altercation on the site of the damaged building gave the army a needed defensive PR toe hold. With the VP's national address, and the tour of the Chief of Army Staff and the National Security Advisor was achieved an understanding that became visible the following day when all media reported that the Military had taken total control of security in Jos, relieving the police of all security duty. Clearly, the constitution had been breached, and in sulking obedience, Onovo's men stayed in their barracks on Saturday. In effect, this was seen as a state of emergency in place.

ing as compatriots. When they sell land or intermarry without consulting politicians or those religious impostors, they do so under the banner of this love. I know that my George, who is in school in Jos lives off campus in the area before photo laboratory and his friend neighbour Buhari, who lives with widowed mother of 5 other children will relieve the pain of packing belongings and just saying good Sunday night, walking away to from the neighbourhood they loved and lived in for years, despite each other from hunger, the floods, and lack of water in their homes. They have both vowed not to return to the area. Two homes left to unreligious arsonists, two lives internally displaced in an abundant with cheap resources.

I would like my son and his friend Buhari reunited, I would like Buhari's widowed mother

Any witness to the pace of development in Jos would agree that Governor Jang is the last person to want a religious crisis now or anytime.

The Press release by the army on Saturday insinuating a misunderstanding and restating police powers may have controlled the damage made by the breach, and Abuja may have intervened. There must still be a lump in Ogbonna Onovo's throat if constitutional police powers are jeopardized. If indeed the captured "uniformed youth" have been taken from the police by the army, they should be handed back to the Police for prosecution after full investigation.

There are problems in Plateau State that are not helped by unfounded rumour and false and malicious alarms and allegations. The GOC 3 Division Major General Maina is Muslim, but this does not justify any insinuation of complicity on the part of the Army in the reported use of fake military ordinances. There is no sense in coaxing revenge or escalation as the underdogs would resort to terrorism and this would burn the country. Armageddon. God forbid. Instead we should speak and act reconciliation, and call all refugees back to their homes with a new try at peace and harmony, and ensure security. This is the only win-win situation.

In the same vein, once normalcy is restored, Governor Jang should issue a Government White Paper on the Ajibola panel report and also apply the full weight of the law on all indicted persons. This is even as the Abisoye panel is also undertaking its own inquisition. A major factor to the reoccurrence of these wanton killings is the fact that governments tend to shy away from going the guilty oxen because of the fear of the oxen or the owners. Government should fearlessly apply the law without caring whose ox or which ox is gored.

The ordinary citizens more than anyone else suffer destabilization as they are simple poor Muslims and Christians, bonded in sincere unconditional love as they daily crisscross the stony roads of Jos to eke out a liv-

ing old roof with her small children enjoying the neighbourhood again, assured by a sincere government of safety. I would like a return on this investment, and a new deal achievable only if we try with v Godly hearts.

Any witness to the pace of development in Jos would agree that Governor Jang is the last person to want a religious crisis now or anytime. It is obvious Jang, by his actions beginning to deserve a second chance from a home that did not minimize to honour its own prophet they see dual carriageways and lighting, potable water, and a reckoning as a credible state economy. Jang has restored the hitherto llematic salary to normalcy, and further to redeem the default payment of counterpart funds Millennium Development Goal Universal Basic Education, Basic Primary Health, Local Empowerment initiatives and the like. Plateau now has a stable and credible currency, and Local Councils are acting aspirations through cash development projects.

Political opponents do not this type of paradigm. Their attitude to the Administration and their use of omous vitriol accounts in the for the tensions in the State. However, Jang had built bridges to all political isolations, gone "begged" Yar'adua and the Lo the Manor at the PDP's Wadata headquarters. He had withdrawn cases he instituted against the eral Government, and the credit of his patriotic zeal for Plateau out regard to religion or ethnic longer in doubt. In his broadcast the State, Jang was sincere about Twice, he solemnly broadcast state and you could see the apprehension in his passionate sages.

Congratulations

The Executive Governor of Kano State
Malam Ibrahim Shekarau

The Chairman and Members of the Board of Trustee of the Hadejia Jama'are Komadugu Yobe Basin Trust Fund and the entire staff wishes to congratulate Mallam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau for his recent conferment and turbaning as the first **Sardans of Kano**.

Mallam's sterling qualities and dedication to public service, which this honor bestowed on him recognized, has always been very evident to us at the Trust Fund, not only because of his laudable performance as a Riparian Governor, but also for being one of the founding fathers of the Trust Fund, who contributed immensely to it's success to date.

May Allah's guidance and strength, from which you have been drawing your strength and direction, continue to be with you, Mallam.

We wish you more success in your future endeavors, and hope that your government will continue to give more support to enable the trust fund stand on it's feet.

Once more congratulations.



Mallam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau
Executive Governor, Kano State



The Emir of Kano
Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero, CFR, LLD, JP.

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Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'un

MAL: ONE YEAR IN MIND

In total submission to Allah's Will, It is one year now, since Allah (S.W.T) the GIVER AND TAKER OF LIFE, called our late Governor, Senator Mamman Bello Ali to the great beyond.

Sometimes they say; 'the qualities of great men are mostly identified after their demise from the world'. This has indeed manifested in the case of Senator Mamman Bello Ali, fondly called MAL by his friends and associates.

Today, more than ever before, the people of Yobe State remember the exemplary leadership of MAL which was rooted on prudent management of resources and aggressive infrastructural development. While he was alive, MAL exhibited proactive approach to governance, self discipline, integrity and initiated a great vision that was pursued with vigorous and convincing commitments towards the making of Yobe a model state in Nigeria.

Despite MAL'S demise, we are today consoled by the fact that every Yobeian and indeed the friends of our dear state, now more than ever before, regard Mamman Ali as some one who meant well for the people.

May Allah in His Infinite wisdom make it possible for MAL's good vision to be attained in Yobe and May Allah reward his great vision and exemplary conducts with Aljanna Firdaus! May He also guide, protect and bless Mamman Ali's family, the good people of Yobe State and Nigeria at large!

*We remember him
Today and always!*

Signed

MOHAMMED HASSAN

Commissioner for Finance in Mamman Ali's administration



INNA LILLAHI WA INNA ILAIHIR RAAJIUN

Mamman Ali had an adoring dream for Yobe and he laid solid foundation for the attainment of that dream through the numerous projects and policies he initiated to which the people of Yobe remain appreciative.

Out of foresight, the late Mamman Ali identified another patriot as his deputy governor who later succeeded him. Alhaji Ibrahim Gaidam has since taking over from MAL as the governor of Yobe State in 2009, proved to be a bridge between recovery and growth making him a worthy successor. Not only has he continued the good programmes of the late Mamman Ali, Gaidam has equally introduced numerous other projects and policies in line with the vision he shares with the late Mamman Ali for Yobe State and its citizens.

Though he is gone, the memories of the late Mamman Bello Ali remain fresh in our hearts especially given his firm obsession to move Yobe to an enviable position in the comity of states in Nigeria.

It is my fervent prayer that Allah bestows His mercies on the late Mamman Ali and bequeaths His bounties and blessings to the entire family of the late Governor.

I also pray that Allah blesses; guides and protects Mamman Ali's successor, Governor Ibrahim Gaidam, his government and the entire people of Yobe State and the rest of Nigerians.

May Allah admit MAL into Aijanna Firdaus out of His mercies to all His servants and when it is time for those of us alive to join him, May Allah make us die as righteous persons and may He also grant us His mercies in the hereafter!

From Allah we all come from and to Him we shall all return (sooner or later)!

Its one year since MAL left us...

Life they say is very transient, some even say the world is like a market place where many go shopping and he or she who finishes buying leaves for home (dies to retire in the grave).

This view was well held by the late Governor Mamman Bello Ali and at all times he reminded every one especially those of us close to him that leadership was about trust and hence must be discharged with all sense of responsibility. This, apparently, was why he steered the affairs of Yobe State with patriotism and fear of God from the time he was sworn in 2007 as Governor to the time he died in January, 2009.

Signed
ALHAJI ALKALI JAJERE
Commissioner for Works, Yobe State

Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihir Raajium

ONE YEAR, JUST YESTERDAY...



Apart from his numerous contributions to the growth of the old Borno (now, Borno and Yobe States) in the civil service and later in private business, the late Senator Mamman Bello Ali performed creditably in discharging his legislative works that helped in moving Nigeria forward while serving as Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria from 1999 to 2007. MAL, as we called him, was frank, intelligent, honest, principled, pragmatic and selfless in his attitude to live for the good of the society.

As the Executive Governor of Yobe State from 2007 until his death in 2009, his personal and outstanding leadership qualities became more widely acknowledged. Though he spent barely two years in office, MAL assessed Yobe, identified its challenges, drew up strategies for the development of the state and laid solid foundations in virtually all sectors for the state to become a force to be reckoned with in future. The foundations he laid remain the reference points in the state today.

His exit, though still leaves us with very heavy hearts, has now, more than before, made Yobeans to realise what a legend he was and his exit has brought out MAL's consummate qualities that have added up to his legacies in Yobe State and beyond.

We mourn Mamman Ali as a patriot that he was while we pray that Allah offers His mercies to him and grant him Aljanna. We also pray that Allah continually protect and bless his families and the rest of us in Yobe and Nigeria in general.

His death will ever remain fresh in our hearts.

Allah Ya jikan Gwamna Mamman Ali, Ya mai gafara da Rahama!

Signed
ALHAJI BABA CIROMA & FAMILY

FROM ALLAH WE COME AND TO HIM WE SHALL ALL RETURN

INNA LILLAHI WA INNA ILAIHIR RAAJIUN...

It is a year now since we lost our former governor, Senator Mamman Bello Ali. During his life time, MAL touched the lives of Yobe people in positive ways. He introduced meaningful programmes with immediate, medium term and long term benefits to Yobe state and its citizens. He was an advanced leader with broad minded and sufficient strategies towards achieving his in the overall interest of Yobe.

We adore this great leader; we mourn him as we once again extend our hearts of sympathy to his family and the government and people of Yobe State over his death.

We however take solace in the fact that the late Mamman Ali's vision and programmes are being well achieved under his successor, Governor Ibrahim Gaidam. Gaidam has indeed, introduced more

programmes as the late Mamman Ali would have desired while governance in Yobe is being carried out with purposefulness and statesmanship.

We pray that grant the late MAL His mercies and bless his family. We equally pray that Allah protect, guide and bless Governor Ibrahim Gaidam, who succeeded Mamman Ali and make his administration the most memorable for the people of Yobe.

Allah Ya sa Mamman Ali a cikin Aljanna tare da sauran wayan da su ka riga mu gidan gaskiya: iyayen mu; malaman mu, abokanan mu da yan uwan mu wayan muka sani da ma wayan da ba mu san su ba. Mu da ke raye, I dan ta mu ta zo, Allah Ya sa mu mutu da l' mani Ya kuma yi mana rahama ba ki daya!



Late Senator Mamman Bello Ali

Signed
ALHAJI GREMA TERAB (Managing Director)
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YOBE STATE GOVERNMENT



Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Rajlun

ONE YEAR REMEMBRANCE

Exactly one year ago today, Yobe State and indeed Nigeria lost a leader, a patriot and a selfless servant of the people who devoted his very productive life to making not just our dear State but Nigeria as a whole great.

One year on, we continue to remember this thoughtful, humble and transparent leader who never wavered in the defence of what is right; who used his vast wealth of experience, energy and enthusiasm to impact the world around him. One year on, we cherish his memory in our hearts; we remain firm in our resolve to carry on with the many good things he had started and we continue to pray for the repose of his gentle soul.

May the Almighty Allah (SWT) continue to grant His Excellency, Senator Mamman Ali eternal bliss and his family and all of us the fortitude to bear the loss.

Late Governor Mamman Ali

Signed

**ALHAJI IBRAHIM GAIDAM FNCA, CPA
EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR, YOBE STATE**

INNA LILLAHI WA'INNA ILAIHI RAJIUN

(LATE SENATOR MAMMAN B ALI, FORMER GOVERNOR YOBE STATE)

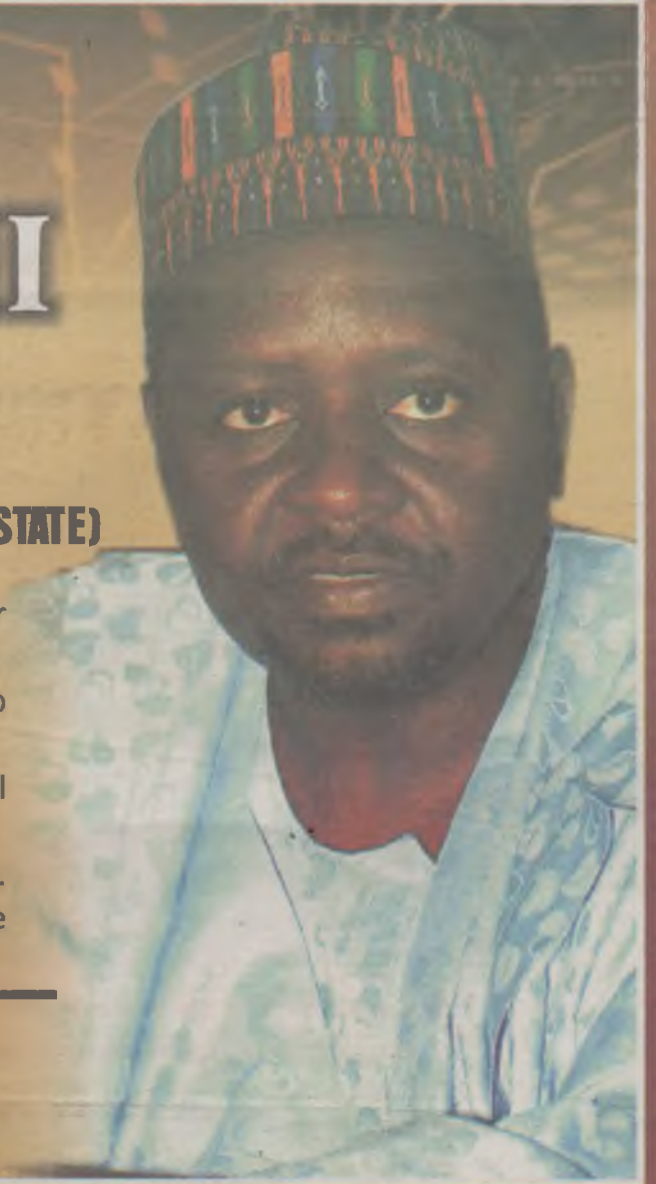
It is exactly one year today when you return to Almighty Allah, the creator of the world and whatever is in it.

We remember you today and forever for your good leadership qualities.

As the architect of modern Yobe, the solid foundation you laid will always be cherished.

It is our prayer that Almighty Allah will grant you Aljannatul Firdaus. May He give your family and all of us who have you close to our hearts the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

Signed
ALHAJI MADU AJI JULURI
MD/CEO GEMURAM CO. NIG LTD



GOVERNOR MAMMAN ALI: ONE YEAR REMEBBRANCE



Late Senator Mamman Bello Ali

One year ago, we lost an amiable governor in one of our riparian states: Governor Mamman Bello Ali of Yobe State.

During his life time as Governor from 2007 to 2009, the late Mamman Ali played a very significant role in the successful take off the Hadeja Jamare Kumadugu Yobe Basin Trust Fund which aims at improving water resource management for maximum use of water for agricultural and other purposes by citizens in the KYB riparian states of Yobe, Borno, Bauchi, Plateau, Kano and Jigawa and beyond.

Indeed, the late Mamman Ali supported the Fund in various ways through out his life time as governor and his support have been of tremendous help in the successes recorded by the Fund today.

The Fund mourns the late Mamman Ali and prays that God grants him eternal mercies.

The Fund also expresses its condolence once again to the families of the late Governor, the government and people of Yobe state, the governments of our riparian states and the federation at large.

While still in mourning, the Fund is consoled by the tremendous goodwill it is receiving from the current Governor of Yobe, Alhaji Ibrahim Gaidam. Governor Gaidam has continually been very supportive of the Fund and the Trust Fund appreciates this.

We therefore wish Governor Gaidam greater successes in his future endeavors as he marks his first year in office as the Executive Governor of Yobe State.



Governor Ibrahim Gaidam

Signed: Management
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GOVERNOR IBRAHIM GAIDAM FNCA, CPA
 EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR, YOBE STATE

It is exactly one year today when you assumed the mantle of leadership of our dear state on the 27th January, 2009.

Since then, the state has witnessed rapid transformation in the areas of completion of urban and rural road networks, water supply, health facilities, education, housing scheme as well as embarking on new housing projects among others.

Long Live Your Excellency,
 Long Live Yobe State,
 Long Live Federal Republic of Nigeria.



Signed
 ALHAJI MADU AJI JULURI
 MD/CEO GEMURAM CO. NIG LTD

INTERNATIONAL



LEBANESE soldiers stand near debris from an Ethiopian airliner that crashed into the sea south of Beirut.

Search for bodies and evidence in Ethiopian airliner crash

RESCUERS yesterday combed the waters off the coast of Lebanon for victims and the black boxes of an Ethiopian airliner that crashed into the sea, with officials offering little hope of finding survivors.

Information Minister Tarek Mitri told AFP that salvage crews had worked through the night and were confident of identifying the area where the plane went down.

"They are scanning the area where the black boxes and the corpses are to be found and there should be significant progress today," Mitri said, adding that improved weather should facilitate the search operations.

Ethiopia Airlines Flight 409 tumbled in a ball of fire into the

Mediterranean early Monday just minutes after takeoff from Beirut airport in stormy weather. The Boeing 737-800 bound for Addis Ababa had 90 passengers on board. All are presumed dead. Lebanese officials have ruled out foul play and said the bad weather was likely to blame.

Defence Minister Elias Murr said that the pilot of the plane had failed to follow instructions on takeoff from the control tower for unknown reasons. "A command tower recording shows the tower told the pilot to turn to avoid the storm, but the plane went in the opposite direction," Murr said. "We do not know what happened or whether it was beyond the pilot's control," he added.

African coalition urges EU to block new ivory sales

AFRICAN nations yesterday urged European governments to resist calls for a new round of legal ivory sales and protect the world's elephant population.

Representatives of the 17-country Coalition for the African Elephant came to Brussels seeking support after Tanzania and Zambia each requested

fresh authorisations from international regulators.

"We are asking the European Union to take a clear stance in support of a nine-year moratorium adopted in 2007 by the

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)," Kenyan Forest and Fauna Minister Noah Wekesa

told journalists.

Experts say some 38,000 African elephants are killed each year for their tusks -- out of total numbers of perhaps half a million.

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General T.Y. Danjuma Rtd Former Minister of Defence

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H.E. Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, GCFR Executive President, Federal Republic of Nigeria

CO-SPEAKERS

Alhaji Mohammed Abubakar Rimi (CON) Former Executive Governor, old Kano State

General Adeyinka Adebayo President, Yoruba Council of Elders

Chief M.T. Mbu Chairman South-South Peoples Assembly Alhaji Mohammed Goni Former Executive Governor old Borno State

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Senator David Mark, GCON Senate President Federal Republic of Nigeria

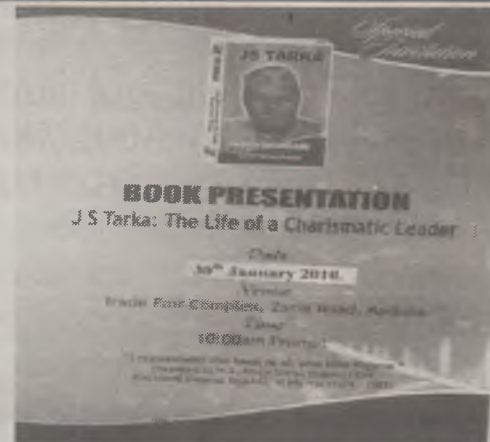
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International



AN Iraqi woman grieves during a funeral of a relative killed in a suicide bombing in Baghdad, Iraq, yesterday.

Car bomb hits central Baghdad, killing at least 18

A suicide car bomber killed at least 18 and injured dozens more yesterday in a strike against a police crime lab in central Baghdad, a day after several hotels were also hit by suicide attacks, officials said. The latest blast came as family members of the Saddam Hussein stal-

wart known as "Chemical Ali" arrived in Baghdad to collect his body for an afternoon burial. Ali Hassan al-Majid was hanged Monday after a series of convictions for atrocities that included mass killings and crimes against humanity.

This week's bombings, all

against prominent and heavily fortified targets, dealt yet another blow to the image of an Iraqi government struggling to answer for security lapses that have allowed bombers to carry out a number of massive attacks in the heart of the capital since August.

Pilot in Beirut crash didn't follow tower's advice

THE pilot of an Ethiopian Airlines plane that crashed into the sea flew in the opposite direction from the path recommended by the control tower after taking off from Beirut in thunderstorms, Lebanon's transportation minister said yesterday.

All 90 people on board were feared dead after the plane bound for Addis Ababa went down in flames minutes after takeoff at around 2:30 a.m. Monday.

Transportation Minister Ghazi Aridi said the pilot initially followed the tower's guidance, but then abruptly changed course and went in the opposite direction. "They asked him to correct his path but he did a very fast and strange turn before disappearing completely from the radar," Aridi told media. It was not immediately clear why the pilot veered off the recommended path.

Like most other airliners, the Boeing 737 is equipped with its own onboard weather radar, which the pilot may have used to avoid flying into thunderheads rather than following the flight tower's recommendation.

Ethiopian Airlines' CEO Girma Wake said the Lebanese minister's comments were premature. "Rushing remarks, I don't think that helps anybody," Wake said in Addis Ababa.

"Nobody is saying the pilot is to blame for not heeding orders," Aridi said, adding: "There could have been many reasons for what happened. ... Only the black box can tell." Lebanese officials have ruled out terrorism or "sabotage."

The official, who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the matter, said this was standard procedure by Lebanese controllers to assist airlines departing from the airport in poor weather conditions.

Karzai wins regional backing for Taliban peace plan

AFGHAN President Hamid Karzai won regional support yesterday for his efforts to cajole Islamist insurgents to lay down their arms, as Germany offered more troops and cash for the ravaged nation.

After talks with his Turkish and Pakistani peers, as well as officials from countries such as China, Iran and Russia, Karzai described moderate Taliban fighters as "sons of the Afghan soil" who should be brought back into the fold.

And in a joint statement after the meeting in Istanbul, the participants

declared that they "support the Afghan national process and reintegration ... in a way that is Afghan-led and -driven."

The Turkish-hosted talks form part of the build-up to a major conference in London on Thursday where Karzai hopes to secure Western support for his strategy of wooing Taliban fighters with the lure of jobs and money.

The idea had previously met resistance but "as we are talking today, there is more willingness that this can be reconsidered," he said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) OF THE PROPOSED MARBLE EXPLORATION AND QUARRYING PROJECT IN KOGI STATE

BY ABASA NIGERIA ENTERPRISES LIMITED.

In accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act No. 86 of 1992, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major development activities to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment of their Proposed Project's,

The Display Centres are:

(i) Headquarters of Ijumu LGA, Kogi State.

(ii) Kogi State Ministry of Environment, Lokoja

(iii) FMENV Office, Lokoja Kogi State.

(iv) FMENV Office, Games Village, Surulere, Lagos.

(v) FMENV Library, Plot 444 Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja.

Duration of Display

Date: 25th Jan- 22nd February, 2010

Time: 8:00 - 4:00PM daily

ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT ON OR BEFORE 22nd FEBRUARY, 2010.

Project Description

The proposed project involves the Exploration And quarrying of Marble and other associated Activities at Ekirin, Ijumu LGA of Kogi State. The Ekirin-Adde calcitic Marble lies on the Southern flank of Kabba town and North of Omu covering an area of 51.54 hectares of Land accessibility is through Kabba-Iyamoye Ikole road.

SIGNED:

PERMANENT SECRETARY
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER.

International



YOUNG people sing during the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Capitalism's woes cheered at World Social Forum

LEFTISTS are pouring into town to rail against freewheeling capitalism during the World Social Forum, gleefully cheering the humbling of bankers and business titans by the global economic meltdown.

At the opening of the five-day event, some 25,000 activists paraded exuberantly through Porto Alegre, serenaded by the pounding of drums and salsa blared from sound trucks as they waved communist flags and shouted slogans against corporate greed.

The 10-year-old conference is the left's counter to the World Economic Forum at Davos, a Swiss ski resort where presidents, corporate leaders and others gather annually to discuss international issues. It is also being held this week.

Gustavo de Biase, a 22-year-old Brazilian wearing a shirt proclaiming "Socialism is Liberty," said the world's leftists are convinced they can get presidents from the US to Brazil to embrace policies "of respect and equality aimed at lifting the poor out of misery."



ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIAN UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATORS (ANUPA) CAC-IT-18320
e-mail: anupaonline@yahoo.com

RESCHEDULING

The postponed 3-day intensive National Training Workshop on **UNDERSTANDING THE TERTIARY EDUCATION INSTITUTION ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT** for Administrative Assistants, Administrative Officers, Assistant Registrars, Senior Assistant Registrars and other cadres on equivalent salaries and responsibilities (Higher Executive Officers, Principal Executive Officers etc) in Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education, Research Institutes and Centres. is **RESCHEDULED** as follows:

DATE: Sunday, March 14th - Wednesday, March 17th, 2010.
VENUE: Orange Hall, Danic Hotel, 3 Edem Close, New Heaven, Enugu, Enugu State.
FEE: N25, 000:00 per participant (covers workshop materials, refreshments, Certificate of attendance, conference bag, lunch (excluding transportation, accommodation and feeding))

PAPERS TO BE DELIVERED

- The University/Institutional system in perspective: Its Act, Rules and Regulations in comparison to civil service rules.
- The Administrator at work.
- Basic management principles and theories as tools for an administrator.
- Guidance on committee servicing: introduction to the clerking role of an administrator.
- Effective communication Skills.
- Organizing conferences and seminars/workshops.
- Code of ethics for public officers and service delivery (servicom).
- Records keeping and their Management in a tertiary education institution.

ARRIVAL/REGISTRATION/DEPARTURE

Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday, March 14, 2010 and to depart on Thursday, March 17, 2010. Course Registration starts as from 12 noon to 6.00 p.m on Sunday, March 14, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON TRAINING

Please contact: The Coordinator, ANUPA National Training Committee.
Tel: 08037157845 e-mail: akinibosiola@yahoo.com
ANUPA National Training Officer Tel: 08033729706 e-mail: idu200520@yahoo.com
ANUPA Public Relations Officer, Tel: 08075698206 e-mail: aloynkwocha@yahoo.com

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Signed: Y.I. Abubakar
ANUPA National Training Officer.

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23rd January, 2010

URGENT NEED TO ASSIST MUSLIM VICTIMS OF JOS CRISIS

The crisis in Jos has once more resurfaced and as usual weighed heavily on Muslims who lost hundreds of precious lives and properties; there is a large number of people that sustained irreparable injuries that would hardly be curable for the rest of their lives. Consequently, the crisis has created:

- Countless Widows/Widowers and Orphans
- Numerous homeless people who become refugees in their own country
- Seriously injured people (Men, Women, Aged and Children) who need urgent medical attention to survive.
- Serious food and water scarcity that need to be addressed to save the victims from the tragic consequences of the adverse effect of hunger and shortage of water.
- Abject poverty among people that were formerly successful entrepreneurs.
- Intensive unemployment and under-development.

We therefore appeal to individuals, groups and organizations, to come to the aid of the victims in whatever way possible, especially with the followings:-

- Foods and Water
- Clothes, Beddings, Detergents and other toiletries
- Medicines and other Medical Supplies
- Building Materials especially, Zinc, Woods, Nails, Cement etc
- Cash payments.

Donations to be sent to any of the following addresses:

1. Jos -Coordinating Committee, Jos Central Mosque, Jos

2. Kano- (i) Dr. Sheikh Aminuddeen, Tel: 08034511973
(ii) Sheikh Ibrahim Khalil, Tel: 08033436190
(iii) Dr. Muhammad Sani Umar Rijiyar Lemo
3. Kaduna - Secretary, Supreme Council for Shari'a in Nigeria, Kaduna.
4. Abuja-(i) Shehu Usman Muhammad, (Coordinator) Alhuda Peoples Development Association, National Mosque, Abuja.
(ii) Dr. Sheikh Musa Muhammad, Chief Imam, National Mosque, Abuja.

SPECIAL NOTE:
After collection, everything should be forwarded and handed to the Relief Coordinating Committee, Central Mosque, Jos, for distribution to the victims.
For further information, Alhuda Peoples Development Association, Jos should be contacted on the following telephone numbers:

1. 0805533835 (2) 08032107120 (3) 08035119009 (4) 08035962767 (5) 08032270583. * Donations may also be paid into Alhuda Peoples Development Association of Nigeria.
Account Name: Shehu Usman Muhammad
Account Number: Bank FMB: 1550643733

N.B PLEASE COLLECT OFFICIAL RECEIPT FOR DONATION
May the Almighty Allah reward you for your donation.

Signed: Chairman

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

APPLICATIONS ARE HEREBY INVITED FROM SUITABLY QUALIFIED COMPANIES TO MANAGE AN ULTRA-MODERN HOTEL FACILITY IN BAUCHI.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE FOLLOWING:

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- b. COMPANY PROFILE
- c. EVIDENCE OF PREVIOUS/CURRENT EXPERIENCE IN MANAGEMENT OF FACILITIES IN THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY.
- d. QUALIFICATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL.
- e. TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE.
- f. BANK REFERENCE.

INTERESTED COMPANIES SHOULD ADDRESS THEIR APPLICATIONS TO:

**THE CHAIRMAN,
BAUCHI HOTELS LIMITED
C/O ZARANDA HOTEL,
JOS ROAD,
BAUCHI.**

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MARKED "APPLICATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION" AND

FORWARDED TO THE CHAIRMAN, BAUCHI HOTELS LIMITED, BAUCHI, NIGERIA, NOT LATER THAN TWO (2) WEEKS FROM THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS INVITATION.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS NOT AN INVITATION FOR TENDER.

COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION



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APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION INTO APRIL BATCH 2010/2011 ACADEMIC SESSION (BAR PART II PROGRAMME)

This is to inform all intending applicants for admission into the Bar Part II Course for the April Batch 2010/2011 Academic Session that applications will commence from Wednesday January 27, 2010. The session will commence on Monday April 19th, 2010 simultaneously at the Headquarters Bwari, Abuja and the Campuses in Enugu, Kano and Lagos.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: The programme is open to law graduates of Nigerian Universities and foreign trained law graduates who have successfully completed and passed the Bar Part I Course at the Nigerian Law School.

METHOD OF APPLICATION: Intending applicants should go to Nigerian Law School's Portal at www.mvnlsp.com. For instructions on procedure for application.

CLOSING DATE: Downloaded Application forms together with references on applicants must be completed and returned to the Law School via the Faculties of Law on or before Thursday February 18, 2010. **LATE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORMS WILL NOT BE**

**Y.S. USMAN, ESQ.
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AN oil refinery

India to build refinery in Nigeria ... Earmarks N53bn for oil blocs

By Hamisu Muhammad & Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

NIGERIA'S long awaited dream of refining its own oil locally may be fulfilled soon as the Indian government has assured that it is partnering with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) through an Indian oil firm ONGC to establish a green field refinery in the country.

Speaking at the beginning of a two-day working visit to Nigeria, the Indian Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Murli Deora said his country is expanding its economic ties with Nigeria through increased participation in all sectors of the oil and gas industry.

He said that an Indian oil and gas conglomerate ONGC Mital Energy Limited is willing to commit \$350 million into the development of two oil blocs (OPLs 279

and 285) in Nigeria's upstream sector.

He said his country is seeking to expand its purchase of Nigeria's sweet crude which currently stands at 400,000 bpd, amounting to about \$10 billion annually.

A statement from the NNPC quoted Deora as saying: "Nigeria is currently India's largest trading partner in Africa as far as oil and gas business is concerned with potential for more growth. We are importing about 400 million barrels, most of which are on spot basis from Nigeria. We have a refinery of about 180 million tons and about 25 per cent of Indian import is from Nigeria alone. At the current value, it will be worth \$10 billion from Nigeria alone. "We will like to have more Nigerian crude in terms contract basis. Some Indian companies are already playing in Nigeria upstream sector. We will like to consider opportunities in Nigeria upstream sector. India has the capacity to work with Nigeria in the midstream and downstream."

Also the Group Managing Director of ONGC Mr. R.S. Sarma said his company has been in touch with the NNPC towards the activation of the gas master plan among other projects. "We have several companies from India that have come here. In the last several years, we have been talking with NNPC about a new Greenfield refinery in Port Harcourt. Feasibility studies have been completed," he said while also announcing that ONGC has commenced exploration of its two deep water offshore blocks (OPLs 279 and 285) this year and that drilling operation was in progress in one of the oil fields.

Speaking earlier, Odein Ajumogobia the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, who stood in for the Minister of Petroleum Resources, Dr. Rilwanu Lukman at the reception, stated that Nigeria was eager to expand its economic relationship with India which it described as the second largest buyer of Nigeria's crude oil.

Chartered bank invests \$47.5m in Nigeria's oil

By Yunus Abdulhamid

STANDARD Chartered Private Equity Limited has announced that it has invested \$47.5m to acquire a minority stake in Seven Energy, a leading Nigerian gas exploration and development company. Seven Energy was formed in 2007 and is focused on the provision of gas to leading industrial firms in Nigeria. Standard Chartered's investment will help develop Seven Energy's business and strengthen its competitive positioning, a statement said.

The deployment of funds will provide a much needed stimulus for the company to cater to Nigeria's growing energy needs. In particular, Standard Chartered envisages that in the medium term, the investment will back the company's existing management team in its drive as a pioneer and consolidator within Nigeria's gas industry. Commenting on the investment, Phillip Ihenacho, Chairman of Seven Energy said: "The capital will be used to develop the business and provide essential infrastructure to facilitate delivery to domestic industrial users in South-Eastern Nigeria."

The support from Standard Chartered validates our strategy and strengthens our longer term competitive positioning," Christopher Knight, the Managing Director/ CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria Limited stated: "We are proud to invest in Seven Energy as Seven's value proposition is uniquely hinged on the monetization of Nigeria's substantial gas reserves to meet the country's growing energy needs. Our established footprint in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, along with our long history of supporting trade flows to and from these regions, places us in a unique position to provide vital funding to growing companies in growing economies."

Trust Index

Inflation	→ 12%
GDP	→ +6.90%
Budget	→ N3.1tr
External Reserves Acct	→ \$42.47bn
Excess Crude Acct	→ \$6.7bn
Poverty Ratio	→ 54.4%
Interest Ratio	→ 6%
Banks	→ 24
Oil Price	→ \$74 a barrel
Power Supply	→ 3,700MW
Oil output per day	→ 1.9mbd

CBN EXCHANGE RATES				BUREAU OF CHANGE RATES	
	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)		
CFA	0.2996	0.3096	0.3196	BUYING	
DANISH KRONER	27.9142	28.0088	28.1033	DOLLAR.....	N152
EURO	207.9073	208.6115	209.3156	EURO.....	N210
POUNDS STERLING	237.9648	238.7708	239.5767	POUNDS.....	N250
RIYAL	39.368	39.5014	39.6347	SELLING	
SDR	230.3072	231.0873	231.8673	DOLLAR.....	N153
SWISS FRANC	141.2322	141.7195	142.1888	EURO.....	N212
US DOLLAR	147.63	148.13	148.63	POUNDS.....	N253
WAUA	229.9356	230.7144	231.4931	Source: S&J Bureau de Change, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.	
YEN	1.6456	1.6512	1.6568		

Stock Market Index

Date :	Tuesday, January 26, 2010
Index:	22,254.56
Deal:	22,776
Volume :	442,383,612
Value:	N 3,879,871,453.70
Cap.:	N 5,359,621,785,179.59

Business

Anxiety trails SIM registration in Nigeria



EXECUTIVE Vice Chairman, NCC, Engr. Ernest Ndukwe

By Ahmad Salkida

APPARENTLY, to buy a SIM Card in Nigeria is akin to buying a bottle of coca cola and leaving the empty bottle with the seller. Every day, SIM cards are "bought, used and dumped in Nigeria." One notable politician said he has lost count of the SIM cards he has used, another businessman boasted in same manner.

According to the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) that has now set out March 2010 as deadline for SIM card registration in Nigeria, sited the use of phones particularly GSM to commit crimes across the country, as one of the commission's main reason for the exercise.

President, Association of Telecommunications Companies of Nigeria (ATCON) Mr. Emmanuel Ekuwen said: "We at ATCON did not recommend the process of SIM pack registration out of frivolity, the concept we believe is good for national development. It is our duty to ensure that our country is safe and secured, as there cannot be meaningful development in the absence of safety and security."

In Nigeria, often times kid-nappers will speak to the families of their victims or security agents with their mobile phones and their numbers conspicuously displayed on the agent's phones yet the mobile phone company cannot assist the Police in making proper identification of the suspects.

"At most, all the company can do is to track the location of the caller but not even the precise location," said Umaru Tela, a businessman and part time lecturer with Federal Polytechnic Nassarawa State.

NCC, in a statement signed by Mr. Reuben Mouka,

the Head of Media and Public Relations, directed all telecom operating companies to put all necessary arrangements in place for the smooth take off of the SIM registration with effect from 1st March 2010, which is aimed at improving security in the country. Reuben said, valid identification documents like E-Passports, corporate/company or work place identity cards that has Pension Identification / Tax Numbers, student ID cards from recognized institutions as well as drivers license issued by the Federal Road Safety Commission, (FRSC) and E-Tax cards, would be required for those seeking registration of their SIM cards.

One Haruna Abdullahi, a mobile tailor in Abuja said he does not have any of the above requirements by the NCC and, "sincerely I can't leave without a phone, my family back home in Numa, Sokoto State and customers in the FCT whom I patch their cloths contact me with my phone. A lot of people may not willingly give out their personal details for the sake of buying a SIM card I am afraid that there is a great need for enlightenment, if not many Nigerians may resist the regulation."

The Nigerian Identity Management Commission (NIMC) stated that the need for SIM registration in Nigeria is like solving one aspect of the problems of identity. The Commission is in top gear to provide the country with an effective data "the unique feature about the data base is that once you enter it and you are enrolled with your finger print and your picture, if you come with another name but with the same picture and finger print it will be rejected.

So if a credit bureau says

it has a credit history about a person or if you went and rent a house with your employer's letter, they will be able to cross check from the data base. You can't run, because they can trace you. If you take your employment letter to a mortgage bank, it can be able to check your credit history and if you are eligible they will give you mortgage" said the DG, NIMC, Chris'E Onyemenam.

The Nigerian Identity Management Commission (NIMC) said as the leading body in identity management in Nigeria, it will serve as one of the consultants and program managers for the NCC led project for SIM card registration within a private public partnership model, for the "conceptualization, planning, setup and operation of a secure, national SIM card registration and user identity management solution for Nigeria, without significant interference and discomfort to all stakeholders (including subscribers, operators, etc).

However, investigations by our reporter revealed that South Africa has become the first African country to suffer the consequences of SIM regulation, the law that was only introduced recently and required customers to produce identification documents and personal details before joining a network led to a sharp drop in subscribers, said one account.

For many players in the industry, the SIM card registration exercise is not without controversy. Some subscribers and operators are pessimistic about whether the process will be well conducted. Others fear that it will slow the number of subscribers. "While some are saying the country is not ripe for that, many others believe the scheme may be marred by corruption.

Commenting on the concern by some operators on the possible touted number portability, MTN Nigeria Chief Executive Officer, Ahmad Faroukh said: "What did it do in South Africa; nothing. If anything, it served the bigger operators more than smaller scale operators. Some people think we would lose market share with number portability; that is completely wrong.

"Again, look at what happened in those parts of the world, the bigger operators got more subscribers than the smaller ones. If anyone feels Nigeria is good investment place now, come and invest in Nigeria, come and build the infrastructure rather than wait for number portability."



INTEGRITY

Someone says: "Have the courage to say no. Have the courage to face the truth. Do the right thing because it is right. These are the magic keys for living your life with integrity".

Integrity is what we do, what we say and what we say we do. Integrity refers to steadfast adherence to a strict moral or ethical code. It is doing the right thing when no one is looking. Integrity cannot be compromised. Integrity is not a conditional word. It doesn't blow in the wind or change with the weather. With integrity, there is no half way position. You are either honest, or you are not.

It is your inner image of yourself, and like someone put it - if you look in there and see a man who won't cheat, lie or steal then you are the richest of all men.

When you do something that is in alignment with what you believe - what you say is important to you - there is an internal sense of peace and well-being... even if doing it is difficult! The world admires those with high integrity. If you are a person of integrity, a person of quality, a person of excellence, the world will reward you.

This is an important key to being a winner in life and business. People will be attracted to you, be persuaded by you and willing to help you toward your ends, to do the things that you want them to do.

To be a person of high integrity, go the extra mile, do more than you have promised.

If you have an appointment, be on time - that shows that you respect the other person's time and in so doing you earn respect yourself. The person of integrity is always honest, no matter the price. What's right isn't always popular and What's popular isn't always right.

Integrity gives you the ability to hold your head up high and look people in the face, and trust me there is no better feeling than that.

There's a popular saying that there is no pillow as soft as a clear conscience. White lies will leave a black mark on your conscience. Honesty may not be popular but it is always right.

The benefits of integrity outweigh and outlive material gain. No amount of wealth can compensate for a lack of character. There's no telling what that little truth telling will fetch you in future.

Take the example of the young taxi driver who returned the ninety eight million naira he found in the trunk of his taxi. He gained something worth more than ninety eight million naira. All through the country he is a reference point in matters of integrity, and that has automatically won him the love, trust and respect of all Nigerians.

Frank Outlaw says 'Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character. Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.'

The measure of a person's real character is what he would do if he knew he would never be found out. Character is what you are. Success is what you achieve. What you achieve can be large or small, but success without character and integrity is merely a shadow.

Your character is the key to success and it is the attribute you will pass on to your children. So let your strength of character shine through in all you do and say and you will truly be able to achieve meaningful success in life.

Like Shakespeare said 'To thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man.'

Yes!

Skye High is also on Radio presently:

RADIO STATIONS	TIME	RADIO STATIONS	TIME
• Ray Power Network	6:15am [Mon - Fri]	• Radio Continental Lagos	6:35am [Mon - Fri]
• Rhythm FM Lagos	9:00am [Mon - Fri]	• Inspiration FM Lagos.	8:00am [Mon - Fri]
• Rhythm FM Abuja	6:30am [Mon - Fri]	• Edo Broad Svc [EBS]	7:55am [Mon - Fri]
• Love FM Port Harcourt	8:25am [Mon] & 8:00am [Tue - Fri]	• Cosmo FM Enugu	6:20am [Mon - Fri]
• Kiss FM 99.9 Abuja	6:30am [Mon - Fri]	• Pyramid FM Kano	6:55am [Mon - Fri]

E-mail: skyehigh@skyebank.com or SMS 07030000255



Business

Falalu Bello not affected by CBN tenure limit – Unity Bank

By Sunday Williams

UNITY Bank Plc has said that its Group Managing Director Falalu Bello is not affected by the Central Bank of Nigeria's new policy which has pegged a maximum tenure of 10 years for

bank CEOs.

Three bank CEOs are affected by the new tenure policy. They are: Zenith Bank, United Bank for Africa (UBA) and Skye Bank. But a paper had reported that Unity Bank was affected.

Responding to press enquiries,

the Head of Corporate Affairs, Aliyu Ma'aji, said contrary to insinuations from certain quarters, at no time was Falalu Bello affected by the policy.

Ma'aji said the new CBN policy was very clear and not subject to multiple interpretations.

He said the Governor of the CBN Malam Sanusi Lamido Sanusi told newsmen that Bello's stint at Habib (Nigeria) Bank will not be counted because Habib Bank was not one of the banks that formed the present Unity Bank.

It will be recalled that the CBN, through its director of the Banking Supervision Department, Mr. Sam Oni, had recently directed that bank CEOs who have been occupying the position for 10 years and above should vacate office by July 31, 2010.

Coal exploration: Kogi to get compensation

WESTERN Gold fields Group Limited, a mining company, has assured indigenes of Omalar, Dekina and Ankpa Local government of Kogi of adequate compensation for exploring coal in their land.

Dr Innocent Ezuma, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the company, gave the assurance at the two day Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Public forum held on Sunday in Lokoja.

"Mining is very human resource intensive, there is no way we can do mining without extensively engaging the host communities.

"Mining is also a huge capital intensive project, so our priorities are making sure that all the people capable of working are engaged in the enterprise.

"In fact as I am talking to you now, we are already engaging some of the universities in Ukraine, where I have my background, to training and give free education, which we are going to sponsor the children in the host communities.

"This is in other to help them contribute to the project and based on all your requests and information gathered, I am going to form a forum, where we will dialogue so that the local and host communities will also know what our plans are," he said.

According to him, the Public forum availed the company of the opportunity of knowing more about the quest of the people, adding that the company would work hard to ensure that the communities have the full benefit of giving out their land.

He also assured them that the environmental hazard peculiar to the exploration and mining would be adequately managed.

"We already learnt that the type of coal in Kogi state is not gaseous, dangerous nor hazardous, however, we have recognized all the concerns raised here.

Whoever said the grass isn't greener on the other side, has not opened this box.



CHECK TOMORROW

Star Feature

Abuja: When ta went on rampaq

Some female residents of the capital city, who were recently displaced by the task force set up by the city's administration to rid it of illegal structures, recount their ordeals in the hands of the officials. They decry the high handedness of the authorities, even as the authorities say that the process remains irreversible.

By Tosin Omoniyi

THE lines of worry were stretched thin on her weather beaten face. If only these lines had a voice of their own. As she spoke, tears glistened at the corners of her eyes. Her voice trembled with half repressed sorrow. At times she pauses to put together her disjointed thoughts. In between these intermittent silences, she looks around with a glazed look at her surroundings as if expecting an imminent threat. However, she is still in control of her wits, as she sharply cautions the reporter when he attempts to take a picture of her. 'I don't want to be in any further trouble with them than the one I am already in now, my brother,' she sheepishly smiles, in an apparent attempt to apol-

ogize for her involuntary action of self preservation. Her 5 year old son, Emmanuel, oblivious of the pains of his mother, skips around her legs giggling excitedly. In the background is a large can of refuse oozing filth, beside which she displays some used recharge cards, symbols of her trade as a commercial phone call operator.

She is one of numerous displaced Abuja residents whose businesses have been crippled in the wave of demolitions embarked upon by a special task force constituted by the administration to rid the city of illegal structures. She operates a mini phone business beside a notable media organization in the heart of Jabi in the federal capital territory, FCT.

She says pointedly: 'I do not

know what they want from us. We have told them time and again that we are ready to pay for these spaces, if only they will leave us in peace. In 2007 when I started this business we were told to pay N10 000 which I paid. From time to time their officials always come to us and we give them money ranging from N500 to N1000 at times. They even come in different groups at times, and we still have to settle them. I have no other means of survival and I have to take care of my son. Or do they want us to go and steal?'

The Delta state indigene says that ever since her kiosk was removed due to the onslaught of the authorities, she has had to make do with selling her cards beside the refuse dump, and has sur-



SHANTIES like this were the first to fall under the task force's onslaught

“ Right now I do not know where to begin. I had to send my son to stay for a while with one of his cousins in the suburb, while I decide what to do concerning his siblings. Right now I have lost practically my entire source of livelihood,' she cries.

vived only through the magnanimity of employees of the media organization who still patronize her, despite her fall in fortunes. She appeals to the authorities to provide alternative and affordable shelters for them if they do not allow such structures

Uduak Ekaette, an indigene of Akwa Ibom who was

also affected by the recent onslaught by the FCT authorities also recounts her ordeal in the hands of the security officials charged with the responsibility of carrying out the operations. She says that since she came into the capital city about four years ago, she has been running a prosperous restaurant at the center of area

11, the proceeds of which she has been using to take care of her family of three. She says that the recent raids embarked upon by the task force caught her by surprise. She adds that at this moment she has been unable to recoup her losses as she was totally caught up in the process. Initially whenever there were rumours that they were

Taskforce

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us, we always assume that it was another ploy to collect money from us so we do not take such serious. Several times in the past such raids have been carried out. We ultimately end up 'sorting' for the release of our property or goods, and then we return back to our trade. But this time around, we were not prepared for the ruthlessness of

the operation. My wooden canopy was pulled down without a second thought. Even when I tried to salvage the little I could, they would not allow me. Right now I do not know where to begin. I had to send my son to stay for a while with one of his cousins in the suburb, while I decide what to do concerning his siblings. Right now I have

lost practically my entire source of livelihood,' she cries.

Presently Uduak lives in Mpape, another suburb of the FCT where she has set up another mini food outfit, but she fears that the tsunami that deprived her of her means of livelihood may still catch up with her even in the new area. She notes, 'every time that I wake up to start another day's work, I do this with fear and uncertainty. Food business is the only business I know, and the only means through which I can provide for my family. I want you to help us to beg the authorities to leave us alone. At least we are not involved in criminal activities like others. We are carrying out legitimate businesses. If they do not want to see us doing this business, the least they can do for us is to provide alternative shelters that are cheaper. Not all of us can afford to rent stalls in all these so called plazas that are now practically everywhere in the city.'

It would be recalled that the FCT Administration late last year set up a task force which was given a clear mandate to ensure the cleaning up of Abuja, and removal of all illegal structures. So far, the officials say they have removed about 822 shanties in highbrow Maitama and Asokoro Districts and also in Gwarinpa and Life Camp areas of the territory.

The Ministerial Task Force on Sanitation was specifically set up to support the Abuja Environmental Protection Board, AEPB to rid the Abuja city and its environs of waste and the illegal operations of commercial motorcyclists, street hawkers, operators of roadside food joints, beggars and the likes. The task force was broken down into 10 teams for different districts of the city, with leaders to supervise operations.

The Director, Department of Development Control, Abuja Municipal Management Council (AMMC), Mr Yahaya Yusuf, enthuses that the exercise was aimed at restoring sanity and the enforcement of the Abuja Master Plan, which was being distorted by the presence of these illegal structures. Presently officials at the council say the demolition process is at its infant stage, and would soon be extended to other areas of the city. Areas such as Asokoro,

Life Camp, Utako, Kado, Jabi and Wuye Districts, have already started playing hosts to the determined officials.

Questioned on whether the numerous victims were given ample time to move their essentials and properties before bulldozers commenced work on pulling down such structures, Yusuf said 193 'stop work' and 643 'quit notices' were pasted on affected structures in the areas, while 69 'demolition notices' were also served on those concerned. He equally added that over 1,145 other structures have been marked for demolition and urged the affected persons to vacate the areas, as the council would not relent in its onslaught. He further said the illegal structures were being removed to check the activities of hoodlums, who have made such structures their abodes.

Interestingly, a policeman who simply identifies himself as Joseph noted that the highhandedness of the officials and the corrupt tendencies of a few bad eggs amongst them, makes the whole process akin to playing to the gallery. He says that although he does not oppose the process of ridding the city of these shanties, the council should call its men to order, especially those who solicit for bribes in order to stay action on their properties. He says: 'I know of a situation whereby two traders who have businesses located side by side who were given quit notices. One of them had his property

pulled down during the exercise. The other as at today is still going about his business at the same spot, while the other is walking the streets like a living dead man. The 'lucky' one told me that he had to part with a hefty sum, so that he could be spared the ordeal his partner went through. Reports are that while some are allowed to continue their business unmolested even through the demolition exercise, others who will not play ball will have themselves to blame.'

Although many of the victims continue to nurse their wounds, officials of the FCT say this is no going back. Engineer Mahmud Mahmud, the Special Assistant to the Federal Capital Territory Minister, Alhaji Adamu Aliero, who coordinates Projects Monitoring and who also doubled as leader of the Special Ministerial Task Force on Sanitation in the Asokoro District, says the move is in order going by the bad image the shanties are constituting for the country. 'The Minister thought it wise to set up the Ministerial Task Force to ensure that all the shanties and illegal settlements which have sprung up all over the city, including beggars, street hawkers, illegal motor parks and what have you are removed. Even in Asokoro you will see that illegal motor parks and food joints have been set up around AYA and surrounding areas. They are our next targets. Apart from removing them, we will measure that they don't spring again,' he vows.

“One of them had his property pulled down during the exercise. The other as at today is still going about his business at the same spot, while the other is walking the streets like a living dead man. The 'lucky' one told me that he had to part with a hefty sum, so that he could be spared the ordeal his partner went through.”

Business

CMD boss tasks civil servants on capacity building

By Yunus Abdulhamid

DIRECTOR General of the Centre for Management Development (CMD) Dr Kabir Kabo Usman has challenged Nigerian civil servants to take the advantage offered by the Nigeria Public Service Institute and the CMD to enhance their efficiency, with a view to realising the Vision 20: 2020.

He said this while declaring open a two-week capacity building workshop organised by the office of the Head of Service of the federation and the Millennium Development Goal office, holding at the Public Service Institute in Abuja.

Dr. Kabir said no nation develop without a well manned and competent public service,

which is why the CMD was partnering with other relevant government agencies to facilitate the needed manpower training for national development.

"The Centre for management Development shares the belief of government that this programme will help to meet the urgent need of rebuilding and strengthening the ability of the civil service to

effectively deliver sustainable growth, reduce poverty and contribute significantly to the realisation of the government developmental agenda in line with the V20: 2020," the CMD Director General said.

He challenged the participants to face the task of having "to ensure that young professionals gain valuable experience and mentorship to

better service in their roles as leaders of the future in an increasingly complex public sector."

The two-week training is for civil servants in grades level 12 and 13.

The Deputy Director Training of the Manpower Development Office Dr Habibah Lawal said the participants are 400 put in four streams with 100 in each.

After the Political pages,
Leaders still take centre stage



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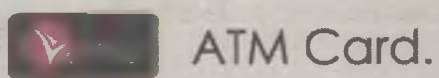
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Succeeding Together

Business/Finance

Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)

Tuesday, January 26, 2009

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)
2ND-TIER SECURITIES				
CAPITAL OIL PLC	5	0.50	258,000	129,000.00
SECTOR TOTALS	5		258,000	129,000.00
AGRICULTURE				
AFPRINT NIGERIA PLC	4	0.86	22,950	19,737.00
FTN COCOA PROCES. PLC	15	0.66	996,017	661,671.22
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	9	0.68	118,150	80,342.00
OKOMU OIL PALM COY PLC	1	22.75	100	2,162.00
PRESKO PLC	7	4.81	68,502	315,654.14
SECTOR TOTALS	36		1,205,719	1,079,566.36
AIR SERVICES				
AIRL/SERV. AND LOG. PLC	6	2.92	60,090	183,862.80
NIG. AV. HAND. COY PLC	111	8.05	1,698,397	13,883,475.24
SECTOR TOTALS	117		1,758,487	14,067,338.04
AUTOMOBILE & TYRE				
DN TYRE & RUBBER PLC	19	0.50	3,046,622	1,523,311.00
R. T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC	16	6.23	266,324	1,613,775.64
SECTOR TOTALS	35		3,312,946	3,137,086.64
BANKING				
ACCESS BANK PLC	235	8.22	9,953,470	81,019,035.44
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	45	2.70	1,757,683	4,773,933.25
DIAMOND BANK PLC	121	7.95	68,139,899	542,227,647.66
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	9	9.12	202,000	1,751,340.00
FIRST CITY MON. BANK PLC	78	8.78	6,950,063	60,383,230.56
FIDELITY BANK PLC	145	2.48	9,943,015	24,959,639.56
FIRST BANK OF NIG. PLC	835	14.80	16,108,230	236,436,714.58
FINBANK PLC	99	0.72	6,986,163	4,981,629.37
GTBANK PLC	464	17.01	17,521,647	296,879,250.71
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	48	8.38	1,103,885	8,907,947.85
INTERCONT. BANK PLC.	131	2.21	3,961,578	8,734,716.93
OCEANIC BANK INT. PLC	90	2.47	5,422,834	13,281,174.18
BANK PHB PLC	61	2.18	12,881,497	28,041,533.46
SKYE BANK PLC.	42	6.15	24,060,689	144,476,982.86
SPRING BANK PLC	7	1.02	156,425	159,553.50
STERLING BANK PLC	80	1.55	10,469,763	15,890,519.75
UNT. BANK FOR AFR. PLC.	215	11.50	3,265,096	37,234,845.98
UNION BANK OF NIG. PLC	138	6.55	2,290,419	14,821,166.56
UNITYBANK PLC	41	0.95	4,375,824	4,207,735.63
WEMA BANK PLC	46	1.05	1,565,234	1,711,115.11
ZENITH BANK PLC	232	15.24	110,381,588	1,652,569,731.45
SECTOR TOTALS	3,662		317,897,002	3,183,449,444.39
BUILDING MATERIALS				
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	1	13.04	768,672	9,999,072.56
BENUE CEMENT COY PLC	63	50.00	1,061,175	53,093,357.00
CEM. CO. OF N/NIGERIA PLC	30	14.56	777,960	11,335,473.17
LAFARGE WAPCO PLC	41	31.06	595,851	18,451,880.32
SECTOR TOTALS	135		3,203,658	92,879,783.05
CHEMICAL & PAINTS				
BERGER PAINTS NIG. PLC	4	3.36	3,817	13,435.84
CHEM. AND ALL. PROD. PLC	6	28.00	6,464	172,274.20
DN MEYER PLC	1	5.13	5,000	24,400.00
I. P. W. A. PLC	1	1.38	315	415.80
PORT. PAINTS & PROD. NIG. PLC	2	5.67	400	2,156.00
SECTOR TOTALS	14		15,996	212,681.84
COMMERCIAL/SERVICES				
COURTVILLE INVEST. PLC	4	0.50	615,000	307,500.00
NAT. SPORTS LOTT. PLC	1	3.57	4,000	13,600.00
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	9	2.36	331,000	782,240.00
SECTOR TOTALS	14		950,000	1,103,340.00
COMP. & OFFICE EQUIP.				
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC.	2	8.13	4,600	37,398.00
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	10	0.65	604,000	380,980.00
TRIPPLE GEE AND COY PLC	1	4.60	12	52.44
SECTOR TOTALS	13		608,612	418,430.44
CONGLOMERATES				
A. G. LEVENTIS (NIG.) PLC	13	2.68	209,473	549,230.34
PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	22	25.80	62,551	1,618,271.00
SCOA NIGERIA PLC	1	8.71	18	149.04
TRANSN. CORP. OF NIG. PLC	41	0.50	3,360,100	1,683,050.00
UAC OF NIGERIA PLC	46	39.80	1,389,245	53,463,268.62
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	87	23.00	602,502	13,880,598.67
SECTOR TOTALS	210		5,623,889	71,194,567.67
CONSTRUCTION				
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	68	4.26	1,461,255	6,215,562.59
JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC	7	28.50	8,187	226,142.50
MULTIVERSE RES. PLC	3	0.50	33,500	16,750.00
SECTOR TOTALS	78		1,502,942	6,458,455.09
ENGINEERING TECH.				
CUTIX PLC	14	3.45	375,000	1,312,500.00
SECTOR TOTALS	14		375,000	1,312,500.00
FOOD/BEVERAGES & TOB.				
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	14	30.60	21,476	664,299.59
BIG TREAT PLC.	22	0.81	658,462	533,084.22
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	72	16.70	803,604	13,356,271.65
DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC	226	13.19	6,149,518	81,062,920.27
DANGOTE SUGAR REF. PLC	84	15.01	8,939,133	134,123,784.80
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	41	38.79	203,274	7,848,482.04
H/WELL FLOUR MILL PLC	9	8.07	34,080	278,920.00
NAT. SALT COY NIG. PLC	100	7.00	2,427,392	17,074,347.81

What is Beta?

A measurement of the relationship between the price of a stock and the movement of the whole market.

Google

NIG. BOTTLING COY PLC	13	26.00	64,779	1,685,104.00
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	38	252.00	150,543	37,881,408.75
TANTALIZERS PLC	24	0.94	2,439,400	2,302,400.00
UTC NIGERIA PLC	6	0.90	35,917	30,888.62
SECTOR TOTALS	649		21,927,578	296,841,911.75
HEALTHCARE				
EVANS MEDICAL PLC.	12	1.05	96,889	102,215.37
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	23	2.09	1,361,065	2,897,602.20
GLAXOSM. CONS. NIG. PLC	8	23.11	10,110	237,002.40
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC.	22	5.50	136,772	754,907.45
NEIMETH INT. PHARM. PLC	9	1.67	108,126	187,402.40
PHARMA-DEKO PLC	1	4.97	7,000	33,170.00
UNI/DIAG. & CLIN. SERV. PLC	27	0.73	2,673,566	1,908,896.20
SECTOR TOTALS	102		4,393,528	6,121,136.02
HOTEL & TOURISM				
IKEJA HOTEL PLC	5	1.00	159,343	163,084.00
SECTOR TOTALS	5		159,343	163,084.00
IND/DOMESTIC PROD.				
ALUMACO PLC	1	22.59	50,100	1,131,759.00
FIRST ALUMINIUM NIG. PLC	1	0.50	50,000	25,000.00
VITAFOAM NIGERIA PLC	26	4.82	547,040	2,675,109.12
SECTOR TOTALS	28		647,140	3,831,868.12
INF. & COMM. TECH.				
CHAMS PLC	33	0.70	1,240,005	867,597.50
E-TRANZACT INT. PLC	1	5.50	250,000	1,375,000.00
STARCOMMS PLC	42	2.15	2,665,063	5,321,311.25
SECTOR TOTALS	76		4,155,068	7,563,908.75
INSURANCE				
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INS. PLC	2	0.70	220,000	154,000.00
AIICO INSURANCE PLC.	115	0.99	3,891,426	3,852,511.74
CONTINENTAL REINS. PLC	18	1.09	6,600,000	7,349,026.44
C/STONE INSUR. CO. PLC.	19	0.53	566,400	302,717.00
CUST. AND ALLIED INS. PLC	24	2.75	1,265,311	3,454,406.47
EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC	2	0.50	42,500	21,250.00
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	34	0.52	3,649,612	1,897,898.24
GUAR. TRUST ASSUR. PLC	26	2.13	1,518,537	3,268,658.26
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC.	2	0.50	13,500	6,750.00
CONS. HALLMARK INS. PLC	5	0.50	157,800	78,900.00
INT. ENERGY INS. COY PLC	9	0.60	1,333,334	808,333.74
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC.	38	0.53	3,802,079	2,034,348.87
L/UNION & ROCK INS. PLC.	13	0.57	1,108,295	614,964.35
MUT. BENEFITS ASSUR. PLC	13	0.64	942,000	602,880.00
N.E.M. INS. CO. (NIG.) PLC.	31	0.56	2,697,777	1,521,408.22
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC.	4	0.92	92,262	88,503.66
OASIS INSURANCE PLC	1	1.49	17,000	24,140.00
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	1	3.80	1,000	3,610.00
SOVEREIGN TRUST INS. PLC	3	0.50	1,561,584	780,792.00
STAND. ALLIANCE INS. PLC	5	0.64	220,285	140,982.40
UNIC INSURANCE PLC.	21	0.66	1,831,611	1,225,675.48
UNITY KAPITAL ASSUR. PLC	1	1.78	500	850.00
UNIVERSAL INS. COY PLC	11	0.50	2,203,214	1,101,607.00
INTERCONT. WAPIC INS. PLC	19	1.10	363,800	384,871.80
SECTOR TOTALS	417		34,099,827	29,719,085.67
LEASING				
C&I LEASING PLC	20	2.70	952,855	2,473,836.81
SECTOR TOTALS	20		952,855	2,473,836.81
MEDIA				
DAAR COMMUNIC. PLC	16	0.56	88,400	51,012.00
SECTOR TOTALS	16		88,400	51,012.00
MORTGAGE COMPANIES				
ASO SAV. AND LOANS PLC	22	0.64	11,367,978	7,376,733.00
RESORT SAV. & LOANS PLC	5	0.50	1,310,000	655,000.00
UN/HOMES SAV. & LOANS PLC	31	0.98	1,735,009	1,648,734.73
SECTOR TOTALS	58		14,412,987	9,680,467.73
OTHER FINANCIAL INST.				
CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC.	3	1.14	27,459	29,930.31
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	8	0.63	125,364	75,751.74
SECTOR TOTALS	11		152,823	105,682.05
PETROLEUM(MARKETING)				
AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC.	49	36.50	158,058	5,550,732.96
BECO PETR. PROD. PLC	6	2.08	67,367	140,123.36
CHEVRON OIL NIGERIA PLC	9	69.79	11,141	802,242.00
CONOIL PLC	11	33.57	65,452	2,189,788.80
ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC.	24	6.10	227,109	1,377,402.38
MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC.	15	99.95	5,208	511,274.75
OANDO PLC	11	93.99	7,135	670,618.65
TOTAL NIGERIA PLC	7	150.00	25,400	3,810,100.00
SECTOR TOTALS	132		566,870	15,052,282.90
PRINTING & PUBLISHING				
LONGMAN NIGERIA PLC	2	9.76	9,800	90,944.00
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC	8	5.20	99,477	531,338.90
SECTOR TOTALS	10		109,277	622,282.90
TEXTILES				
UNT. NIGERIA TEXT. PLC	1	1.49	51,517	76,760.33
SECTOR TOTALS	1		51,517	76,760.33
THE FOREIGN LISTINGS				
ECOBANK TRANS. INCORP.	13	14.54	187,000	2,753,760.00
SECTOR TOTALS	13		187,000	2,753,760.00
OVERALL TOTALS	22,776		412,383,612	3,879,871,453.70

GAINERS

WAPCO	0.95
FLOURMILL	0.79
CADBURY	0.70
DANGFLOUR	0.62

LOSERS

ALUMACO	1.18
UAC-PROP	1.04
UNILEVER	0.84
NAHCO	0.36

YAR'ADUA AND THE REST OF US (I)

Follow Process, Not Personal Preference

Democracy is, primarily, about process; not the imposition of personal preferences.

Last Friday, Justice Dan Abutu, the Chief Judge of the Abuja High Court, ordered the Executive Council of the Federation (ECF) to, in accordance with Section 144 of the 1999 Constitution, pass a resolution within 14 days on the state of health of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua,

The court has ruled, and the least all genuine democrats can do is to insist that due process be followed to the letter.

For the avoidance of doubt, Section 144 is about **permanent incapacity** as a ground for removing the President or the Vice President from office. This definitely should not be a frivolous exercise. To guarantee adequate checks and balances and ensure that this landmark conclusion is supported by empirical evidence (and not driven by emotional or political considerations), the Constitution prescribes a four-stage process:

Stage 1: ECF passes a resolution that the President or Vice President is **permanently incapable** of discharging the functions of his office. That resolution must be supported by 2/3 majority of all ministers, not 2/3 of those present on a particular day;

Stage 2: The President of the Senate sets up a 5-member medical panel, one of whom must be the personal physician of the President or the Vice President, and the other four being doctors with expertise in the relevant area(s) of medicine;

Stage 3: The Medical Panel set up by the President of the Senate performs the necessary medical examination(s) to verify the claim of the ECF and then issues a report to the President of the Senate and Speaker of House of Representatives;

Stage 4: If the report of the Medical Panel confirms that the President or the Vice President is **permanently incapable** of discharging the functions of his office, the President of the

Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives issue and sign a notice, which once published in the Official Gazette of the Government of the Federation leads to the removal of the President or Vice President on grounds of **permanent incapacity**.

On the basis of the unambiguous procedure established by the Constitution, which is the fundamental law of the land, we state the following obvious facts:

- The cabinet has been ordered by the court to use its **Judgment** to pass a resolution on the state of the health of the President;
- The cabinet's judgment is to be exercised on whether it thinks the President is **permanently incapable** not temporarily incapable of continuing in office;
- The cabinet's judgment on permanent incapacity of the President should be supported by 2/3 of all cabinet members, meaning 30 out of 44 cabinet members must support the resolution that the President is permanently incapable;
- If for any reason, the cabinet could not muster the required number that the President is permanently incapable, the process does not proceed to the next stage;
- If the cabinet is able to muster the required number, then the medical examination (s) should follow, but not precede the judgment of the cabinet;
- The medical panel is to determine objectively if the President is **permanently incapable** of discharging his functions.

Obviously, there are some well-meaning Nigerians who might not be comfortable with either the ruling of the court, or the process stipulated by the Constitution. For those people, the right way to go will be to appeal the judgment or seek amendment of the Constitution. For those who want the President out by all means, fair and foul, they might have to look at other options within the Constitution.

This may end up as a moment not only to test our Constitution, but also an occasion to gauge our democratic temperament. ~~The Democrats do not insist that the laws~~ must be bent to ~~achieve desired~~ outcomes or their personal preferences. ~~It is only~~ ~~anarchists~~ who do that. And ~~anarchy~~, dear compatriots, endangers all of us.

THE MAY 29TH GROUP

OAU Quarters, Abuja



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Significant progress has been made on the ongoing process by the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) with implementation of the Nigerian Gas Master-plan (NGMP). The plan, aims to put in place a robust gas grid in Nigeria that will concurrently support the domestic, regional and export gas market. When delivered, it will address the limitations of infrastructure capacity that have severely hampered the ability of the gas sector to meet the growing domestic gas requirement of Power and Industry.

The aspiration of the Federal Government is to make Nigeria a hub for gas based industries. To this end, the gas master plan seeks to develop strategies that will stimulate Gas Based Industrialization in the Country in a focussed manner. This will contribute to the Gross Domestic Product; create employment and enhance our economic development.

At the core of the Gas Masterplan infrastructure blueprint is a network comprising 3 gas gathering and processing facilities spread across three franchise areas in the Niger Delta. The facilities will each have the capacity to process at least 300mmcf/d of wet gas in Phase 1 growing to about 1.5bcf/d over time in subsequent phases. The processed dry gas will feed into a network of 3 transmission systems that will feed the power plants and other industries across the country. The strategy proposed in the NGMP is for private sector investors to build, operate and own these gas processing facilities, whilst the transmission lines will be largely owned by the FGN. An investor process is ongoing where investors have put in their bids and design for their respective processing plants within designated franchise areas of interest. The designs and their commercial terms will be evaluated competitively. Following on from this effort, the successful investors will execute a Franchise Agreement with the FGN which will stipulate the obligations of all parties.

As part of the process, the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources wishes to invite local and international consultants to provide the range of services outlined below.

Consultancy Service	Scope of Work	Required Capability of consultant
<p>Work Stream One: Commercial/Legal Consultancy Service</p>	<p>The firm will provide support services for the execution of all appropriate commercial and legal agreements between the Federal Government of Nigerian and the winning investor (franchisee). The firm shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft the franchise agreement that will govern all the obligations of the winning investment between the Federal Government of Nigeria and the consortia. • Draft other supporting agreements as appropriate, including Gas Processing Agreement, Performance Bonds, and any other agreements that may be needed. • Support the FGN in negotiating and executing the franchise agreement between the federal government and the winning consortium. • Draft the offer letters including the terms and conditions upon which the offer will be based for the winning investors (consortium) <p>In essence, the firm will be required to support the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources in the facilitation and execution of all commercial and legal agreements with the winning consortium.</p>	<p>The consultancy firm must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 5 years demonstrable experience globally and locally in the oil and gas sector. • Demonstrable experience in drafting commercial agreements in the oil and gas industry – particularly gas agreements. • Demonstrable experience in drafting franchise/concession agreements with government agencies and investors. • Demonstrable experience in carrying out negotiations and executions of such contractual agreements • Familiarity with the Nigerian Gas Master-plan initiative
<p>Work stream Two: Documentation of the Nigerian Gas Master Plan</p>	<p>The consultancy firm will provide support and services required for the development of the full documentation of the Nigerian Gas Master Plan. The firm shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out detailed interview of the gas master plan team and other key stakeholders in order to develop complete understanding of the Federal Government's Gas aspirations and the Gas Master Plan Policy thrust • Identify information requiring update and facilitate the update • Carry out a comprehensive documentation on the Nigerian Gas Master Plan, the processes, approvals where necessary, including the appropriate legislation from conception to execution and engage in periodic reviews. • Develop a Gas Master Plan high level policy document • Produce a detailed documentation and reference material of the Gas Master Plan. • Produce a public version document of the gas master plan. • Produce sensitization material (pamphlets) on the gas master plan. <p>The consultancy firm will develop the full documentation of the NGMP for the Federal Ministry of Petroleum Resources.</p>	<p>The Consultancy Firm must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have at least 5 years demonstrable experience both globally and locally in the oil and gas sector • Demonstrable experience in developing oil and gas policy and documentation for other countries. • A good understanding of global energy trends • Familiarity with the Nigerian Gas Masterplan initiative
<p>Work stream three: Gas Based Industrialization Consultancy Service</p>	<p>The consultancy firm will provide support and services for stimulating the development of gas based industries in the country. The consultant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out a detailed market assessment of global gas based industries including market growth, dynamics and potential share for Nigeria • Undertake benchmark studies of countries that have successfully established gas based industries in a large scale. • Support the Gas Master Plan team and other stakeholders in the development of targeted mechanism and incentives to galvanise gas based industrialization in line with the federal government's aspiration • Working with the Gas Master Plan team, develop the expansion of local infrastructure network targeted for gas based industrialization growth • Support the master plan team in developing a one stop shop to attract willing investors in Nigeria • Provide back office project management support to the Gas Master Plan team for the implementation of the gas based industrialization agenda and the gas master plan infrastructure blueprint 	<p>The Consultancy Firm must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have at least 5 years demonstrable experience in the oil and gas sector • Demonstrable experience in carrying out a comprehensive gas based industry studies, looking at global trends, market growth, competing countries, operational issues, dynamics etc of petrochemical industries, Methanol and Fertilizer. • Knowledge of sector dynamics and feedstock requirements, • At least 5 years demonstrable experience in project management • Familiarity with the Nigerian Gas Master Plan
<p>Work Stream Four: LPG Supply, Pipeline Natural Gas Distribution and Renewable Energy Consultancy Service</p>	<p>The consultancy firm will assist the federal government in the development of a national strategy and framework for domestic LPG, PNG utilization and market growth. The Consultancy firm will also assist the FGN develop appropriate renewable energy strategies. The firm shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out a comprehensive LPG, PNG and renewable energy market study, looking at pricing, regulatory framework, market size, product availability and current supply and distribution infrastructure across value chain • Develop an appropriate integrated market solution as well as possible incentives that will grow LPG supply and distribution for domestic consumption in the shortest possible time. • Develop a pricing and regulatory framework that will support market growth of LPG, PNG and renewable energy • Undertake studies of countries that have successfully implemented renewable energy projects and develop appropriate solution for options available • Develop an appropriate solution for each level of the value chain bearing in mind that the federal government's aspiration is to grow the domestic market and increase utilization within a year. • Carry out an inventory and advice the Federal Government on the modalities of accessing all the funds available for renewable energy projects 	<p>The consultancy firm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have at least 5 years demonstrable experience in the oil and gas sector • Demonstrable experience in carrying out a comprehensive study on LPG supply and distribution chain, Pipeline Natural Gas and Renewable Energy • Experience in developing national policy to include pricing and regulatory framework • Understanding of the global and Nigerian LPG market, with insight into the problem preventing growth in the Nigerian market. • Demonstrable experience on renewable energy options, dynamics and countries that have successfully implemented renewable energy projects • Understanding of global funds available for renewable energy and green projects • Capacity to deliver the LPG study and report in six weeks • Capacity to deliver the PNG and renewable energy options and report in 12 weeks

Bid Proposal Contents

All responses should be in Arial Narrow Font, size 13. Responses to each question on experience verification should not be more than 3 pages long. In addition, please submit

1. Provide the company's profile (not more than 2 pages) including incorporation certificate and organogram
2. CV's of key personnel that are planned for this engagement
3. Provide a proposed schedule for completion of work within two months
4. Professional fee for the service (inclusive of all local taxes)

Please note that you must submit a certificate of incorporation and a valid VAT certificate, for companies registered abroad, kindly submit a copy of your country's registration certificate and an equivalent tax certificate as appropriate. Failure to comply with this clause will automatically disqualify your company

METHOD OF APPLICATION

To respond to this advert, please submit in separate sealed envelopes Five (5) hard copies and a soft copy (PDF) on two CDRoms of your technical and commercial (cost) bid document marked "Confidential", clearly stating the work stream for which submission is being made.

Your submission should be sent on or before **Friday 12th February, 2010** at 11.00am: All applications to be submitted to:

**Director Planning Research and Statistics,
Ministry of Petroleum Resources
NNPC Towers, Block D, 8th Floor
Central Business District, Herbert Macaulay Way
Garki, Abuja. Nigeria**

Candidates can apply individually or through consortiums, where companies are applying as consortium please include a signed MOU between all the partners, failure to do so will render your submission disqualified.

Candidates can apply for one or more work stream, but each application must be made separately.

Opening of the Bid Documents

The bid documents submitted by interested bidders will be opened publicly on Friday 12th of February 2010 at 11.00am at the Conference Room of the Ministry of Petroleum Resources, NNPC Towers, Abuja.

Prospective bidders, interested members of the Public and Non Governmental Organisations are hereby invited to witness the opening of the documents. However applications sent by post will be rejected.

For further enquiries on the tenders, contact:
**The Secretariat of the Procurement Committee (PCC)
Ministry of Petroleum Resources
Block D 8th Floor, NNPC Towers
Abuja**

**Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Petroleum Resources,
Abuja**

Please note that the advert is also available on the website:
www.ngmproadshow.com

**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

*Federal Secretariat Phase III, Ahmadu
Bello Way, Central Area, Abuja.*

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Honourable Minister of Health, **Professor Babatunde Osotimehin, OON**, hereby invites stakeholders and development partners to the formal Inauguration of the management of four Boards of Regulatory Bodies in the Federal Ministry of Health.

These are;

1. Radiographers Registration Board of Nigeria (RRBN),
2. Dental Therapists Registration Board of Nigeria (DTRBN),
3. Institute of Public Analyst of Nigeria (IPAN) and
4. Institute of Chartered Chemists of Nigeria (ICCN).

Date:

Friday, January 29, 2010.

Venue:

Rockview Hotel, Wuse II, Abuja.

Time:

9.00 am

Chairmen, Board Members and all guests are expected to be seated by 8:30 am

Meanwhile, please find below the list of the respective boards/governing council members.

RADIOGRAPHERS REGISTRATION BOARD OF NIGERIA		INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS OF NIGERIA	
1. MR SANI IBRAHIM	CHAIRMAN	1. MR G.A. SANI	CHAIRMAN
2. MR DEMOLA AKINYOMI	MEMBER	2. DR PATRICK C. OJECI	1 st VICE CHAIRMAN
3. DAVID K. BABALOLA	MEMBER	3. DR DAHIRU ADAMU	2 nd VICE CHAIRMAN
4. MR J.O. OYEBODE	MEMBER	4. MR D.A. AKOH	MEMBER
5. MR OLUWOLE ADEOYE	MEMBER	5. PROF. N.U. EZEKWE	MEMBER
6. MARY COLLETTE	MEMBER	6. HON. N.J. AKINYUGHA	MEMBER
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10. MR MARK OKEJI	MEMBER	10. ALHAJI A.I. NASH	MEMBER
11. MR VINCENT IKAMAISE	MEMBER	11. MRS H.J. KERI	MEMBER
		12. MRS A.S. OGAMBA	MEMBER
		13. PROF. U.J. MENDIE	MEMBER
		14. MRS N.R. ONOMAKPOME	MEMBER
		15. PROF. B.T. NWUFO	MEMBER
		16. PROF. PATIENCE OSADEBE	MEMBER
		17. MR OGBONEME	MEMBER

DENTAL THERAPISTS REGISTRATION BOARD OF NIGERIA		INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED CHEMISTS OF NIGERIA	
1. MRS GRACE DHALAKAMA	CHAIRMAN	1. PROF. ABDULLAHI A. ZURU	CHAIRMAN
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5. DR DOTUN MALOMO	MEMBER	5. DR. (MRS) FANNA I. ABDULRAHMAN	MEMBER
6. DR G. AGBELUSI	MEMBER	6. PROF. CHUKWUEMEKA A. MWADINIGWE	MEMBER
7. DR V. AKEREDOLU	MEMBER	7. CHIEF REGINALD J.C. ARAZU	MEMBER
8. MRS OLUCHI OLOFIN	MEMBER	8. DR. (MRS) MARY O. EDEMA	MEMBER
9. MRS DARAMOLA	MEMBER	9. CHIEF FRANCIS B. ADEFARATI	MEMBER
10. MR BUKAR ADAM	MEMBER	10. MR. OTHNIEL M. MYINA	MEMBER
11. MRS BISI TINUOYE	MEMBER	11. CHIEF JOHN A. ABAH	MEMBER
12. COL. SOTON WIYU	MEMBER	12. PRINCESS MARLINE S. WAZIRI	MEMBER
13. ANSA CHUNTY	MEMBER	13. MRS MARY-ANN O. ADEEKO	MEMBER

Signed:

**L. N. Awute, mni
Permanent Secretary**

DIGEST

Humans 'could one day be capable of running up to 40mph'

A new study suggests humans could one day run at speeds of up to 40mph - more than 10 miles faster than the world's fastest runner Usain Bolt.

Researchers investigating the factors that limit human speed found that the top speed humans are capable of may be determined by how quickly muscles in the body can move.

Previous studies have suggested the main hindrance to speed is that limbs can only take a certain amount of force.

But according to new research, published in the *Journal of Applied Physiology*, human limbs can handle a lot more force than what is applied during top-speed running.

Scientists used a high-speed treadmill capable of attaining speeds greater than 40 miles per hour which could record precise measurements of the forces applied to the surface with each footfall.

They also had subjects perform at high speeds in different gaits.

The researchers found that the ground forces applied while hopping on one leg at top speed exceeded those applied during top-speed forward running by 30 per cent or more, and that the forces generated by the active muscles within the limb were roughly 1.5 to 2 times greater in the one-legged hopping gait by the subjects.

They said the new work showed that running speed



© AFP/Getty Images
HUMANS could be capable of running up to 40mph, 12 miles faster than the world's fastest man Usain Bolt



Athletes such as Jesse Owens have amazed sports fans for the speeds they can reach, but new research suggests humans are capable of running much faster. Owens reached 21.7mph at the Berlin Olympics in 1936

limits are set by the contractile speed limits of the muscle fibers themselves, with fiber contractile speeds setting the limit on how quickly the runner's limb can apply force to the running surface.

'Our simple projections indicate that muscle contractile speeds that would allow for maximal or

near-maximal forces would permit running speeds of 35 to 40 miles per hour and conceivably faster,' co-researcher Matthew Bundle of University of Wyoming said.

The paper, titled 'The biological limits to running speed are imposed from the ground up,'

was inspired by Bolt's record-setting performances.

Bolt holds the world record time of 9.58 seconds for the 100m sprint, which he secured at the World Championships in Berlin last year.

And U.S. athlete Jesse Owens equalled the world record at the

1936 Berlin Olympics by running the 100m in 10.3 seconds, a time which was not bettered for 20 years. This equated to 21.7mph.

The record has slowly advanced since it was first set by American Donald Lippincott, who recorded a time of 10.6 seconds in 1912.

Women have just an eighth of their eggs left by 30, scientists claim

MOST women have just an eighth of their eggs left by the time they reach 30, according to a new study.

Scientists have discovered how many eggs a woman has in her ovaries - her ovarian reserve - from conception to menopause.

The study, using data from women in the UK, US and Europe, is the first time that scientists have ever modelled human ovarian reserve from establishment before birth to menopause around 50 years of age.

Tom Kelsey, a Senior Research Fellow at the School of Computer Science at St Andrews, said: 'Previous models have looked at the decline in ovarian reserve, but not at the dynamics of ovarian reserve from conception onwards.'

'Our model shows that for 95 per cent of women, by the age of 30 years, only 12 per cent of



NINETY-FIVE per cent of women have just an eighth of their eggs left by the time they reach 30, according to scientists their maximum ovarian reserve is present, and by the age of 40 years

only three per cent remains.'

The new research provides further evidence for the theory that women are born with a fixed number of non-growing follicles - eggs - that decline with increasing age.

Baby girls are born with egg cells, or oocytes, in her ovaries. At around the 20th week of pregnancy, the number of oocytes reaches a peak of around six to seven million.

But by birth this number has reduced to between one and two million and no more oocytes develop.

At puberty, only about 300,000 to 400,000 remain and from then on around 1,000 die during each menstrual cycle until the menopause.

Using the model, the scientists identified several important new findings that are likely to

inspire research.

Dr Hamish Wallace, a consultant oncologist at Edinburgh's Royal Hospital for Sick Children, said: 'A better understanding of the dynamics of ovarian reserve will help us to predict which children and young people treated for cancer are most at risk of an early menopause. These patients may benefit from having their eggs frozen before cancer treatment starts.'

'Furthermore our model provides no evidence for the presence of stem germ cells in the ovary that could increase the number of eggs present in the ovary and delay the menopause.'

The new study identifies an important but unexplained change in ovarian reserve dynamics at around 14 years.

'At around 14 years, something happens that we've never seen before: the rate of recruitment of

Furthermore our model provides no evidence for the presence of stem germ cells in the ovary that could increase the number of eggs

immature eggs towards mature eggs drops off and we don't know why,' Dr Kelsey said.

'Of course at that age there are a lot of hormonal changes that might account for this new observation.'

Sign Language



Empty words! Where are the enforcers?
Photo location: Maiduguri market, by Bala Geidam

EASY CROSSWORDS

ACROSS

1. Under the weather
5. ___ about (approximately, 2 wds.)
9. ___ Fields cookies
12. "Thin Man" dog
13. Mofio of the Met
14. Clock numeral
15. Turn end over end
17. Social Security no.
18. Promissory note
19. Fountain and Seeger
21. ___ Fudd
24. Despise
26. Herbal drink
27. ___ Stanley Gardner
29. Breaking stories
32. ___ and roll
34. Always, poetically
35. Poet
36. Son of Isaac
37. Therefore, to Caesar
39. Actor Robbins
40. Air current
42. Hazardous
44. Actor Benjamin
46. Sickly
47. Take it on the ___ (flee)
48. Interpret
54. Angle starter
55. Jerk
56. Author Wister
57. "Dames at ___"
58. Adjusts
59. Unites

61

DOWN

1. Cul-de-___
2. "The Lady ___ Tramp" (2 wds.)
3. Middle (abbr.)
4. TV's Couric
5. Third-largest Hawaiian island
6. SSW's opp.
7. Billfold bill
8. ___ Waldo Emerson
9. Abuses
10. Upward slope
11. Transgresses
16. Had on
20. Very long time periods
21. To be (Fr.)
22. Gorcey and Carrol
23. Nutty Hawaiian souvenir
24. Medic ___ bracelet
25. Ice mass
28. Parrotfish milieu
30. Judicial order
31. Alike
33. Russell or Vonnegut
38. Nocturnal birds
41. Lawyers (abbr.)
43. Let
44. Diner orders, for short
45. Steakhouse order
46. Readies a printing press
49. "Norma ___"
50. Telling insect
51. Wonder
52. Actor Danson
53. O'Toole's rank (abbr.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13					14	
16			16					17		
			18				18	20		
21	22	23			24	25				
26			27	28			29	30	31	
32		33		34			35			
36			37		38		39			
		40		41			42	43		
44	45						46			
47			48	49	50			51	52	53
54			55					56		
57			58					59		

Solution to Easy Crosswords 60

S	I	D	E		B	A	A		E	G	G	O		
I	D	E	A		U	M	P		C	L	A	P		
P	O	N	G		L	O	T		H	O	L	E		
					L	A	G	S		S	O	W	E	D
A	D	H	E	R	E		E	K	E					
W	A	I	S	T		E	V	I	D	E	N	T		
O	R	R		D	I	N	E	D		R	O	O		
L	E	T	T	E	R	S		D	I	A	N	A		
					I	C	E		T	E	N	S	E	D
C	A	M	E	O		P	H	D	S					
A	V	I	D		L	E	O		I	L	L	S		
P	E	R	U		U	P	S		S	E	E	S		
P	R	E	P		G	E	E		T	I	G	E		

SUDOKU

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

73

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

Solution to Sudoku 72

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

News Extra

Obama urged to hand over Christmas Day Bomber to the military

...For further interrogation and charges

Two senior US senators have urged the Obama administration to hand over to the military the man accused of trying to blow up a passenger jet on Christmas Day to face further interrogation and charges.

Joe Lieberman, chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, and a Republican member of the committee, Susan Collins, demanded that former University College London engineering student Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab be charged as an enemy combatant rather than in a US criminal court.

The decision to charge him in a criminal court "almost certainly prevented the military and the intelligence community from obtaining information that would have been critical to learning more about how our enemy operates and to preventing future attacks," they said in a letter to Attorney General Eric Holder and Obama's counter-terrorism adviser John Brennan.

Abdul Mutallab, a 23-year-old Nigerian, was interviewed for about an hour by FBI agents and a day later was charged in a US criminal court with trying to blow up Northwest flight 253 as it was approaching Detroit from Amsterdam on Dec 25.

How the Obama administration handled the case has become almost daily fodder for Republicans, who accuse the White House of not being tough enough



PRESIDENT Barack Obama administration has been urged to hand over Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab (right) to the military



How the Obama administration handled the case has become almost daily fodder for Republicans

on national security matters, charges officials have denied.

During Abdul Mutallab's interrogation, he told investigators that he had trained in Yemen and had been given the bomb device by al Qaeda militants, a law enforcement source has said.

After the interview, he was read his rights informing him he could request an attorney and did not have to speak to law enforcement officers.

That has incensed many Republicans and Lieberman,

a former Democrat turned Independent, who said Abdul Mutallab committed an act of war.

They also were concerned that the intelligence community was cut out of the interview and the decision.

"The administration can reverse this error, at least to some degree, by immediately transferring Abdul Mutallab to the Department of Defense," Lieberman and Collins said.

Obama officials have defended their decisions about

Abdul Mutallab's interrogation and arrest, arguing they obtained useful intelligence before he was read his rights and pointed to past cases where terrorism suspects have been charged in U.S. criminal courts, like would-be shoe bomber Richard Reid.

"The FBI did have an opportunity to interrogate Mr. Abdul Mutallab," White House spokesman Robert Gibbs told reporters. "They got intelligence, useful and actionable intelligence, that was then transmitted back to officials

throughout the government."

A Justice Department spokeswoman declined to comment on the request by Lieberman and Collins and pointed to a statement issued last week defending the decisions.

"Those who now argue that a different action should have been taken in this case were notably silent when dozens of terrorists were successfully prosecuted in federal court by the previous administration," Justice Department spokesman Matt Miller said last week.

... President Obama called for jury service

Here's an easy excuse for getting out of an inconvenient spot of jury duty: a meeting with the president of the Kurdistan region in Iraq. It may not work for everyone - but it works for Barack Obama.

Late last year a summons for Barack Hussain Obama of 5046 South Greenwood Avenue, Chicago, arrived, instructing him to report for jury service at Cook County's Bridgeview courthouse.

Obama now spends more time at his work address, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington DC - better known as the White House - and sent word that he was otherwise engaged running the country.

Obama of course has a busy time, with his first State of the Union address today, in which he hopes to turn around his sagging political fortunes. But otherwise the week seems pretty clear. Today he was meeting the Los Angeles Lakers basketball team. And President Massoud Barzani of the Kurdistan regional government was dropping by later in the afternoon.

In many respects Obama would have made an excellent juror, with his degree from Harvard Law School and his years teaching law at the University of Chicago. But the other jurors may have been intimidated by his presence, not to mention his ability to grant a presidential pardon if he did not like the verdict.

Yet when Chicago's most famous resident, Oprah Winfrey, was called to serve in 2004, she turned up and helped convict a 27-year-old man on a charge of first-degree murder. Like Obama, Oprah had an empire to run but that did not deter her from earning \$17 a day for the three days she spent in court.

Obama is not the first US president to be picked for jury service. In 2005 George Bush was called to serve in Texas, near his ranch in Crawford. But he also skipped the chance to deliver justice. The same month Bush's presidential opponent, John Kerry, was also summoned. Unlike Bush, Kerry reported for duty and was even elected foreman by his jury peers.



PRESIDENT Barack Obama

News Extra



UN peacekeepers struggle to control the thousands of desperately hungry Haitians outside the wrecked presidential palace in Port-au-Prince

Thousands of hungry Haitians overrun peacekeepers delivering food



CHILDREN hold up placards demanding help in Leogane, one of the towns worst hit by the earthquake

Thousands of hungry Haitians spilled into the streets defeating barbed wire and a tiny contingent of blue-helmeted UN peacekeepers

distributing food.

The chaotic scene unfolded outside the wrecked presidential palace in Port-au-Prince where aid agencies struggled to control 4000-strong mass of desperate

Haitians, two weeks after the devastating earthquake struck.

Security forces fired pepper spray into the air in an effort to disperse the thousands of men, women and children jostling for

food.

As the overwhelmed soldiers finally retreated, people rushed forward to grab sacks of pinto beans and rice, emblazoned with the U.S. flag.

Avomiting pregnant woman, still gesturing at her mouth to show hunger, was carried off by UN troops after collapsing out of the crush of bodies.

Soldiers had done their best to prepare for the crowds. They erected barbed wire, cutting off the street from the sprawling tent city. Troops then ordered people to line up in four queues, 20 yards from where the food was to be dumped.

Two trucks were parked between the people and food, while a UN armoured car was on guard to the side.

But even the peacekeepers armed with batons and riot shields could not hold back the agitated crowds.

Every time a soldier fired a warning shot the crowds jumped the fence just for a moment, and then pushed forward again screaming.

The episode came two days after similar scenes in the Point Rouge area, when Brazilian U.N. peacekeepers were forced to fire flash grenades and pepper spray

to dissipate an unruly crowd.

'Due to insufficient strength of military personnel providing security in the site of the distribution, the population tried to loot, putting the lives of the military personnel and the (World Food Programme) members in danger,' according to an internal Brazilian UN report.

With thousands left without food after the melee, president Rene Preval called for more tents for the homeless who are spread across empty lots, parks and plazas in the hundreds of thousands.

Meanwhile as Haiti's mobile phone system began working again, thousands of voicemails and texts from people trapped in the ruins were heard and seen for the first time.

Survivor Rene Emile, 32, cried when she read the text from her husband Peter who was on training course in the capital when the building he was in collapsed.

He wrote: 'Send help, we are still alive. May the Lord bless you and keep you, his face shines upon you. I love you.'

Mrs Emile told the *The Sun*: 'This is all I have left of my husband. Some words on a cellphone screen. This is all there is and it arrived too late.'

News Extra

Beekeeper wakes up in coffin after doctor declares him dead

A Polish beekeeper pronounced dead after he suffered a suspected heart attack was about to be sealed up in a coffin when a funeral director miraculously discovered a faint pulse.

Jozef Guzy collapsed as he started work among his beloved hives near the southern city of Katowice.

An ambulance was called and an experienced doctor declared that the 76-year-old had died.

Jerzy Wisniewski, a spokesman for the Regional Ambulance Service in Katowice, said: 'The patient was not breathing, there was no heart beat, the body had cooled - all are the characteristics of death.

a miracle!"

The ambulance was called again and the same doctor returned. He confirmed the pensioner had 'come back from the dead'.

Mr Guzy was taken to hospital where puzzled doctors failed to find anything wrong with him.

After a few days rest, he was sent home.

Mr Wysluchato said: 'Thank God I did not close the coffin - if I had done that it would have been a tragedy.'

'Something touched me to touch his neck - I'm so pleased he's alive.'

His wife, Ludmila, said: 'I could not believe it when they said he was dead. The doctor put a white sheet



THE coffin



JOZEF Guzy was declared dead by a doctor after he collapsed

Three hours later, an undertaker arrived to take Mr Guzy's body away.

Funeral director Dariusz Wysluchato placed the man's body in a coffin and was about to seal the lid when his wife, Ludmilla, asked him to remove his watch.

As Mr Wysluchato fiddled with the watch chain he happened to touch Mr Guzy's neck and detected a pulse. •

He said: 'I touched around the neck artery and suddenly realised he wasn't dead after all. I checked again and shouted, "It's a pulse!"

'I had a friend check and he noticed the man was breathing. God, it was

over him and three hours later local undertakers pulled up.'

Mr Guzy added: 'The undertaker saved my life. The first thing I did when I got out of hospital was take him a pot of honey.'

It comes just weeks after a hospital in southwest China prematurely sent a man injured in a motorbike crash to a mortuary.

Zhang Houming, 46, was found breathing and with a faint heartbeat in his coffin by his family.

He was taken back to hospital, but died an hour later.

His family, from the city of Neijiang in Sichuan province, are now claiming £136,000 in compensation.



It's not just about you seeing the world,
it's about the world seeing you at your best.

Get ready!

Appreciation

On behalf of myself and my family, I extend my sincere appreciation to thousands of people, within and outside the country, who attended the historic turbanning of Kano State Governor, **Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau**, as first-ever *Sardaunan Kano* by His Royal Highness, the Emir of Kano, **Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero**

*May the Almighty reward you all.
Amin.*

Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau
(Sardaunan Kano)
Kano State Governor

SIGNED

ALHAJI YAKUBU ALI BASHIR & FAMILY
Hon. Commissioner
Ministry of Land and Physical Planning, Kano.



PROPERTY

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FG to spend N8.5 bn on Gombe/Yola Road

From: Mustapha Suleiman & Aliyu m. Hamagam

THE Federal Government will spend over N 8 billion on the reconstruction of the highly dilapidated 275 kilometers Gombe/Yola road, the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development, Alhaji Hassan Lawal has said.

The Minister made the disclosure during a courtesy call on Governor Danjuma Goje on

Monday in Gombe, adding that he was in the state as part of the nationwide tours embarked upon by his ministry for inspecting ongoing federal roads projects.

He also stated while inspecting the Gombe bypass road awarded to TRIACTA Nig.Ltd, that the contract of the bypass was initially awarded 15 years ago and abandoned by successive administrations, until the coming of the present administration which deemed it fit to re-award the con-

tract at the cost of N 3.1 billion.

Dr. Lawal said, by March this year the contract for the reconstruction of Bauchi/Gombe as well as Gombe/ Biu highway road would be awarded, saying the project was expected to be funded by the World Bank.

Other road projects to be bankrolled by the World Bank in the state, the Minister said includes the 100 kilometers road stretch that would start from Nafada/Potiskum junction and termi-

nate at Gombe Abba, explaining that when the road was completed several villages and towns along the road would be linked up with the federal highways.

Federal Government had also indicated interest to reimburse the Gombe state government the sum of N 3.4 billion for the money spent on the construction of seven kilometers dual carriage way on the federal highway road that intersected the state capital.

Responding, Governor Dan-

juma Goje commended the federal government for considering the re-awarding of the Gombe bypass road construction, explaining that when the bypass is completed, the frequent accidents being experienced in the state capital would drastically reduced.

The minister's entourage has since left for Adamawa State in continuation of the federal government roads project inspection tour.

Renovation of Nigerian High Commission in S/Africa underway

THE federal government has embarked on the renovation of the building housing the Nigeria High Commission in Pretoria

The Southern Africa correspondent of NAN reports that several parts of the building had become an eyesore as a result of leaking roofs while some parts were showing signs of collapse.

The renovation is also to provide a more befitting visa section and library at the High Commission.

When the High Commission was visited yesterday workmen were seen working in various sec-

tions of building. Some officials of the High Commission, who spoke on condition of anonymity, welcomed the renovation saying that it would promote Nigeria's profile in South Africa.

Renovation work is also being undertaken in official residences of staff of the Commission. A staff of the High Commission said that the situation was so bad in many of the residential quarters and was exposing occupants to security risks.

"It was so bad in some official residences last year that it led to some burglaries," the official said.



CHAIRMAN of Kuje area council, Mr. Danladi Etsu Zhi, 2nd right with his council officials inspecting the newly completed Unguwar Kayada road at Kuje, last Friday.

PIC: ABUBAKAR SADIQ ISAH

OPIC boss calls for LG support on housing estates

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

THE Managing Director of Ogun State Property and Investment Corporation (OPIC), Engr. Omobo, has called for the support of the local governments in the state in area of land provision for development of housing estates in the state.

The OPIC boss made this appeal in a chat with Environment Trust, after defending the corporation 2010 budget estimates at the State House of Assembly, Abeokuta, hinting that such gesture had been done by Ikenne local government last year. Omobo explained that the provision of land by the local government would be a sort of joint

effort aimed at providing houses for the people of the council area irrespective of where the land is provided. "It is a kind of joint effort. If Ikenne local government can be emulated we are going to have less problem in getting land for our housing project."

He stressed that the Ikenne local government provided land for the construction of 12 housing units as first phase, noting that such assistance would remove the bottleneck the corporation often face with land owners/speculators.

"But, if such is coming from the local government we shall definitely be relieved from the problem of Omo Onile and we can successfully execute such estates."

FHA buys into Kaduna Millennium City project

By Nasir Imam

THE Federal Housing Authority (FHA) is to participate in the development of the Kaduna Millennium City, a new town development programme of the state government.

The Authority's Managing Director, Arc Tervèr Gemade announced this in Kaduna after a courtesy call on Kaduna State Governor, Arc Mohammed Namadi Sambo.

Gemade said the FHA was delighted at the invitation to participate in the project because it

was in line with one of the models already outlined for its delivery of 100,000 housing units nationwide by 2013.

He assured the Governor that the new FHA had the personnel, expertise and will to deliver top grade houses in good, well-planned environments as envisaged under the Kaduna Millennium City project.

He also pleaded with the governor to hasten the process of providing titles for the FHA's land holdings in the State.

Gemade praised the great strides already taken by Sambo

towards the development of the state and urged him to accept the FHA as a partner in those efforts.

Earlier, Governor Sambo praised the Management of the Authority for the new direction it has chosen for the organization and pledged his administration's continued support for and co-operation with FHA.

Gemade was accompanied on the visit by the Authority's Executive Director, Management Services, Alhaji Abubakar Abba Abdulkadir and other top management staff.

International bodies seek regulation on land reforms

By Tina A. Hassan

THE Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC) have called for an evaluation of land policies on agriculture and investment in West Africa to fight the challenges of land pressure and food security in the region.

At a Strategy and Policy Group meeting held in Bamako, Mali recently, the two bodies jointly agreed that challenges related to food security, long term investment and peace in West Africa has to do with commercial pressure for acquiring, a challenge that need to be tackled in the land law reforms.

They said that it is necessary to development and investment poli-

cies in agriculture to enable countries secure their food future instead of using land for other commercial purposes mainly to the detriment of local populations.

SWAC/OECD said it is leading a regional dialogue on West African dynamics related to commercial pressures on land

The dialogue is based on the combined conclusions of numer-

ous research institutes, and SWAC's experience in land reforms, agricultural transformation and conflict as well as work within the OECD in terms of investment.

According to the bodies, the situation of land deteriorated over the years leading to food challenges in some countries in within the region.

This they say calls for action to raise awareness among leaders of

frameworks respectful to human rights, economy, land and social environment for investment in West African land.

The United Nations' Special Rapporteur on the Right of Food has interpreted human rights principles in land acquisition to mean a call for human rights to be respected in the negotiation of large scale farm land acquisition or leasing contracts.

PROPERTY

How N2bn railway project was awarded at N24bn

By Shehu Abubakar

ALLEGATIONS of inflation of contract sums, abuse of due process and corrupt practices in the award of contracts for the rehabilitation of the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) in the Ministry of Transport under its Minister, Alhaji Ibrahim Isa Bio has divided the ranks of the members of the NRC board and is now causing friction among top officials of the Corporation. Some officials of the Corporation that spoke to Daily Trust on condition of anonymity lamented that the recommendation they gave to government as professionals and operational staff of the Nigerian Railway Corporation that the nation's railway system could be rehabilitated with the sum of only N2 billion were unjustly discarded and thrown away.

Some of the Corporation's engineers and technical staff said they gave government a factual and realistic estimate of N2 billion as the actual cost for the total rehabilitation of the entire existing railway system but were surprised to discover that the amount for the rehabilitation of the sector had been inflated to N24 billion even when nothing new had been added to what was recommended by them. They noted that the inflated N22 billion could have been saved by government and injected into some other useful ventures if government had adhered to their professional advice.

"We are staff of the Nigerian Railway Corporation. We are the operators, the engineers, the technical and professional staff of the Corporation. We suffered several years of neglect and joblessness. Now that the government has shown seriousness in rehabilitating the railway sec-



tor, we said only N2 billion is needed for the total rehabilitation. We gave them list of what is required for the rehabilitation and how to go about the execution of the project. Unfortunately, the N2 billion estimate we gave to the government has now been inflated to N24 billion. Apart from the inflation of the contract sum, no part of the job captured in our recommendation has been added.

"We are worried because when government finally spend N24 billion where ordinarily N2 billion could have done the job, it will not be interested in addressing staff welfare and other financial demands.

This N24 billion the present administration is spending in the rehabilitation of the old tracks could have been used in laying new tracks for the country. We are concerned at the over 1,000 percent inflation of the contract sum. We have also been watching the controversies surrounding the award of the contracts that led the ministry having several cases pending before the EFCC," the source added.

A member of the railway board, who also pleaded anonymity, said the abuse of due

process in the award of contract for the rehabilitation of the nation's railway was discussed by the railway board at its meeting of December 29, 2009 in Abuja. "By right, the board suppose to deliberate and agree on any railway contract before it recommend to the Federal Executive Council (FEC) through the Minister for approval. But unfortunately, the meeting of the board was summoned on December 29, 2009 by 10am to deliberate on the contract for the rehabilitation of the Jebba to Kano railway line that was to be awarded to Costain West Africa that same day by 4pm.

"It has already been decided and invitations were already distributed invited people to witness the signing of the contract by 4pm that day before we were asked to come for a meeting by 10am the same day to agree on what has already been decided.

There was no record anywhere indicating that Costain West Africa ever handled any railway project in the past. In any case, the board suppose to meet, deliberate and agree on who should be recommended for the contract and not for us to adopt the decisions of the minister. We

were still at the meeting that day when the minister sent a bus to convey us to Transcorp hotel to witness the signing ceremony. That is not how it is suppose to be," the source said.

But the Minister, Ibrahim Isa Bio said, "We want to make sure Nigerians enjoy railway services. The challenges are enormous, people call us names. People who are use to the old order of doing things, they want used to continue that way.

We are not of particular interest to a particular contractor, to a particular group, but what is of particular interest to this administration is delivery. If you are able to deliver or you have the ability to deliver, we would work together.

"Initially, it was the conception of both the Nigerian Railway Corporation that about two billion will be able to do this rehabilitation. But when we got Consultants from UK and the US to do proper condition assessment, it has tripled or even quadrupled. Because the thing has migrated from N2 billion to about N24 billion.

Mr President being a committed President has accepted to embark and therefore, he has captured the additional requirement in the supplementary budget which has been signed. I want to once again, thank Mr President for his commitment to once again revive the Nigerian Railway Corporation.

On the alleged disagreements between the ministry and prospective contractors and staff of the ministry on the issue of contracts that led to making complaints of some fraudulent acts, the minister said, "I would like to decline any comment on that for now because my ministry has made a lot of complaints

to the EFCC and they are investigating. It will be prejudicial now to say anything on that." He commended the railway board for cooperating with the ministry in ensuring that the railway projects are executed as planned.

Commenting, Chairman of Costain West Africa, Mr Kola Karim said, "Costain West Africa is 62 years old in Nigeria. The rejuvenation of this company started 4 and half years ago. Today, you find the strength in our company. When you talk about rail, i will confirm this to the Nigerian people; the only new rail job that has been completed in this country is been done at the Lagos and Port-Harcourt ports and that was done and completed by Costain West Africa Plc. It is important i assure you that Costain West African is Nigerian, powered by Nigerians and driven by the best of technical skills and ability. So, I assure you that when we put our name to it, we get it done.

"One very important portion of this job that Nigerians should know is that the civil part of this job is huge. There is a portion of it called the Akere Bridge which connects the Southern part of Nigeria to the Northern portion in Niger state."



ALHAJI Ibrahim Isa Bio Minister of Transport

National Museum partners foreign firm on Lagos museum

By Maureen Onochie

PLANS are under way to reposition the Lagos Museum and transform it to a major tourist destination and centre of excellence.

The project will be jointly executed by the National Commission for Museum and Monument and Fosters and Partners, A British Architectural firm.

Speaking at the design presentation in Abuja Yesterday, Architect Armstrong Yakubu representing Fosters and Partners international noted that the Lagos museum holds a lot of items which are better than what most museums in the world have.


Arc. Yakubu condemned the use of thick walls around the museum buildings as a security barrier adding that peo-

ple should have access to their treasury without hindrance.

He also said although the major components of the building are traditional they will be used in a modern way that the buildings will shade themselves, there wouldn't be a need for a lot of electricity to run the building or depend on the national grid.

In his speech, the Director General of the National Commission Museum and Monument, Mallam Yusuf Abdallah disclosed that a company, MRDE in December 2009 had earlier made a design presentation of the museum building and hopes to soon select which company would be awarded the contract for the project.

Abdallah said the project will not be immediate saying that funds have to be raised for the project to be carried out.



Amusement Park

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Any person or persons who does business with him, with regards to the organization does so at his or her own risk

Signed:
Management



CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

In furtherance of the transparency and full disclosure stance of the Central bank of Nigeria, the Monetary Policy Committee has decided that henceforth the lending rates obtainable in all Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) be made public to guide business decisions. Consequently, find below the applicable rates for each of the DMBs as at 22/01/2010. The rates will be published every Wednesday in some selected national Newspapers. The rates will also be available on the website of the Central Bank of Nigeria

Average Deposit and Lending Rates as at 22-01-2010

S/N	NAME OF BANK	Deposit			Lending Rate									
		Demand Deposit	Savings Deposit	Time Deposit	Agriculture		Mining & Quarrying		Oil & Gas		Manufacturing		Real Estate & Const	
		Ave.Int Rate	Ave.Int Rate	Ave.Int Rate	Prime	Max.	Prime	Max.	Prime	Max.	Prime	Max.	Prime	Max.
1	Access Bank	0-2	3-5	8-13	17.00	24.00	17.50	24.00	17.50	24.00	17.00	24.00	19.00	24.00
2	Afribank Nigeria	0.67	3.00	13.00	18.00	23.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00
3	Diamond Bank	0.65	2.80	13.70	14.00	19.00	20.00	25.00	20.00	25.00	20.00	25.00	20.00	25.00
4	Ecobank Nigeria	0.01	3.00	14.00	n/a	n/a	18.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	14.00	20.00	18.00	21.50
5	Equitorial Trust Bank	2.00	6.00	15.50	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00
6	Fidelity Bank	2.00	4.00	14.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	23.00
7	First Bank of Nigeria	-	3.00	10.21	8.00	22.00	22.00	24.25	22.00	24.25	22.00	24.25	22.00	23.25
8	FCMB	0.10	3.10	12.00	17.00	22.00	17.00	23.50	17.00	23.50	17.00	22.50	17.00	22.50
9	FINBANK	0.25	4.00	13.65	14.00	24.75	21.00	24.00	21.00	24.00	21.00	24.00	21.00	24.50
10	Guaranty Trust Bank	n/a	3.50	12.23	16.00	17.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00
11	Stanbic IBTC Bank	0.94	2.19	12.88	17.00	22.00	17.00	22.00	17.00	22.00	17.00	22.00	17.00	22.00
12	Intercontinental Bank	-	0.50	12.43	22.00	25.00	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00	n/a	n/a	22.00	25.00
13	Citi Bank Nigeria	0.75	1.50	10.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00
14	Oceanic Bank	0.25	3.00	4-17	25.00	27.00	25.00	27.00	16.50	27.00	16.50	27.00	19.00	27.00
15	Bank PHB	0.60	1.50	10.20	4.00	24.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00
16	Skye Bank	2.00	3.00	13.36	14.00	14.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00
17	Spring Bank	-	3.00	12.30	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00
18	Standard Chartered Bank	0-4	1-5	6-15	18.00	21.00	18.00	21.00	18.00	21.00	18.00	21.00	18.00	21.00
19	Sterling Bank	1.03	4.49	14.42	19.00	22.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	23.00	20.00	24.00
20	Union Bank	n/a	n/a	2 -13.75	17.00	19.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	23.00	20.00	24.00
21	United Bank for Africa	0.79	2.26	12.73	8.00	22.00	21.00	22.00	15.50	22.00	15.50	22.00	15.50	22.00
22	Unity Bank	1.00	4-5	3-15.75	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00
23	Wema Bank	2.00	3.00	12.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00
24	Zenith Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	18.75	22.00	15.00	22.00	15.00	22.00	16.00	22.00	13.00	22.00

S/N	NAME OF BANK	Deposit			Lending Rate									
		Demand Deposit	Savings Deposit	Time Deposit	General Comm.		Mortgage		Transp. & Comm.		Fin. & Ins.		Govt.	
		Ave.Int Rate	Ave.Int Rate	Ave.Int Rate	Prime	Max.	Prime	Max.	Prime	Max.	Prime	Max.	Prime	Max.
1	Access Bank	0-2	3-5	8-13	18.00	24.00	14.00	24.00	18.00	24.00	20.00	24.00	19.00	24.00
2	Afribank Nigeria	0.67	3.00	13.00	19.00	25.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	25.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00
3	Diamond Bank	0.65	2.80	13.70	20.00	25.00	20.00	25.00	20.00	25.00	20.00	25.00	20.00	25.00
4	Ecobank Nigeria	0.01	3.00	14.00	18.00	25.00	16.00	22.00	18.00	25.00	16.00	22.00	18.00	20.00
5	Equitorial Trust Bank	2.00	6.00	15.50	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00	18.00	25.00
6	Fidelity Bank	2.00	4.00	14.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	23.00	19.00	23.00
7	First Bank of Nigeria	-	3.00	10.21	22.00	24.25	22.00	24.25	22.00	24.25	22.00	24.25	22.00	23.25
8	FCMB	0.10	3.10	12.00	17.00	26.00	17.00	22.50	17.00	23.00	17.00	23.00	17.00	23.00
9	FINBANK	0.25	4.00	13.65	21.00	28.00	21.00	24.00	21.00	24.00	18.00	25.00	21.00	25.00
10	Guaranty Trust Bank	n/a	3.50	12.23	20.00	22.00	20.00	22.00	20.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	n/a	22.00
11	Stanbic IBTC Bank	0.94	2.19	12.88	17.00	22.00	17.00	22.00	17.00	22.00	17.00	22.00	17.00	22.00
12	Intercontinental Bank	-	0.50	12.43	22.00	28.00	9.50	9.50	18.00	25.00	22.00	28.00	22.00	25.00
13	Citi Bank Nigeria	0.75	1.50	10.00	18.00	22.00	-	-	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00	-	-
14	Oceanic Bank	0.25	3.00	4-17	19.00	27.00	17.00	24.00	22.00	27.00	25.00	30.00	22.00	27.00
15	Bank PHB	0.60	1.50	10.20	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00	19.00	24.00
16	Skye Bank	2.00	3.00	13.36	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00
17	Spring Bank	-	3.00	12.30	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00	19.00	22.00
18	Standard Chartered Bank	0-4	1-5	6-15	18.00	21.00	18.00	21.00	18.00	21.00	18.00	21.00	18.00	21.00
19	Sterling Bank	1.03	4.49	14.42	20.00	25.00	20.00	25.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	22.00
20	Union Bank	n/a	n/a	2 -13.75	20.00	24.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	24.00	20.00	24.00
21	United Bank for Africa	0.79	2.26	12.73	21.00	22.00	15.50	22.00	15.50	22.00	15.50	22.00	15.50	22.00
22	Unity Bank	1.00	4-5	3-15.75	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00	22.00	24.00
23	Wema Bank	2.00	3.00	12.00	18.00	23.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	23.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	22.00
24	Zenith Bank	n/a	n/a	n/a	19.00	22.00	17.50	22.00	17.00	22.00	12.00	20.00	19.00	22.00

These are the interest rates banks charge the public on loans and advances. It reflects the cost of borrowings and also includes all charges and commissions levied by banks.

(Signed)
Management



INTERNAL/EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the leading UN organization in Reproductive Health and Population and Development, is recruiting personnel for the following positions in the Field Office in Abuja:

1. National Programme Adviser/Head, (Population and Development (P & D) - NOD (ICS 11)
2. National Programme Adviser/Head, (Reproductive Health and Rights (RH&R) - NOD (ICS 11)
3. National Programme Analyst (Maternal Health-Obstetric Fistula) - NOB (ICS 09)

1. NATIONAL PROGRAMME ADVISER/HEAD (POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT)

Post Level: NOD (ICS11)
 Duty Post: ABUJA
 Type of Contract: Fixed Term
 Duration: One Year (Subject to renewal upon satisfactory performance)

Main Tasks and Responsibilities

Under the overall supervision of the Resident Representative and direct supervision of the Deputy Representative, the National Programme Adviser/Head, (P & D) will lead UNFPA's work in population and development. S/He will work with counterparts in Government, multi-lateral and bi-lateral donor agencies and civil society to undertake the following tasks:

- Provide substantive leadership and technical inputs into the design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects to address the need for data and data analyses for development planning and evidence-based decision making
- Provide technical assistance, guidance and support for population research, data collection, analysis, dissemination and utilization and preparation of technically sound papers, reports and indicators
- Contribute to analyses of census, DHS and other data for use by policy and decision makers and contribute to assessments of gaps in policy environment, policy implementation and programmatic responses. Review policy and programme documents and provide recommendations to government counterparts and development partners to ensure multi-sectoral, gender-sensitive and evidence-based approaches;
- Create and document knowledge about current and emerging population and development trends, RH and gender issues, by analyzing programmes, projects, strategies, approaches and ongoing experiences for lessons learned, best practices and replicable strategies and approaches and actively share and apply this knowledge.
- Analyze and interpret the political, social and economic environment relevant to population and development, reproductive health and gender and identify opportunities for UNFPA assistance and intervention. Keep abreast of new policy developments and strategies, analyzing policy papers, strategy documents, national plans and development frameworks and prepare briefs and inputs for policy dialogue, technical assistance coordination and development frameworks.
- Provide substantive input into evidence based advocacy to promote UNFPA's programme goals taking into account political and social sensitivities. Advocate and advance UNFPA's policy agenda by participating in public information events
- Conduct substantive policy/advocacy dialogue with Government counterparts to facilitate the incorporation of UNFPA's Programme priorities and ICPD agenda into national plans, policies and strategies
- Promote a results based approach and integrate innovative policies and strategies into the design and formulation of country programmes (CPs), country programme action plans (CPAPs) and projects based on strategic priorities and responsive to the Government's needs in the areas of RH, P & D and Gender.
- Facilitate the achievement of programme results by identifying, providing and coordinating substantive and technical inputs into programme development and implementation, ensuring substantive monitoring and oversight and coordinating and evaluating the inputs of consultants and technical experts.
- Represent UNFPA in key P&D related fora and working groups and ensure consistent feedback to other UNFPA programme components on the outcomes and outputs of these mechanisms and processes.
- Identify funding opportunities and help UNFPA Country Office to mobilize resources for P&D programmes and activities. Support UNFPA Representative to dialogue and lobby with major funding organizations and development partners to leverage funds towards implementation of the Population and development programme.
- Support capacity building for staff in relevant government, NGO and CSO institutions in population and development, data collection, analysis, dissemination and utilization.
- Undertake any other assignments as may be required by the Representative

Required Competencies

Core Competencies

- Integrity/Commitment to our mandate/Valuing Diversity
- Performance Management;
- Developing People/Coaching and Mentoring & Fostering Innovation and Empowerment; Working in Teams;
- Self-Management/Emotional Intelligence;
- Analytical and Strategic Thinking and Results Orientation/Commitment to Excellence;
- Knowledge Sharing/Continuous Learning

Functional Competencies

- Conceptual Innovation in the provision of technical expertise
- Leveraging the resources of national governments & partners/building strategic alliances and partnerships
- Job knowledge/Technical expertise: Good knowledge of population and development, data analysis, data dissemination and utilization

Qualifications and Experience

The Ideal Candidate should:

- Be a Nigerian National (Male or Female)
- Have at least a Master's degree in Demography, Sociology, Population and Development, and/or other related social science field; and/or have a Ph.D in a related Social Science field.
- Possess professional experience of a minimum of 15 years preferably in programme management in the public and/or private sector.
- Possess good technical drafting and report/proposal writing skills and presentation and interpersonal communication skills.
- Be experienced in working with government institutions and donor organizations.
- Have a strong capability to communicate clearly and concisely in both oral and written English.
- Have the ability to work under pressure.

- Have proficiency in current office software applications.

2. NATIONAL PROGRAMME ADVISER/HEAD (REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & RIGHTS (RH & R))

Post Level: NOD (ICS11)
 Duty Post: ABUJA
 Type of Contract: Fixed Term
 Duration: One Year (Subject to renewal upon satisfactory performance)

Main Tasks and Responsibilities:

Under the overall supervision of the Resident Representative and direct supervision of the Deputy Representative, the National Programme Adviser/Head, (RH & R) will lead UNFPA's work in Reproductive Health and programming to support the national response in reproductive health including antenatal care (ANC), Family Planning (FP), delivery care and implementation of the government's IMNCH strategy. S/He will work with the national counterparts, the UN agencies and other partners to undertake the following tasks:

- Provide substantive leadership and inputs into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes to increase access to Maternal health services with quality evidence-based comprehensive intervention packages, within the context of the National IMNCH Strategy, taking into account socio-cultural factors. Working in close collaboration with National and state governments, UN Agencies, NGOs and other partners to ensure that appropriate national capacities are developed for the implementation of quality RH programmes.
- Guide the development and implementation of policies and strategies for further scaling up the RH programme activities of UNFPA in close collaboration with National and state governments, UN Agencies, NGOs and other partners
- Provide technical assistance, guidance and support for the operationalization/ implementation of the IMNCH strategy at national and state levels.
- Work with the National MDGs office and NHIS to design strategies for community based health interventions
- Work with the FMOH, SMOH and National Medical Stores to implement the national RHCS and increase availability and accessibility to contraceptives and other RH commodities and reduce stock outs at health facilities.
- Facilitate the involvement of all levels of society namely, government, civil society, NGOs, FBOs and the private sector in the development of plans, implementation and evaluation of interventions to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality.
- Guide the implementation of programmes to empower women and young people and improve their access to reproductive health information and services.
- Support the collection (including through operational research) of lessons learnt and best practices that enhance the effectiveness of RH interventions, disseminate them to stakeholders, and advocate, mobilize and convene partners for large-scale up of response to increase access to RH services and reduce maternal mortality and morbidity.
- Continuously analyze population and development, RH and gender issues in the country and provide data for decision making and target setting for RH programming. In addition, provide substantive input into advocacy strategies taking into account political and social sensitivities. Advocate and advance UNFPA's policy agenda by participating in public information events
- Contribute to analyses of national reproductive health data, challenges and priorities focusing on gender issues, women and girls and young and contribute to assessments of gaps in policy environment, policy implementation and programmatic responses. Review RH, maternal health and ASRH related policy and programme documents and provide recommendations to government counterparts and development partners to ensure multi-sectoral, gender-sensitive and evidence-based approaches;
- Represent UNFPA in key RH-related fora, including the UN H4, UN RH Theme Group, RH Technical Working Group (TWG), IMNCH TWG, RHCS TWG and ensure consistent feedback to other UNFPA program sectors on the outcomes and outputs of these mechanisms and processes.
- Identify funding opportunities and help UNFPA Country Office to mobilize resources for RH programmes and activities. Support UNFPA Representative to dialogue and lobby with major funding organizations and development partners to leverage funds towards implementation of maternal health and Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive health programmes and to reach young people, women and girls and other vulnerable groups.
- Undertake any other assignments as may be required by the Representative

Required Competencies:

Core Competencies

- Integrity/Commitment to our mandate/Valuing Diversity
- Performance Management;
- Developing People/Coaching and Mentoring & Fostering Innovation and Empowerment; Working in Teams;
- Self-Management/Emotional Intelligence;
- Analytical and Strategic Thinking and Results Orientation/Commitment to Excellence;
- Knowledge Sharing/Continuous Learning

Functional Competencies

- Conceptual Innovation in the provision of technical expertise
- Leveraging the resources of national governments & partners/Building strategic alliances and partnerships
- Job knowledge/Technical expertise: Good knowledge of reproductive health, especially interventions to improve access to quality antenatal care (ANC), Family Planning (FP), delivery care and IMNCH services.

Qualifications and Experience

The Ideal Candidate should:

- Be a Nigerian National (Male or Female)
- Be a Medical Doctor with a post-graduate degree in Public Health or have a Ph.D in a related Social Science field.
- Possess professional experience of a minimum of 15 years preferably in programme/project management in the public and/or private sector linked to RH issues especially with international bilateral, multilateral organizations or NGOs.
- Possess good technical drafting and report/proposal writing skills and presentation and interpersonal communication skills.
- Be experienced in working with government institutions and donor organizations.
- Have a strong capability to communicate clearly and concisely in both oral and written English.

- Experience in implementation of Community based health interventions
- Have the ability to work under pressure.
- Have proficiency in current office software applications.

3. NATIONAL PROGRAMME ANALYST (MATERNAL HEALTH - OBSTETRIC FISTULA)

Post Level: NOB (ICS09)
Duty Post: ABUJA
Type of Contract: Fixed Term
Duration: One Year (Subject to renewal upon satisfactory performance)

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the supervision of the Representative or Deputy Representative, and direct guidance of the National Programme Adviser/Head, (RH & R), he/she is expected to analyze and assess relevant political, social and economic trends and provide substantive inputs to project formulation and evaluation, joint programming initiatives and national development frameworks in the area of building capacities for maternal health, especially prevention and treatment of obstetric care on fistula.

The National Programme Analyst (Maternal Health - Obstetric Fistula) will:

- In collaboration with Government counterparts, NGOs and other partners, will provide technical support as appropriate and work closely with all stakeholders to ensure that obstetric fistula (prevention, treatment and rehabilitation) services are fully integrated into the RH programmes.
- Ensure quality of programme/project design incorporating lessons learned, newly developed policies and best practices and establishing appropriate execution and monitoring mechanisms and systems.
- Analyze and interpret the political, social and economic environment relevant to population and development, reproductive health and gender and identify opportunities for UNFPA assistance and intervention. Keep abreast of new policy developments and strategies analyzing policy papers, strategy documents, national plans and development frameworks.
- Monitor the obstetric fistula content of the on-going UNFPA country programme, ensuring that it is in line with the National Strategic Framework for the eradication of obstetric fistula and the UNFPA Global campaign to end fistula.
- Collaborate with all stakeholders in the area of obstetric fistula with a view to ensuring a coordinated implementation of fistula related activities in the context of RH.
- Promote the overall UNFPA Fistula Prevention Strategy directly linked to RH.
- Collaborate with relevant stakeholders (Governments, NGOs and CBOs) in the design of materials pertaining to RH, ARH, IEC/BCC advocacy in support of the implementation of obstetric fistula.
- Help create and document knowledge about current and emerging population development trends, RH and gender practices as they relate to the prevention and treatment of obstetric care on fistula, and share with management for use in knowledge sharing and planning future strategies.
- Undertake advocacy activities with policy makers at all level to ensure sustained support for the eradication of obstetric fistula.
- Undertake any other assignments as may be required by the Representative.

Required Competencies

- Demonstrable managerial and networking skills and a good knowledge of obstetric fistula, determinants and impact
- Experience in working in multi-sectoral projects involving several stakeholders
- The ability for advocacy and advancing a policy-oriented agenda
- A track record in innovation and marketing of new approaches
- Integrity, commitment and respect for diversity
- Skills to manage relationships, communicate and develop people
- An ability for analytical and strategic thinking and results orientation
- An ability for analytical and strategic thinking and results orientation
- An ability to travel extensively in the rural areas.

Qualifications and Experience

The Ideal Candidate should:

- Be a Nigerian National (Male or Female)
- Have a post-graduate degree in Public Health and/or related Social Science field.
- Possess professional experience of a minimum of 5 - 10 years preferably in programme/project management in the public and/or private sector linked to RH issues and fistula prevention and management especially with international bilateral, multilateral organizations or NGOs.
- Possess good technical drafting and report/proposal writing skills and presentation and interpersonal communication skills.
- Be experienced in working with government institutions and donor organizations.
- Have a strong capability to communicate clearly and concisely in both oral and written English.
- Experience in implementation of Community based health interventions
- Have the ability to work under pressure.
- Have proficiency in current office software applications.

Related Programme Skills for all Posts

Because the nature of work are programme focused, involving other groups and various timelines and activities, related skills of good time management, managing deadlines and good team relationships are essential. Knowledge of the UN system is desirable.

Method of Application

All applications should include functional e-mail addresses and mobile phone numbers, letter of application and detailed curriculum vitae (CV), **attached as one file in MS WORD format only**. Applications should be addressed to **The UNFPA Resident Representative, Abuja** and forwarded to the under-listed e-mail addresses **latest by 30 October, 2009** and each application should clearly reflect the post to which an applicant is applying.

1. National Programme Adviser/Head, P & D - NOD should send applications to vacancypdu.ng@unfpa.org
2. National Programme Adviser/Head, RH & R - NOD should send applications to vacancyrhu.ng@unfpa.org
3. National Programme Analyst - NOB should send applications to vacancyrhu.ng@unfpa.org

Please note that UNFPA will respond only to those applicants in whom it has a further interest. Kindly also note that **ONLY** applications sent by e-mail will be accepted. Qualified women are encouraged to apply.

*UNFPA reserves the right to appoint at the indicated or lower level and prior to the closing date.

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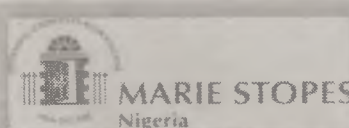
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Inside Politics

Yar'adua: Bukar says FEC has failed the nation

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

IMMEDIATE past governor of Yobe State, Senator Bukar Abba Ibrahim said yesterday in Damaturu that the Federal Executive Council (FEC) has failed to discharge its constitutional responsibility of admitting that President Umaru Yar'adua cannot 'effectively' pilot the affairs of this country because of his deplorable state of health.

Bukar, who represents Yobe Central Senatorial Zone in the Senate on the platform of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) also absolved the National Assembly of any blame over the failure of Yar'adua to handover the affairs of the country to Vice President Goodluck Jonathan before proceeding to Saudi Arabia to seek medical attention.

He said FEC members are clearly afraid of the consequences of deliberating on the predicaments of President Yar'adua, a development which according to him makes it difficult for the Senate to take action.

"The Nigerian Constitution needs to be amended so that the responsibilities



SENATOR Bukar Abba Ibrahim

of the ministers on determining the state of health of the president will be vested on members of the National Assembly," Bukar suggested.

"Since it was the president who appointed them,

they are afraid to tell him to resign because they don't want to lose their positions," Bukar stressed and called on President Yar'adua to resign so that the political stalemate in the country will be resolved.

Anambra Rights Group tasks police on VIPs

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Rights Monitoring Group (RMG) has advised the police to prevent VIPs and other unauthorised persons or groups from visiting polling booths and other designated election centres during the February 6 Anambra governorship election.

National Coordinator of the group and member, Campaign and Media Committee of the Anambra Election Monitoring

Board (AEMB), Olufemi Aduwo, told Daily Trust yesterday in Abuja that preventing the VIPs will curtail the activities of election riggers and other trouble makers.

"Past experiences have shown that the so called VIPs that have nothing to do with elections have obstructed proceedings of elections, using the security personnel attached to them to harass electorate and election officers; so they should be summarily

barred. All those that have nothing to do with the Anambra election should have their movements restricted and should not be allowed to loiter around election centres," Aduwo said.

He said that if the police can prevent unauthorised persons, except accredited journalists, observers, party agents and voters with valid cards among others from election centres, a landmark would be recorded during the election.

Anambra: 11 days to go, our fear, by election board

By Abbas Jimoh

ELEVEN days to the Anambra State governorship election, the Anambra Election Monitoring Board (AEMB) has raised alarm over alleged procurement of fake police uniforms and arrests of persons with election materials.

The alarm came yesterday just as the contestants gave assurances in Awka that they will stick to the rules during the February 6 election.

Co-chairman of the board, Mr. Ikeazor Akaraiwe, told *Daily Trust* said yesterday in Abuja that despite the assurances and the preparedness of INEC, some of the stakeholders were worried about such reports coming from Anambra.

"In the past three days, the police have announced the arrest of people with ballot papers. We are not very comfortable with police arresting individuals in possession

of election materials. Anybody who sees a person with election materials should alert the police. We also heard that some persons were arrested with fake police uniforms; all this are disturbing," Akaraiwe said before the group left for Awka.

Akaraiwe who is the first vice-president of Nigeria Bar Association (NBA), said his board was not comfortable with a situation in which sensitive election materials like ballot papers and voters' cards found their way into wrong hands in such a crucial election.

"My attitude is that police should shoot persons in fake police uniform. Any person who is in fake police uniform and having a gun is a dangerous person. This is a personal view borne out of frustration. A person who comes in (to office) through cheating is not going to be accountable to the people," he said.

... Guber debate: Candidates woo electorate

SIX out of the 25 candidates contesting the Anambra gubernatorial election on yesterday featured at a grand debate to sell their programmes to the electorate.

The debate, jointly organised by the Anambra Re-Birth Group and other groups, was broadcast nationwide on radio and television stations.

The candidates included Governor Peter Obi (APGA); Prof. Chukwuma Soludo, (PDP); Dr Chris Ngige, (AC); Dr Chris Uba (Labour Party); Prince Nicholas Ukachukwu, (Hope Democratic Party) and Chief Ralph Nwosu of the African Democratic Party.

The only female candidate in the election, Chief Uche Ekwunife of Progressive People Alliance (PPA), did not show up though she was invited. No reasons were given for her absence.

Obi appealed to the people of Anambra to give him the opportunity to consolidate on his achievements in the state in the last three years.

"We have set up Anambra Integrated Strategy Plan to promote good governance in the state," he said, adding that his administration had also invested heavily in security to ensure safety of lives and property.

Obi said that education was also given the necessary priority hence about 110 secondary schools in the state had been listed on Microsoft Academy as a way of promoting science and technology.

Soludo, on his part said that his desire was to turn the state around into the "Dubai and Taiwan of Africa," noting that he was not pleased with the present situation of things.

Soludo stressed that his credentials suf-

ficiently spoke for him, emphasising that if he was elected, he would use his connection with Nigerians in Diaspora to renew the lost prosperity of the state.

He said he would place sufficient premium on security to protect lives and property, job and food security, saying that the development of education would constitute the bedrock of his administration.

Ngige, a former Governor of the state, emphasised that politics was not a means to an end for him, emphasising that his priority would be the development of the state and not personal aggrandisement.

"I will initiate a power plant that will provide up to 2,000 mega watts of electricity for the people and industries in Anambra," he assured the people.

He also said he had a vision of food sufficiency for Anambra to the extent of exporting to other parts of the country.

Ukachukwu on his part linked the problem of the state to lack of good governance over the years.

"People come into political office here to learn on the job instead of gathering needed experience before seeking a position," he decried.

Ukachukwu said that his experience as a businessman with several interests would motivate him to turn Anambra into an industrial hub of Nigeria.

Nwosu assured the electorate that he would lead the people with discipline if voted as governor, noting that it was only discipline leadership that could create wealth and prosperity.

Twenty five political parties were listed by INEC to participate in the election, which will be conducted in 4,623 polling units and 326 wards in the state. (NAN)

...PPA berates opinion poll on election

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

THE National Secretary of the Progressive Peoples Alliance (PPA), Dahiru Musa Abdullahi yesterday berated the Public Opinion Poll (POP) conducted by African Independent Television (AIT) on the February 6th, Anambra gubernatorial election which rated PPA's candidate Uche Ekwunife sixth among the strong contenders.

He told *Daily Trust* that the poll lacks

any scientific evidence to portray the genuine aspirations of the Anambra electorate who he said have confirmed that they were solidly behind Hon. Ekwunife. He said many existing factors not captured by the poll have rendered the process invalid.

Dahiru accused the People Democratic Party (PDP) of masterminding the poll in order to corrupt the minds of Nigerians that voters are willing to vote for Professor Chukwuma Soludo to justify any rigging plan they might have.

CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513
 email: citynews@dailytrust.com
 News about your capital city

FCT begins 'rural week'

By Abubakar Yakubu

INDIGENES from the six area councils of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) yesterday converged in Abuja city centre to begin their rural week with a display of items to showcase their talents.

The week which has the theme 'Showcasing our heritage and eradicating poverty at the grass-roots', was organised by the FCTA Social Development Secretariat in conjunction with Super Guides Women and Youth Empowerment Organisation.

Declaring the third edition of the week open, Minister of State for FCT, Chief Chuka Odom, said issues of mass development and eradication of poverty have continued to play a major role in the activities of the social development secretariat.

He expressed happiness in seeing women from various area councils in FCT displaying food items and hand craft materials, adding that the FCT Administration will give the necessary impetus to ensure food security.

Chief Odom also called for the boosting of the plights of the less privilege and disclosed that upliftment projects are played in this year's budget.

Earlier in her address, National Coordinator of Super Guides Women and Youth Empowerment Organisation, Mrs Adanma E. Ogumka, disclosed that the FCTA through the social development secretariat has encouraged Super Guide to create a platform whereby the rural people in FCT are empowered as well as devel-



FCT Minister of State, Chief Chuka Odom being briefed by a participant during the 'FCT Rural Week' in Abuja yesterday.

oped, such that annually, the FCT rural week will become an avenue to showcase the rural peoples ability in wealth generation activities.

She said the occasion is designed to bring all rural people and communities together for social interaction and integration through the celebration as well as exhibition of their cultural heritage.

According to her, the most

important part of the week is the business interactive forum, whereby the FCTA, social development secretariat, private sector and other stakeholders will discuss on the way forward in meeting various challenges of community development.

She said rewards for achievements and appreciation will be given to organisations as well as

individuals, who distinguished themselves at a dinner night.

Mrs Ogumka revealed that the Joint Coalition Against Poverty in FCT (JOCAPIF) was designed by Super Guides in partnership with the social development secretariat to empower rural people, develop communities as well as build institutional capacities, etc. She added further that a web-

site (www.jocapif.org) has been hosted to enable stakeholders complement FCT Administration's effort in contributing positively to the progress and development of FCT rural people.

The week will continue with a business interactive forum on Wednesday and a stakeholders award night as well as dinner on Thursday.

PDP holds rally at Abaji

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

ABOUT 7,000 members and supporters of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) over the weekend held a campaign rally in support of the incumbent Chairman of Abaji Area Council, Alhaji Musa Yahaya Mohammed, for a second term in office.

The campaign rally was led by three former council chairmen, namely, Alhaji Mohammed Angulu Loko, Alhaji Alhassan Usman Sokodabo, Alhaji Abubakar Ibrahim and a former vice-chairman, Alhaji Usman Idris Mawogi.

Speaking on behalf of the former council chairmen at the palace of the Ona of Abaji, Alhaji Muhammad Angulu Loko, said their decision to visit the palace was to seek for blessings from the monarch, after they resolved to pitch their tents with the incumbent council boss for a second term.

He told the monarch that they

have resolved their political differences and agreed to work together as a team in order to ensure the success of the incumbent chairman.

He said the incumbent council boss, Alhaji Yahaya, will go a long way in restoring peace, progress and development in the council.

Responding, the Ona of Abaji, Alhaji Adamu Baba Yunusa, expressed happiness with the ex-council chairmen for putting their heads together to support the incumbent council boss, saying peace and progress of the council will be witnessed in the council.

The monarch advised the council chairman to always liaise with the divisional police officer in order to set a time table for each political party to campaign, so as to avert any crisis among the opposition and PDP.

He noted that the way and manner at which parties go on campaign by insulting each



PDP rally to support the incumbent council boss, Alhaji Yahaya Musa at Abaji Saturday.

other at night should be banned.

Speaking, the council boss, thanked the ex-chairmen for putting their heads together and mobilizing their people to support him.

He said his administration has always ensured there is peaceful co-existence among the residents of the council, noting that the recent crisis that erupted between supporters of the PDP and an opposition party was not

instigated by the PDP.

He assured the monarch that his administration will always continue to protect lives and property of its residents, assuring that if given another mandate, youth as well as women empowerment shall one of his top priorities.

Highlight of the occasion were the distribution of tricycle to some groups by the council boss.

225 convicted for flouting environmental law

By Usman A. Bello & Lami Sadiq

ABOUT 225 hawkers and residents have so far been convicted by a mobile court set up by the Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB) for flouting environmental law with Abuja.

The board's Public Relations Officer, Samuel Harry Musa, who disclosed this, said the residents among them failed to pay waste bills or purchase waste bins.

He said they were found guilty of flouting environmental law, adding that they were fined to serve as deterrents to other residents.

According to him, the law mandates the board to arrest and punish environmental defaulters, saying they will not relent in their efforts to sanitize the city.

The spokesperson also revealed that stakeholders in the FCT have resolved to work with the board in order to make the city clean and advised residents to participate in the monthly environmental sanitation exercise.

Man arraigned over N8.8m military pension fund

By Romoke W. Ahmad

A 35-year-old man was recently arraigned before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly impersonating the Minister of the FCT and collecting N8.8m from the Military Pensions Board.

The man, David Akuleyi of No 35 David Mark bypass, Makurdi, Benue State, was accused of committing the offence last year, when he paraded himself as a staff of the Abuja Geographic Information System (AGIS) and presented forged documents to the board for the purchase of property in Abuja.

Police prosecutor, Albert Okara, of the FCT Police Command, while addressing the court, said one Squad-

ron Leader Jameel Haruna of the Military Pensions Board came to the police criminal investigation department and reported that the accused came to them in October 2009 with a form from AGIS and claimed to be a staff of the organisation. He also added that the accused told them that the FCT minister asked him to bring the said form to the personnel of the board to enable them get property in Abuja.

"Based on the information the accused gave, he collected the sum of N8.8million from the staff of the board but the board officials later discovered during investigations that the accused impersonated a staff of AGIS, forged the said form and tried to cheat the board," the prosecutor submitted.

He further stated that the offences

committed by the accused are contrary to Sections 364, 132 and 323 of the penal code law.

Having listened to the charges, the accused pleaded not guilty, while the prosecutor applied for a date for the hearing of the case.

Magistrate Ahmed Usman Shuaib, granted the accused person bail in the sum of N1million with one surety in like sum. "The surety has to be a civil servant of not below grade level 14 or a person having a landed property within the FCT, the value of which should not be less than N5 million while the certificate of ownership must be deposited with the registrar of the court," the Magistrate ruled.

The case was adjourned to February 10, 2010 for hearing.

Father jailed for stealing clothes

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

Garage, along Kubwa expressway.

AN Abuja magistrate court yesterday sentenced a father of nine children, Amos Odidi, to two months imprisonment for stealing clothes and sandals from the bag of one Augustine Agbo.

The magistrate also sentenced Friday Okafor to four months imprisonment without fine option.

Amos who resides in Kaduna was reported to have collaborated with one Friday Okafor of Durumi village, Garki, Abuja, to steal the items on January 23, 2010.

Police prosecutor, Mohammed Ahmed, had earlier stated in court that on January 23, 2010, one Augustine Agbo of Kubwa village, Abuja, reported to the police that he boarded a commercial bus with the accused persons from Wuse market to Kubwa.

"While in the bus, the accused persons who sat at the back of the bus dishonestly transferred 59 pieces of clothes and three sandals, all valued at N150,000 from her bag to theirs," the prosecutor added.

He also stated that after transferring the items, the accused persons decided to alight from the bus at Tipper

Garage, along Kubwa expressway. The prosecutor narrated further that while the accused persons were carrying out their nefarious act, the driver of the bus was looking at them through his inner mirror.

"During police investigations, the goods were recovered from the accused persons' possession, while Friday Okafor, his accomplice, confessed to a conviction by a magistrate court on a similar offence sometimes last year," he stated.

After reading the charges to the accused persons, they pleaded guilty, saying it was true they were caught red-handed with the items, but begged for leniency.

Based on their plea, the prosecutor asked the court to try them summarily under Section 157 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Amos Odidi's wife broke down in tears after listening to her husband's confession.

In his ruling, Magistrate Bashar Attahiru Alkali, convicted the accused persons and sentenced the first accused person, Friday Okafor, to four months imprisonment without an option of fine, while Amos Odidi was jailed for two months imprisonment or to pay N5,000 as fine.

Two remanded over N3.5m fraud

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

AN Abuja magistrate court yesterday remanded two men in prison custody for allegedly defrauding two ladies of N3.5 million.

The accused persons, Edeni Jeremiah and Oshoke Edmund, both of Protorte Nigeria Limited, were arrested by the police for allegedly committing the offence this month.

Police prosecutor, Yusuf Auta, an assistant superintendent, told the court that on January 5, 2010, the police received a written petition from two complainants, alleging that on August 26, 2009, the accused collected N3.5 million from them.

"The two accused persons conspired and dishonestly collected N3.5 million from the two complainants under false pretence of helping them

to invest it in their company, thereby committing offences under Sections 97, 312 and 322 of the Penal Code Law," the prosecutor added.

Chief Magistrate David Ochimana ordered the remand of the accused persons in prison custody till when the counsel is able to file a formal application for their bail.

The case was adjourned to February 16 for further mention.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

ALKALAM FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990.

NAME OF THE TRUSTEES

1. Alh. Bashir Othman Tofa	Chairman
2. Alh. Usman Bala Muhammad	Secretary
3. Barrister Bashir Albasu (AIG Rtd.)	Member
4. Dr. Tijani Muhi Naniya	Member
5. Prof. DanDatti Abdulkadir	Member
6. Prof. Bello Ahmad Salim	Member
7. A. Abubakar Sadauki	Member
8. A. Ahmed Aminu	Member
9. A. Aliyu Mahmud Galadanchi	Member
10. A. Shehu Usman Datti (Kano)	Member

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To organise, encourage, promote, assists in authoring, translating, harmonizing, publishing, advertising and distributing (whole sale and retail) of writings with suitable and acceptable moral and educational Contents.
- To give priority to Hausa, Kanuri, Fulfulde, Tiv, Nupe and other selected languages in realising the objectives of the foundation.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: Nura Suraj Panda Esq.
08036423570

GOD'S CHAMBER CHURCH

This is to inform the general public that the above named body has applied for Registration to the Corporate Affairs Commission under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE

- Mr. Oladele Sotunbo
- Mr. Taiwo Odeshilo
- Mr. Adekunle Oyelami
- Mr. Abiodun Famojuro

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To propagate the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ Worldwide
- To bring men unto the knowledge of God
- To promote true Christian love and fellowship with other members, and to be in peace with all men.

Any objection to the Registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, off Aguyi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
JUSTICEQUEST PARTNERS
08035910250

NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING CRAFTSMAN
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF COUNCIL FOR THE REGULATION OF ENGINEERING IN NIGERIA (COREN)
26 A.E. EKUKINAM Street, Real Tower Centre, Utako District, Abuja. 07098807920

NOTICE OF PROFESSIONAL INTERVIEW

This is to notify all engineering artisans and craftsmen that the Professional Interview for membership of the Nigerian Association of Engineering Craftsmen (NAEC) would hold on Saturday, 6th February, 2010 by 9a.m at these centres simultaneously:

- Abuja New Head Office: 26, A.E. Ekukinam Street, Utako District, Abuja. Tel: 07098807920
- Eastern Zonal Office: 310, Zik Avenue, Awka, Anambra State. Tel: 08057252276, 08080113339
- Lagos: 79, Palm Avenue, Mushin, Lagos.

Tel: 01-8933374, 07031557777

Obtain your form at these centre before the interview date, all enquires and correspondence to the Abuja Head Office.

J.O. Oyewusi
National Public Relations Officer

THE WAY OF LIFE BIBLE CHURCH

This is to notify the general public that the above named initiative has applied for registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Degree No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE

- Pastor Ajileye David Oluwafemi
- Pastor Mr. Ajileye Elizabeth Woleola
- Deacon Gabriel Romiluyi
- Deaconess Caroline Ayegbusi
- Mr. Joshua Oluwatobi Ajileye

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
- To plant Churches within and outside Nigeria for the propagation of the Gospel.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Wuse Zone 5, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
TOYE OWOYEYI ESQ

Suite 40, Area 2
Shopping Complex
Abuja
Tel: 08033684861, 08023410144

AJEGUNLE MOTOR DEALERS ASSOCIATION, OOLORUNDA IGBONA, OSOGBO, OSUN STATE

The general public is hereby informed that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act.

The Trustees are:

- Mr. Ayobami Oyelade Rafiu
- Mr. Tijani Adesina
- Mr. Rafiu Ajide
- Mr. Adewumi Akinwale
- Mr. Mukadam Olubi
- Mr. Nathaniel O. Oke

The Aims & Objectives

- To promote unity and progress within the members
- To promote and protect the integrity, rights and interest of the members of the association whenever the need arises viz other working partners.
- To assist members, individuals and other group whenever the need arises
- To solve common business problems via a collective opinion and bargaining
- To promote cordial working relationship among the members of the association and ultimately encourage the brotherhood principle among members.

Any objection to the Registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, off Aguyi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
Barrister Abdurraheem Muyideen

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly MISS PEACE NWANNEKA OKOLOJI, now MRS PEACE NWANNEKA UGOCHUKWU. All former documents remain valid and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS WOGU ROSEMARY CHIKAODI now wish to be known as MRS ROSEMARY JONATHAN OMOJO. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as AKO BRIDGET KIKELOMO wish to be called MRS BRIDGET KIKELOMO ALUKO. All former documents remain valid and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS CHUKWU HAPPINESS MGBORIE wish to be known as MRS CHUKWUMERIJE HAPPINESS MGBORIE ANULI. All former documents remain valid. The public should take note.

I, formerly BLESSING ADAJI, now called BLESSING ODOMA IDRIS LEONARD. All former documents remain valid. General public and NYSC take note.

I formerly known as MISS UKWU JUSTINA OBIAGELI now wish to be known as MRS OWUNNA JUSTINA OBIAGELI. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

Formerly MR. SYDNEY ANUNOBI NKWOCHA now MR. SYDNEY CHUKWUNONSO PETERS. Former documents remain valid. American University of Nigeria, Yola Adamawa State and the general public take note.

I, formerly MISS ESTHER OMAJI now wish to be known as MRS WOMAH OGAR ESTHER. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

TRUE LOVE MISSION CENTRE

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Apostle Morgan Azi
2. General Dankal Bako
3. Group Capt. Doji
4. Mrs. Sarah Morgan
5. Richard Morgan Azi
6. Peter Morgan Azi
7. Mary Morgan Azi
8. Abi Morgan Azi
9. Wing CMDR Iliya Madaki
10. Arc. Sam Galadima

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To preach and spread the word of God
2. To propagate the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
3. To rebuild the destiny of mankind by giving hope to the hopeless.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: Apostle Morgan Azi

DIVINE FIRE AND POWER OF VICTORY MINISTRIES

The general public is hereby notified that the above named ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

The Trustees are:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Pastor Moses J. David | General Overseer. |
| 2. Sis. Aderonke M. David | Minister |
| 3. Bro. Tarwo J. Hunga | Minister |
| 4. Bro. Manew P. Adapoju | Church Financial Secretary |
| 5. Sis. Ilamobayo B. Akintibosun | Church Treasurer |
| 6. Bro. Adebisi E. Koledeye | Church Secretary |

Aims and Objectives:

1. To preach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ all over the world.
2. To seek and save lost souls and to establish them in the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ and to promote selfless love and unity.
3. To use the ministry to heal and deliver the oppressed from satanic bondage.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to The Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Agunyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days (twenty-eight) of the date of publication.

Signed:
Y.A Adeleke Esq
Solicitor

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly MISS AGUSTINA CHICHI AMARUBE now MRS AGUSTINA CHICHI OFFORMA. General public take note.

I, formerly known as BALARABE SADA SARKIN FULOTI, now wish to be called BALARABE SADA S/FULOTI. All former documents remain valid. All institutions and general public should take note.

I, formerly MISS JULIANA WINIFRED ONUWABHAGBE, now wish to be called and address as MRS JULIANA WINIFRED EJMENH OKOKEPEN. All former documents remain valid. UNIABUJA, BENPOLY, NYSC, BANKPHB, general public take note.

I, formerly MISS KUCHELI MUSA WUDIRI wish to be known and addressed as MRS KUCHELI YUSUF MSHELIA. All former documents remain valid. Borno state and general public to take note.

I, formerly MISS ADESOLA ADEWUNMI SOGUNLE, now wish to be known AS MRS ADESOLA ADEWUNMI OBANLA. All former documents remain valid. General public and BUA group take note.

I, formerly MISS SENBORA OYESOLA MONICA, now wish to be known as MRS ONI OYESOLA MONICA. All former documents remain valid. General public and BUA group take note.

I, formerly SHADE RUFUS, now wish to be MRS SHADE UCHENNA EKWEME. All former documents remain valid Nig Police Force and general public take note.

I, formally known as BASHIR DANJUMA AHMAD now DANJUMA AHMAD, all former document remain valid SPEB and general public to note

I, formerly MISS UFON OKON UKO, now wish to be known as MRS PHILOMINA FRIDAY UMANAH. Former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly MISS UNDE ERDOO VERA, now wish to be known as MRS AGUM ERDOO VERA. Former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as NGOZI EUNICE OKAFOR now wish to be known as NGOZI EUNICE SAMS. Former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I, formerly CHIEF WALTER NNAMDI CHUKWJINDU now wish to be known as CHIEF WALTER NNAMDI NZEDIMMA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

ANYANWU IJEOMA NANCY wish to be addressed as MRS UKAEGBU IJEOMA NANCY. All documents bearing former name remains valid.

I, formerly PHARMACIST JOY NWAKAEGO IFESINACHI wish to be known and addressed as PHARMACIST JOY NWAKAEGO ONYEMELUKWE. All documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly called MISS ESTHER YAKUBU, henceforth wish to be called MRS ASEER ESTHER D. Former documents remain valid. General public note.

I, formerly known as MISS FATIMA IBRAHIM NABATURE now wish to be called MRS FATIMA JAMEEL MUSAWA. All former documents remain valid. NYSC, UDUS and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS KEMI OLUDEM OKUN now wish to be called MRS KEMI ALADE. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as IBITOYE ZULIKHAT IBITAYO now wish to be called TIAMUYU ZULIKHAT IBITAYO. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MANIRU ABUBAKAR now wish to be called MUH'D MANIRU ABUBAKR. All documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as BILKISU OBA RAJI, now wish to be known as MRS BILKISU RAJI ADAM. Former documents remain valid. University of Abuja and Nasarawa Poly to note.

I, formerly MISS CHARITY ALICE EDOGBO now wish to be addressed as MRS MOSES AJIBILI CHARITY ALICE. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public note.

I, formerly MISS QUEEN NWABUAKWU MAHA-ODOR wish to be known as MRS NWABUAKWU CHINWEEKWU. All former documents remain valid.

RENAISSANCE EVANGELICAL MINISTRY

This is to inform the general public that the above-named ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Pastor Benjamin Omololu Wright | President |
| 2. Evangelist F. A. Wright (Mrs.) | Director of Missions |
| 3. Folasade Wright (Miss) | General Secretary/Finance |
| 4. Jumoke Ogedengbe (Mrs.) | Director of Welfare |
| 5. Damilola Wright | Director of Corporate Affairs |
| 6. Temiloluwa Wright | Director of Communication and Legal Affairs |

AIMS & OBJECTIVES:

1. Gospel outreach/evangelism worldwide
2. The activation of national rebirth among our people through providing inter relations.
3. Interdenominational discipleship and mission
4. Church planting, youth outreach, gospel publication and leadership training.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Agunyi Ironsi Str, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: Agboola Jacob Asaoye & Co.
Barrister and Solicitors
Akoka, Lagos.

WINDING UP

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA COMPANIES & ALLIED MATTERS ACT, 1990 FRUCO CONSTRUCTION AND CIVIL ENGINEERING NIGERIA LIMITED (RC No. 38993) NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF A LIQUIDATOR

Pursuant to Section 491 (1) of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990, the general public is hereby notified of the appointment of TOLUPE FASANYA, Chartered Accountant of No. 1 Ajose Adeogun Street, Ukeke District, Abuja as the Liquidator for the FRUCO CONSTRUCTION AND CIVIL ENGINEERING NIGERIA LIMITED, whose registered office is at Jatus Berger Complex, Berger Junction Ukeke District, Abuja by a Special Resolution of the company dated 12th day of January, 2010.

All Debtors of the Company are directed to deliver their payment cheques issued in favour of the company (in liquidation) directly to the Liquidator at the office as stated hereunder.

Also all Creditors, past or present officers or agents of the company who are in custody of any assets of the Company are directed to yield same over forthwith to the Liquidator at his office.

All deposits, cash and other similar items currently held by banks and other financial institutions should be held until the liquidator issues further instructions. All holders of such deposits and current accounts etc should contact the Liquidator, stating the balances, and where secured facilities were granted, the type of security attached should be disclosed.

Tolulope Fasanya
The Liquidator
No. 1 Ajose Adeogun Street,
Ukeke District, Abuja.

WINDING UP

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA COMPANIES & ALLIED MATTERS ACT, 1990 SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF FRUCO CONSTRUCTION AND CIVIL ENGINEERING NIGERIA LIMITED

At the extraordinary general meeting of the under named Company held on the 12th day of January, 2010 at the registered office of the Company the following resolutions were duly passed.

Resolution to Wind Up
That, Fruco Construction and Civil Engineering Nigeria Limited be and is hereby voluntarily wound up.

Appointment of Liquidator
That, Messrs Tolulope Fasanya, be and is hereby appointed as Liquidator of Fruco Construction and Civil Engineering Nigeria Limited for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the company.

Dated this 12th day of January, 2010

[Signature]
Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

AGAPE BIRTHRIGHT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

This is to inform the general public that the above named Initiative has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and allied matters act No. 1 of 1990.

The trustees are:

1. Ms. Aniso Briggs (Activist)
2. Mr. Orono Douglas (Lawyer)
3. Ms. Ibiba Don Pedro (Journalist/Publisher)
4. Mr. Joseph Kanboro (Civil Servant)

Aims and objectives:

1. To promote advocacy right for environmental development and protection of rights of women, girls.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Agunyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:
Barr. N. T. Okwuje
08023571933

ABLE MEN'S CLUB OF NIGERIA

The general public is hereby notified that the above named FOUNDATION has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

The Trustees are:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Ibe Tobertext | President |
| 2. Emekauma Udochukwu | General Secretary |
| 3. Okoli Calistus Amandi | Vice President |
| 4. Onyeka Hycent Muoneke | Treasurer |

Aims and Objectives:

1. To promote oneness among Nigerian youths and enhance business relationship.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to The Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Agunyi Ironsi Road, Maitama, Abuja.

Signed: General Secretary

ABESAN ESTATE RESIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LAGOS

The general public is hereby notified that the above named ASSOCIATION has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

The Trustees are:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Elder Bisola Temidayo Ogunyanwo | President |
| 2. Mrs. Omolara Ojikutu | Vice President (Administration) |
| 3. Mr. Samson Afolabi | Vice President Technical |
| 4. Mr. Vincent Ogbeifun | General Secretary |

Aims and Objectives:

1. To promote oneness and quality among residents.
 2. To foster mutual co-existence and protect members.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to The Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Agunyi Ironsi Road, Maitama, Abuja.

Signed: General Secretary

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public that the original offer of statutory right of occupancy of plot 1295 approximately 1077.08sqm situated in Cadastral Zone F01 of Kubwa, Abuja new file No. JG20086 and old file No. JG71 bearing Idris Adamu of Liman Dutse is missing. All efforts to trace the missing document proved abortive. If found please contact the nearest police station.

Signed: IDRIS ADAMU.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original copy of AGIS Acknowledgment in respect of Plot No. MZTP/LA/2001/PL.1158 Apo in resettlement/relocation to Kubwa issued in 2006, drivers license, National identity card belonging to CHOJITOSANWUMI PWOL of No. 22 Road House 70 Kado Estate Abuja. All effort made to trace it proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest police station.

I, formerly known as BILKISU OBA RAJI, now wish to be known as MRS BILKISU RAJI ADAM. Former documents remain valid. University of Abuja and Nasarawa Poly to note.

I, formerly MISS CHARITY ALICE EDOGBO now wish to be addressed as MRS MOSES AJIBILI CHARITY ALICE. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public note.

I, formerly MISS QUEEN NWABUAKWU MAHA-ODOR wish to be known as MRS NWABUAKWU CHINWEEKWU. All former documents remain valid.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE FEDERATION ("FEC")

by: Atedo N A Peterside* OON,

HOW TO RESOLVE THIS POLITICAL IMPASSE

It is now over 7 weeks since President Yar'Adua was rushed to Saudi Arabia for treatment. We know that the President did not sign and deliver to the Senate President and Speaker a declaration that he is either going on vacation or unable to discharge the functions of his office in accordance with Section 145 of our Constitution. Some say that he verbally told the Vice President on the telephone to take charge. It is fair to conclude therefore that either our President believes that he is still capable of directing the affairs of the nation effectively or he is now in a physical and/or mental state which renders him incapable of determining that this is the appropriate time to invoke Section 145 and seek to hand over properly to the Vice President.

Our Constitution is not perfect. No Constitution ever is. However, if you are lost at sea and all you have to guide you is a slightly stained or dirt-smudged compass that is still capable of directing you back to land, then you have no choice but to quickly use that compass to good effect. Certainly, that will not be the appropriate time to contemplate a redesign of the compass - a task which can and should wait until after you are safely back to land?

Unfortunately, the nation is becoming increasingly polarised between those who claim that the President is too sick to understand that he should invoke Section 145 of the Constitution and seek to handover properly to the Vice President and those who believe that all that "hullabaloo" is unnecessary as the President is actually recovering and still very much in charge. It is sad that the evidence before the rest of us is still so scanty that it gives room to all manners of speculation as to whether the President is still able to exercise his executive functions effectively.

Let me quickly add that my prayers are with the President. The Lord knows that he is the only President that I ever voted for in my life who finished up being sworn into office. In the past, I voted for opposition candidates or the election was annulled or I did not vote at all because the electoral arrangements were a sham or I watched helplessly as democracy and federalism were being assaulted.

For those who remember, in the run up to the Presidential elections in 2007, the opposition tried to denigrate then Governor Yar'Adua and Governor Goodluck Jonathan as puppets. I was amongst those who dismissed this "labelling" and voted for them to become President and Vice-President respectively because I was at a Dinner at the Civic Centre in Lagos, when they were first presented to the business community as Candidates for the highest offices in the land. Governor Yar'Adua (as he was at the time) addressed us and laid out his thoughts and ideas for close to 30 minutes without looking at any notes. I was impressed by what I heard him say. I subsequently went to a smaller and more private dinner where Governor Goodluck Jonathan (as he was at the time) also addressed a small group of businessmen in Victoria Island after dinner without looking at any notes. I was also impressed by what I heard him say.

In truth, I was excited, but cautiously optimistic. I was excited because I realised we could have a President and Vice President who were both well educated and sincere. I did not think they were "rocket scientists", but then I did not believe and I still do not believe even now that we need a rocket scientist in Aso Rock. As a student of economic history I know of several nations that have achieved rapid economic growth and transformation in periods when a President and/or Vice President with lesser credentials held the reins of power. That is why I was cautiously optimistic about Nigeria's future and still remain so.

The nation is now perceived to be enmeshed in a political impasse which is hampering even private sector investment decisions and that has negative repercussions for our economy and therefore the well being of our people.

By all accounts, the Vice-President has refrained from assuming the President's full powers without following the due process spelt out in the Constitution and I agree with him. If the President has not evoked Section 145 of the Constitution then the only other legal means through which the Vice-President can take charge effectively is by the Members of The Federal Executive Council (FEC) evoking Section 144 of the Constitution if they feel that the President is currently incapacitated or through a wider group (including the legislature) seeking to remove the President from office for misconduct by invoking Section 143 of the Constitution. This latter action (S.143) is, in my opinion, clearly inappropriate because ill health is clearly not tantamount to misconduct. Unfortunately, only Ministers who have accurate information on the state of the President's health and/or have unfettered access to the President can have the confidence to evoke Section 144 because it could amount to political suicide if a small group of ministers initiate such an action, but fail to secure a two-thirds vote and it turns out that they acted prematurely on the basis of scanty and unverified information.

Some people have turned to the Courts but then I do not see a quick solution there. In any case I have argued before that our legal system can only resolve a suit on who has authority to administer medication to an acutely sick patient many years after the patient might have died.

In a parliamentary system of government, opposition politicians have very little to lose by constantly seeking to pass a vote of no confidence on the Prime Minister/the Government. Being in the minority, they can usually only succeed if "rebels" from the ruling party break ranks and side with them.

Evoking Section 144 of Nigeria's Constitution to provide leadership where a President is incapacitated is a totally different proposition. The only People entitled to vote on this are the Ministers who were appointed by the President. It is true that many of them were nominated by their Governors, but then the fact remains that they remain ministers because the President appointed them and did not fire them. I believe that for the purposes of evoking Section 144 of the Constitution, only the Ministers are entitled to vote and not even the Vice-President who currently Chairs FEC.

No right thinking person wants to be portrayed politically as seeking to bite the hand that fed him. Vice President Jonathan appears to be genuinely loyal to the President and has never had the profile of a power-hungry deputy seeking to "topple" the President. That is a remarkably good quality and it makes for political stability.

However, what if the President is truly in a physical or mental state that renders him incapable of invoking Section 145 of the Constitution to hand over properly to the Vice President? In my opinion, this is certainly not the time to attempt to amend Section 144 of the Constitution. Nor is this the time to re-examine the Vice-President's credentials - we did that already before we voted in 2007. We have to prepare to use the only "compass" that we have and that is Section 144 of the Constitution unless the President evokes Section 145.

My proposal for resolving this political impasse is borrowed from principles enshrined in corporate governance and risk management. If you make it too risky for ministers to act in the national interest, then they may not act on time. A whistle blower might never blow a whistle, if he will be publicly identified and accused of disloyalty.

Some commentators have already started accusing the Ministers (I think unfairly) of being unable to put the nation's interests above their personal interests, in the sense that they (the Ministers) are actually enjoying the leeway and latitude that is implicit in an arrangement in which the only boss who can fire them is a President who is away sick. The Vice President can oversee FEC Meetings in the President's absence, but he has no powers to sack any Minister. Each Minister can ask himself the question: why replace a President who is currently incapable of monitoring my conduct properly with a new President who may fire me for non-performance? YES, a conflict of interest exists!

The good news is that we have quite a few ministers who are good and respectable human beings and who are clearly patriotic. However, we need to encourage them to apply risk management tools to manage or mitigate the risks that they face. Hence my proposal below:-

The Way Forward

- 1) The Vice President should commence Weekly FEC meetings henceforth with a summary factual update on the President's health which should be followed by a Confidence Vote i.e. those Ministers who believe that the President is not incapacitated will have an opportunity to affirm that enough of their colleagues still agree with them to maintain the status quo;
- 2) Using a secret ballot, each Minister would be required to indicate YES or NO to the question whether he believes that the process of evoking Section 144 of the Constitution should commence;
- 3) Each Minister should insert his YES or NO vote on ballot paper and insert same in a box;
- 4) I believe there are a total of 42 Ministers. It should take a few minutes for the votes to be counted, the results announced and the used ballot papers burnt/destroyed immediately in the full view of the Ministers;

Rationale

- 1) The nation will therefore only know the overall result of the weekly Confidence vote. The reason for burning/destroying the used ballot papers is to avoid "dirty tricks" and to ensure that nobody can go back to attempt to decipher through finger printing or other technology which Minister voted for or against the proposition to evoke Section 144 of the Constitution;
- 2) The reason for making the vote weekly is to save the Ministers from the "ordeal" of having to decide when next to call for a new vote if the house is divided and the votes fall short of a decisive majority after the initial vote. The realisation that there will be another Confidence vote next week also incentivises the President's family and close aides to be more open and share more information with

the Ministers on the true state of the President's health and also incentivises the President to contact more ministers if he is in a position to do so or to himself evoke Section 145 of the Constitution. In effect, we would have initiated a seamless "trial and error" process by Ministers who have the Constitutional responsibility to step into this matter, while affording them the protection that is accorded to corporate whistle blowers;

3) The ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP), the State Governors, and other elected representatives etc will be incentivised to "work overtime" and take the process even more seriously because they will be aware that the clock is ticking each week. The rest of us can also put pressure on the Ministers (and there is at least one from each of the 36 States) to weigh new information properly and act in the nation's interest during next week's vote, notwithstanding the conflict of interest that I alluded to earlier.

4) After the PDP leadership has established a firm consensus on the way forward, they can advise the Ministers to "toe the line" by requesting the Vice President to drop the requirement for a secret ballot in favour of an open televised ballot at the weekly FEC Meeting following such a decision.

5) It is unfair to expect the Vice-President (who has recently been chairing the weekly FEC meetings) and who could be a beneficiary in the event that the Ministers fail to record the prescribed confidence vote, to aggressively canvass for a second vote next week if the first one fails. An agreement upfront for a weekly "Confidence" vote by the Ministers obviates the need for actions by the Vice President which could be misconstrued as being "overly ambitious or aggressive."

6) If all the successive weekly votes fail to attain the two-thirds majority required to evoke Section 144 and our President returns hale and hearty (as we pray that he does) then he resumes in Aso Rock and has no means of identifying which ministers voted unsuccessfully in favour of evoking Section 144 of our Constitution during his long absence;

Concluding Remarks

In writing this piece I deliberately did not consult any elected political office holder or any Minister even though I have access to a good number of them on account of my membership of the National Economic Management Team. I would like to apologise to all such persons and to explain that I did not consult them because I wanted to shield them from any unfair accusations. I also want to publicly declare that if the Vice President becomes the Acting President through the President evoking Section 145 of the Constitution or if he becomes President through the Ministers evoking Section 144 of same, then I hereby disqualify myself from holding any paid public office during his tenure.

The only person I consulted when writing this piece was a lawyer that specialises on corporate governance and governance processes. I did the same when I was appointed Chairman of the Committee that recommended a Code of Best Practices for Public Companies operating in Nigeria in 2003. The subject matter may be different but the principles are very similar. In some ways, the FEC operates like a Board of Directors of a public company. One essential difference is that the number of "shareholders" that the FEC has to protect is all 140 million Nigerians plus generations unborn. It is our duty to remind them at times like this that they hold our fate in their hands and to give them "food for thought", hence this piece.

The PDP leadership can allow the Ministers to receive updates on the President's health and vote based on their conscience thereafter in the weekly Confidence votes, until such time as a broader consensus is reached by the Party on the way forward, after which they can advise the Ministers to toe the party line through an open televised ballot.

The President's family and close aides should readily embrace the above proposals because it gives them a chance to prove conclusively to the whole world that they are not "acting alone" or "misinforming and intimidating" Ministers and that they are, as a minimum, carrying the Ministers and, indeed, the Party leadership along on the true state of the President's health.

Post Script

The last time I took out a paid advert to comment on the political situation of our nation was in August 1993, when I argued that the then Head of State, General Ibrahim Babangida (IBB) must go, following his persistent mishandling of the political transition process and his controversial annulment of the 12 June 1993 elections. That piece was also entitled "How to break this political impasse". IBB did "step aside" a few weeks after. I had hoped that I would never have to write again on how to resolve a political impasse in my country during my life time.

* Atedo N A Peterside is a member of the National Economic Management Team, but all the views expressed here are personal.

SPORT

How I caged
the Eagles, by
Zambia coach
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NFF can't be independent of govt, says Ndanusa

By Orkula Shaagee

SPORTS Minister and Chairman National Sports Commission, Engineer Sani Ndanusa yesterday condemned attempts by the Nigeria Football Federation to scheme the Federal Government out of the running of football in the country.

Consequently, Ndanusa who spoke at the NSC 2010 Ministerial Press Briefing in Abuja, said gov-

I don't see that happening, especially in Africa where sports is run purely by government.

ernment cannot afford to leave football administration in the hands of private sector, considering the huge political value that could be derived from it.

Rather than allow the proposed amendments to the NFF statutes that seek to remove government from football administration in the country to see the light of the day, the minister said that the Commission would review the statutes and repackage it to meet the yearnings of all stakeholders.

He noted that even FIFA does not allow its affiliates to work out-

side the laws of its residing countries.

"The international federations, all they are saying is that any association that operates under them must operate under its laws, and must not disown their governments. They should also operate within the laws of the country.

"Nigeria has sovereignty, but if we don't have sovereignty what do you expect? So, for them to say today they are removing government, they are removing everybody, I don't see that happening, especially in Africa where sports is run purely by government.

"Sports, especially football has high political value, we are operating in a democracy gentlemen, and you want government to lose its political value on football? No you cannot do that.

"So, all that we are saying is that we are stakeholders and all the stakeholders should come together.

"But like I said, we are going to look at the statutes, whether NFF or NFA because that is what the people know.

"These are issues that we should look at. We should not look at issues that will create communication gap, we are one. Today, I want to assure you that we are going to repackage everything that will make sure that football administration in this country is streamlined so that together we will develop the game", the minister declared.



SPORTS Minister Sani Ndanusa declared that the NFF can not be autonomous and independent of government.

Eagles defeated Zambia by sheer luck - Ndanusa

By David Ngobua

AS reactions continue to trail Super Eagles Semi-final berth at the ongoing Africa Cup of Nations at the expense of the Chipolopolo of Zambia which they defeated 5-4 on penalties on Monday, Minister of Sports and Chairman of the National Sports Commission, Engineer Sani Ndanusa has said it was mother luck that gave the team that victory.

Super Eagles will now take on their perennial rivals, the

Black Stars of Ghana on Thursday in one of the semi-final matches. Ghana had the previous day beaten host Angola 1-0 to book the clash with the Super Eagles.

Speaking yesterday at the National Sports Commission's 2010 ministerial briefing at the Abuja National Stadium, the minister said he congratulated the team for picking one of the semi-final tickets but was quick to add that it was not the technical ability of the team that gave it the ticket.

The minister said the result

of the match did not reflect the actual performance of the two teams as he said technically the Eagles did not deserve to win the quarter final match.

"It was mother luck that did it for us. Technically, we did not deserve to win" he stated.

Ndanusa however expressed hope that the Eagles will get to the finals of the championship and return home with the trophy.

"I hope that the Eagles will get to the final of the competition and in the end return with the trophy.

In a related development,

former NFA board member and Commissioner of Justice in Benue State, Barrister Chive Kaave has said the Eagles managed to escape by whiskers and should thank God for giving them victory over the Zambians whom he said deserve to win the important match.

He said having qualified for the semi-finals by luck, the Super Eagles must be prepared to improve on their performance otherwise, they will meet their Waterloo when they take on the Black Stars of Ghana.

"It was an escape by the whisk-

ers. The Zambians played better but through luck, the Eagles took the day. The result did not represent the performance of the two teams. Zambia deserved victory but luck was not on their side".

"Now that the Eagles have qualified for the semi-finals, the team must be ready to face a tougher opposition in the Black Stars. The Ghanaians are more talented and experienced. The Eagles will not survive on Thursday if they continue to play the way they are doing presently".



2010 AFRICAN CUP OF NATIONS

How I caged the Eagles, by Zambia coach

ZAMBIA'S Coach Herve Renard on Monday revealed the strategy he adopted in caging Nigeria's Super Eagles in their Africa Cup of Nations quarter-final tie.

Renard denied that he used the pre-tournament friendly between both sides early this month in Durban, South Africa, to map out tactics for the game.

He said he used Nigeria's three group games against Egypt, Benin Republic and Mozambique for his game plan on Monday night in Lubango.

The Frenchman congratulated the Eagles on their victory but said he did not lose to a better side at the post-match briefing after Nigeria crawled into the semi-final via penalties.

He admitted that he lost to Nigeria's national team and "not



SUPER Eagles goalkeeper Vincent Enyeama scores Nigeria's winning goal in the penalty shoot-out against Zambia on Monday.

In football, sometimes you play well and lose

to a better team".

He said he was satisfied with the performance of his players and was proud of them, adding that they only failed to take the chances they had in the game.

"In football, sometimes you play well and lose, we had our opportunities, which we did not utilise," Renard added.

Nigeria's coach, Shaibu Amodu, who appeared clueless and found no anti-dote against the rampaging Zambians, admitted that he was praying that the Eagles would not crash at the quarter-finals.

Describing the Zambians as

crafty, Amodu said the match was one of the most difficult games they had played.

The coach said his boys were unimpressive but expressed gratitude to God that "we won."

"We will go back to look at where we need to work on before our next match.

"We are not at our best at the moment but we keep improving with every match.

"The team is good, we have some of the best players in the continent.

Football is a continuous process, we keep learning from our mistakes and at the end of the day we will make Nigeria proud with the final result," Amodu said.

Joseph Yobo, Super Eagles

assistant captain, also agreed with the coach that the team did not play well but what mattered more was that they won.

Yobo, who is out of the competition because of injury, said the players worked on penalties in their last training session on Sunday if their matches had to be decided on penalty shootout.

He said Thursday's semi-final tie against Ghana would be a big challenge for both teams.

"If we want to play at the final, we have to beat Ghana, they too will want to beat us to be at the final."

Central defender Danny Shittu said the Eagles' opponents would realise that it would not be easy facing Nigeria.

Onyekachi Apam, who got the referee's marching orders after a second bookable offence, said he would greatly miss the semi-final, describing the red card as painful.

"The foul was not intentional, there was tension and I made a mistake which I got punished for.

"It was a yellow card offence but I already had a yellow card. I was praying in the dressing room that my removal would not affect us negatively," Apam said.

The defender said his absence in the semi-final would not affect the team as there were other players who would play his role.

He expressed confidence that the coach would work out a strategy with the available players in the team.

'Eagles not ready for World Cup'

NIGERIANS in South Africa on Tuesday slammed the Super Eagles and declared that the country did not have a team for the World Cup barely five months away.

Reacting to the Eagles' unimpressive quarter-final performance against Zambia on Monday night in Lubango, Angola, the South Africa-based fans called for a total overhaul of the team before the World Cup in June.

"We don't have a team for the World Cup yet. Even though they're winning, you can't be lucky all the time so there is a need to overhaul the team and bring in youthful blood," said Mr Lekan Olaitan, a teacher at Khumbulani High School, East London.

Olaitan said he was on edge throughout the match, adding that the Eagles were not 'super' against the Zambians.

He said Monday's performance further exposed the team's flaws and the players' lack of stamina.

"Our chances against Ghana are very slim," Olaitan said.

He said there was need to fortify the midfield and make the attack more potent.

Dr Abiodun Aro, a medical practitioner in Johannesburg, told NAN that the Eagles were simply lucky in the game.

"Definitely the team is not yet okay and we want to see a better team on Thursday and later this year in South Africa," he said.

"Against a tough team, the squad will crumble," Aro said.

He urged the coaching crew to work harder as the Ghanaians would be tougher.

"They definitely didn't play well on Monday and must put their acts together," said the doctor.

"We just thank God," declared Pastor Dodo Emmanuel.

Emmanuel said the Eagles must work on their midfield and attack if they hoped to overcome the Black Stars, who were more experienced than the Zambians.

"If we can do that, we have a way of always getting through," the cleric said.

Dr Ono Abada, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of South Africa-Niger Delta Investment Council, said the performance of the Eagles left much to be desired even in victory.

"The performance showed the need for a better technical crew," Abada said.

"The Zambians contained us so much and it was only fate that smiled on us," he said.

Abada said the Eagles must improve as the Ghanaians were tougher.

Mr Kemi Lawal, a businessman, said the calibre of players paraded by Nigeria should not have had much problem getting past Zambia.

"Anyway, it doesn't matter how you win, it is the victory that matters," Lawal said.

He stressed the need for more fire power in the Eagles attack.

FIBA 2011 hosting: NBBF boss expresses confidence

From Abiodun Jimoh, Lagos

PRESIDENT of the Nigeria Basketball Federation (NBBF), Tijani Umar, has expressed confidence on the chances of the country in hosting the 2011 FIBA African Men's basketball Nations Cup.

Umar affirmed that it is only a matter of time before the country would be announced as the substantial host of the competition and that the government is very well behind their hosting bid while renovation works will soon commence in Abuja far ahead of

the FIBA team visit.

He said, "We have the full support of the Federal Ministry of Sports and the Government of Nigeria to host. We have prepared well and we have all the facility needed for this level of championship and so we are very optimistic to emerge as the host country for the 2011 event."

The NBBF boss who led a four man delegation comprises of the 1st Vice President Mukhtar Malone Khaleh, Tagwai Yusuf and Mustapha Suleiman. Mukhtar is also attending the continental meetings as a member of the Cen-

tral Working Committee noted that the governing council for FIBA Africa did not choose a host country for the 2011 Afrobasket for Men as previously planned for central board meeting held in Cairo, Egypt.

He added that the continental basketball body has set up an inspection committee that would visit the bidding countries soon to inspect facilities on ground.

Similarly, he said, "The inspection team will be led by the Secretary General of the body Dr. Alphonse Bile from Cote d'Ivoire in which they are expected to sub-

mit their report of findings from the contending countries namely Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire and Madagascar. Abuja, Lagos and Kaduna are the key centers we are going to present for the 2011 African biggest basketball extravaganza."

It will be recalled that Nigeria stepped down for Libya as host for the 2009 edition won by Angola hitherto remains the only African basketball power house that is yet to host or win the championship. Angola, Egypt and Senegal have played as host at least twice each while Angola has hosted the game twice within 10 years.



PRESS RELEASE NAME CHANGE:

CHEVRON OIL NIGERIA PLC BECOMES MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC

The Management of **CHEVRON OIL NIGERIA PLC**, hereby announce the change of the Company's name to **MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC**, effective December 2, 2009. This change was ratified by the Shareholders at the 40th Annual General Meeting of the Company held on September 29, 2009.

We have commenced the change to the MRS brand and in the coming months, our highly regarded Texaco family of products and lubricant brands will usher in the "MRS BRAND". We are confident that this change will create the landmark for the unified presence of MRS throughout Africa and the entire world.

While our Company name and brand is changing, it will not affect our existing relationships and contracts with our customers. Our name at the Nigerian Stock Exchange, other regulatory authorities and our Corporate Headquarters in Nigeria, will change to MRS Oil Nigeria Plc.

We are certain that this change will strengthen our vision - To Be The Leading Integrated African Energy Company, recognized by its People, Excellence and Values.

We look forward to your being a part of this new heritage and the continued success of this Great Company!!!

MANAGEMENT



8, Macarthy Street, Onikan, Lagos, Nigeria. T: +234 1 461 4500, F: +234 1 461 4602 www.mrsgroupng.com

NIGERIA | SENEGAL | GHANA | SOUTH AFRICA | BENIN | CAMEROUN | TOGO | MONACO | PANAMA

THE WEDNESDAY COLUMN

Mohammed Haruna

ndajika@yahoo.com

Re: Jang, the media and the genocide in Jos this time

Predictably my column last week provoked a lot of reactions, most of them hostile. By Tuesday I had received 210 texts from readers of *The Nation*. Quite a lot of them were not just critical. They were downright abusive. I've emailed all of them to the newspaper's editor for selection and publication, of course, at his discretion.

Because Glo had since blocked the text only number for my *Daily Trust* column which is published same day as *The Nation*, I didn't receive any texts from the readers of the former. However, I received a few emails from readers of both.

Given the intensity of the emotions the killings in Jos has generated I decided to publish below and without any comments but with a little editing for grammar two of the more restrained emails I received for what they are worth.

Sir,

I read your write up on the back page of *The Nation* and to say the least I am disappointed. A select few of our northern brothers and sisters have by omission or commission taken the privilege of media access to spurn outright falsehood or taken sides wrongly on the basis of faith. I rarely read the *The Nation*, so cannot say with certainty what your views were when the Christians were the butt of attacks in Bauchi and other northern cities. But I doubt much if you accused the governors of complicity the way you now accuse Governor Jang.

It is irrational and irresponsible to relate the escalation of the crisis to the meeting of the Governor and past Governors Dariye and Solomon Lar. It is wrong to support in anyway the senseless carnage in Jos.

The root cause of this renewed intolerance is traceable to so many years of subjugation of the indigent non Muslim tribes in the north. For so long these people have been so marginalized and brutalized by the powers that be in the north. I remember reading one of your write up of a friend who though had the best result in your class in the university but was happy selling beer after may be several years of frustration. This guy I guess has no one like some of you who get nominated to public board positions not because of your intellect but whom you know.

It is an open secret that a northern Christian needs to work ten times harder than your brothers and sisters to achieve a quarter of their comfort. As an opinion molder, the society expects you to help bring this systematic discrimination that has stunted the growth and progress of the average northern Christian because of his faith and not elevate religious irredentism to a passion.

If you have watched closely the current administration seems to have set an agenda of sending the average northern Christian to the pre 1999 years and reverse the little gains they achieved post 1999 under Obasanjo. How do you justify a situation where a federal institution located in a state that is multi-religious has a council of ten members with nine Muslims and one Christian from outside the north? How do you justify a situation where your own former deputy governor was made the chairman of the council of a university in the north but rejected because his so called brothers were uncomfortable with a minority Christian superintending over a university "they" own?

How do you justify a situation where the collectively owned institutions of the north have become the birth

right of certain people? How do you candidly justify a situation where a minority Christian Professor is not competent enough to be the Vice Chancellor of ABU and even the old Adamu Ciroma unable to support injustice resigned as Council Chairman while the President looked the other way?

Mallam did we hear a whimper from you when the President openly took sides in the Jos crisis of last year? Even the most vilified OBJ was more statemanly and had to openly insult a Christian cleric.

If you take the statistics you will find that a great number of the guys who graduated during your time in the north from the minority tribes have been systematically sent to their graves because of this callous agenda of control.

The panacea to the recurrent crisis in the north lies in people like you studying the problems that divide us and bring up a workable solution and not inflaming passion.

Finally Mallam, let's focus on opening the competitive space in the north so that so many of our people will have access to quality education, Land, credit and a conducive environment for economic activities devoid of invisible barriers of hate, religion and tribe. The north has suffered enough from the senseless conflagration occasioned by hate.

Ally Ahmadu

Sir,

I read both your articles and I can only pray to God Almighty to continue to guide you and give you more wisdom to continue the good work (protecting the noble truth).

It is very unfortunate

that a person like Jang is entrusted with people's lives in his hand even though he has more than proven that he is incapable.

The only way forward I see is to advise the so called "settlers" to leave Jos to where they will not be seen as settlers be it Kano, Kazaure, Katsina or any where they can call home. This is the only solution UNFORTUNATELY.

I say so because the killing will not stop and at the end of it NOTHING will happen. There will only be committees, investigations, panels, heated arguments in the upper and lower chambers and lots of articles but no finger will be raised against anyone.

Muhammad Mustapha

Sir,

Your write up which appeared simultaneously on the back pages of *Daily Trust* and *The Nation* newspapers of Wednesday, January 20, 2010 is full of vain attempts to demonize and crucify innocent people of Plateau State that have for so long endured and tolerated agents of global terror who are bent on fighting for a weak god whom cannot defend himself, unless weak mortals fight for him.

Hence the various practices and attempts at blowing up aircrafts and public structures at the slightest perception that that god has been slighted. Tolerance and endurance have limits, and the breaking point seem to have arrived. No more will the Church allow the accursed to pursue its long term agenda of obliterating it from the surface of the earth. JESUS was crucified as a lamb - meek and gentle, but He resurrected as the LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH!

Mamman Faliya

SPORTS REPORT



HARUNA Babangida

Haruna Babangida on trial at Feyenoord

Nigerian winger Haruna Babangida has arrived in Rotterdam for a trial period with Eredivisie powerhouse Feyenoord. The former Barcelona starlet will get the chance to earn himself a contract over the coming days.

The 27-year-old attacker wore the shirt of Russian side Kuban Krasnodar last season, but Babangida is eager to return to western Europe and has apparently set his sights on a move to the

Eredivisie.

However, it remains to be seen whether Feyenoord will be able to offer Babangida a contract, even if he impresses. The Rotterdam side are being plagued by financial trouble and will have to offload a player before making a move on the transfer market.

"He certainly has the skills to add something to this team. However, we will probably not sign him unless we sell someone else," said Feyenoord coach Mario Been to Sportweek.



SANI Kaita

Kaita slumps after game

Super Eagles midfielder, Sani Kaita, on Monday night slumped immediately after Nigeria beat Zambia to qualify for the semi-final of the Africa Cup of Nations.

Kaita was rushed to hospital in an ambulance from the pitch.

Kaita, who was kicked on the stomach by Zambia's Felix Kantogo, was stretchered out briefly during the match, returned to complete the pulsating game.

A member of the Eagles' medical team, told NAN that he was treated in hospital and discharged later.

The midfielder came back to the team's camp at about 1 a.m.

"Kaita was exhausted after the match, he also sustained injury in the match, but he is now okay."

"He has since joined the team, he just needs some rest, he will be okay," the official, who pleaded anonymity said.

