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VOL. 2 NO. 26 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2001

JIMADA-AKHIRAH 3, 1422 A.H. N50



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## WEDNESDAY COLUMN

Y. Z. Ya'u on:  
**The Ghali Na'Abba**  
website: An assessment

Page 5

## STAR INTERVIEW

The Kingston  
conflict is not a  
political one —  
Jamaican High  
Commissioner

Page 12

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A partnership between the Federal Government and the private sector is aimed at kick-starting activities in the real sector of the economy took-off yesterday with a take-off inauguration of a N4.151 billion Small and Medium Scale Industries Equity Investment Scheme (SMIEIS) by President Olusegun Obasanjo. The scheme which is

## 33 banks boost small-scale industries with N4bn

By Osborne Adi Jnr

being sponsored by 33 banks under the auspices of the Bankers Committee came on stream following a challenge thrown to capital market operators by the Central Bank to promote small and medium scale industries as pivot of resuscitating our dwindling economy.

Under the new initiative,

small and medium scale business operators, with asset base not exceeding N200 million, apart from trading are qualified to obtain funds to run their businesses in concert with the participating banks.

Specifically, the scheme requires banks to promote, invest, nurture and provide financial and managerial services to new and existing

small and medium scale industries.

Details of the initiative indicated that particular emphases are placed on agro-allied, information technology and telecommunication, manufacturing, educational establishment, services, tourism and leisure, solid minerals and construction sub-sectors of the economy.

Speaking at the launching in Abuja, President Obasanjo described the scheme as a collective desire of all stakeholders in the Nigerian economy to reactivate and revitalise the industrial and agricultural sectors of the economy, "so as to achieve high and sustainable output and employment growth."

He noted that the scheme

has been conceived in such a manner that it goes beyond the banks providing the necessary funds and then folding their arms. "It calls for the active participation of the banks in the setting-up, nurturing and development of the SMEs which will require them to bring in their expertise to the businesses to ensure that they are run efficiently

contd. on pg 2

## OIL WINDFALL

# FG, States share N143bn

By Suleiman Muhammed

The National Economic Council (NEC) comprising the 36 state governors under the chairmanship of Vice-President Atiku Abubakar, has resolved to share the controversial \$1.1 billion (N143bn) excess crude oil money kept in the stabilisation account by the Federal Government.

The excess profit accrued based on the Federal Government's 2001 budget projections which fixed the price of crude oil at 18 dollars per barrel but which was exceeded when prices for the same quantity skyrocketed to over 30 dollars.

The 36 states had last week threatened to drag the Federal Government to the

Supreme Court for its earlier refusal to share the money among the three tiers of government.

President Olusegun Obasanjo, however,

indicated that he was unperturbed by the threat. "We shall meet in court," he told the governors at the NICON Hilton Hotel, Abuja yesterday, in reaction to the

threat.

"It is their money and it is also our money, but it has not yet been budgetted," the President stressed.

The governors, whose

position on the money has been consistent, argued that it became imperative for the Federal Government to release the \$1.1 billion (N143bn) in order for them to deliver democracy dividend to the electorate.

Briefing state house correspondents jointly after the five-hour NEC meeting, presided over by the Vice-

contd. on pg 2

## Obasanjo tasks African leaders on security

President Olusegun Obasanjo has enjoined African leaders to intensify security, peace and stability in order to ensure the success of the new African initiative, which was initiated to promote industrial growth in the continent.

The president who gave the charge in Dakar, Senegal during the meeting of the Steering Committee of the initiative said security, peace and stability in the continent serves as pre-condition for the success of African dreams.

He said now that Africa was on the threshold of a new relationship with the industrialised world, it behoves on the leaders to provide the necessary environment to promote econo-

mic development.

The steering committee was set up to harmonise African economic programmes in anticipation of the continent's next engagement with the G-8 countries.

"The resources are there. And there must be political will on both sides - Africa and our development partners," he said, adding that African leaders unanimously endorsed the new economic ini-

contd. on pg 2

## No Oba, no peace in Ilorin - Fasheun

Leader of the Odua Peoples Congress (OPC), Dr. Fredrick Fasheun, yesterday declared that "unless there is a Yoruba Oba in Ilorin, the ancient town will have no peace. It is a question of justice."

Speaking in an exclusive interview with Daily Trust in



President Olusegun Obasanjo (l), with the CBN Governor, Dr. Joseph Sanusi (r) at the launching of Small and Medium Industries Equity Investment Scheme in Abuja... yesterday.

Pix: Kennedy Egbonodje

## November now deadline for NITEL's sale

The Federal Government has again extended the deadline for the privatisation of NITEL

from September to November, just as a new time-table has been approved for the sale of Nigerdock. Consequently, the time-table which was expected to have terminated on September 31, 2001 has now been reviewed to end early November 2001. Mallam Hassan Usman, BPE Deputy-Director (Operations) said at the weekly press briefing in Abuja, yesterday that the

extension followed certain development that emerged in the course of fine-tuning financial and regulatory requirement of the company in a post-privatisation market.

According to him, it was discovered that there were certain grey areas that needed to be cleared in order to put potential investors in a better picture of the entire transactions.

For Nigerdock, the new

contd. on pg 2

## Grenade kills teenager in Lafia

A teenager, Master Abbati Sambo, 10, lost his life at the weekend in Lafia, Nasarawa State, while playing with an object suspected to be a grenade.

The father of the deceased, Alhaji Aliyu Sambo told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lafia on Monday that the incident occurred on Friday at No. 52, Makurdi Road in the state capital, at about 4 p.m.

Sambo, said the deceased, who was until his death, a primary four pupil of Maiduname Primary School, Lafia, collected the object from his younger brother shortly before it exploded.

He said Abbati was characteristically inquisitive and was fond of dismantling

contd. on pg 2

## NEWS

**F'G** *Contd. from pg 1*

President, the Governors of Oyo, Rivers and Kebbi States, Chief Lam Adeshina, Dr. Peter Odili, and Alhaji Adamu Aliero respectively said that the Federal Government's earlier decision to keep the money had been reversed.

They submitted that the meeting therefore, directed the Minister of Finance, the Accountant-General of the Federation, and all the state commissioners for finance to jointly work out modalities for the sharing.

Chief Lam Adeshina stated that currently most states cannot at present pay salaries and allowances of their workers "despite funds received from the federation account."

Adeshina said, much as the governors believed in stabilising the economy, states are currently in poor financial positions.

Emphasising on what he

described as the near collapse of state treasuries, Governor Lam Adeshina, declared: "Our performance will be nil and we shall pose a danger to democracy," arguing that it was not in good faith for the Federal Government to keep the \$1.1 billion windfall in the stabilisation account.

The new development, may likely reverse the earlier decision by the state governments to sue the Federal Government over the oil windfall. Six states, one each from the six geo-political zones, were earlier mandated to sue the Federal Government on the issue.

The meeting also frowned at recent directive by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) urging commercial banks to evolve stringent measures against states wishing to obtain loans for execution of projects. Consequently, the CBN has

been directed to review the policy.

Similarly, the governors described as "uncalled-for," a circular by the CBN, directing states to limit loans to their tenure. "There are capital projects that are of long term benefit to the people, and as such these projects cannot be completed within a short period of time," declared Governor Peter Odili of Rivers State.

**Gov Haruna sacks commissioner**

Governor Boni Haruna of Adamawa State has sacked his commissioner for Youths and Sports, Alhaji Mahmud Gurumpawo.

A terse statement signed by the Secretary to the State Government (SSG), Mr. John Manassa, said the governor relieved Alhaji Gurumpawo of his "appointment as a member of the state executive council with immediate effect."

Although no reason was given for the decision, there has been a wide-spread speculation that Alhaji Gurumpawo might lose his post due to his poor relationship with the governor.

The former commissioner was also said to have expressed his interest to contest the forthcoming chairmanship election for Ganye Local Government council, the governor was however reorted to have declined to assure him of his support.

There have been growing speculations that Alhaji Gwarampawo was having romances with some political groups in the state, and that the governor had accused him of

**Rivers Assembly protests, adjourns indefinitely over murder of legislator**

The Rivers State House of Assembly (RVHA) Monday reacted swiftly to the killing of one of its members by adjourning indefinitely.

The adjournment is to protest the killing of Hon. Monday Tambari Ndor and would remain in force pending the arrest of his killers. Hon. Ndor, who represented Ichana II Constituency, was killed on Sunday night by yet to be

From Wisdom Patrick, in Port Harcourt with Agency Reports

identified gunmen at the gate of his Rumuomasi residence in Port Harcourt on his return from Bori in Ogoniland.

An eyewitness told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the killers had earlier called twice at the residence of the legislator in his absence, saying they wanted to lobby him over issues relating to illegal structures in the state.

The legislator, who was, until his death, the chairman of the lands and housing committee of the Assembly, was also attacked a fortnight ago along with members of his committee at the site of an illegal structure along Abonema Wharf in Port-Harcourt.

The Speaker, Mr. Chibuike Amadi, who led other legislators to the residence of the deceased as well as the office of the Rivers State Police Commissioner, said members of the Assembly would not resume sitting until concrete result was recorded by the police in the murder case.

Amadi wondered why the police commissioner refused to honour a invitation by the Assembly over the increasing rate of robbery and assassinations in the state.

He said members of the assembly were angry at the gruesome murder of Ndor, stressing that they would not resume sitting until their safety was assured.

Amadi recounted several incidents of threats, attacks and harassment of the legislators, which, according to him, had not



Dr. Peter Odili

been addressed by the police.

Responding, the Rivers Police Commissioner, Mr. Stanley Egwuelu, consoled them on the loss of their member.

He, however, said he had, in response to the invitation of the assembly, sent an Assistant Commissioner of police to represent him because he had "other pressing matters."

Egwuelu said the police was doing its best and recalled the commendation the command received from the president during the last security retreat in Abuja.

He assured that the police would do its best to apprehend those behind the murder of the legislator.

Meanwhile, the corpse of the deceased has been deposited by members of the assembly at an undisclosed mortuary in Port Harcourt.

A peoples Democratic Party (PDP) top notcher from the area, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Port Harcourt, that the legislator from the crisis-torn area of Ogoni, was shot on the head at his house as he was driving into his gate at the Market Road in Rumuomasi in the state capital.

The state House of Assembly did not sit as the legislators had trooped to late Ndor's residence on a condolence visit.

**Grenade** *Contd.*

from pg 1

any object at his disposal. He said the child was in the process of playing with the object when it exploded, and the sound of the explosion heard within a wide area.

Sambo said that the boy whose right palm and stomach were badly damaged in the explosion, was immediately rushed to the Lafia Specialists Hospital, where doctors and other para-medical personnel struggled in vain to save his life.

"My gentle Abbati died before my own eyes in the hospital, reeling in pain at about 8 p.m.," Sambo sobbed.

He said he reported the case to the Nigeria police post along Makurdi road.

However, when contacted, the Police Public Relations Officer, Isaach Ochanhi told NAN that the command was yet to be informed about the incident.

**33 banks** *Contd. from pg 1*

and profitably," the president said.

However, he said although inadequate financing is considered to be a major obstacle facing small scale industries, the issue of inadequate infrastructure remained a critical factor, hence, government has put in place necessary measures to rehabilitate key infrastructural facilities such as power and energy.

President Obasanjo then enjoined the participating banks to ensure the success of the scheme by fully cooperating with the government in its determination to revitalise

the economy.

The Central Bank Governor, Mr. Joseph Sanusi, in his address, assured government of the bank's commitment to nurture the scheme, saying it would grow and imbibe the virtue of accountability.

The scheme's operational guidelines and responsibilities assigned to all stakeholders, he said, entails how banks were to use and manage their funds.

According to the CBN governor, all participating banks have agreed to set-up units or offices to manage the funds on their behalf, in order to ensure the success of the scheme.

**NITEL** *Contd. from pg 1*

time-table was a product of an agreement between BPE and all shortlisted intending bidders, where prospective investors were given six weeks to conduct due diligence, while the core investor will emerge by the end of October, 2001.

The eight bidders for Nigerdock include; West African Shipyards Ltd; KVO ASA; Navimor Consortium, Edobal Energy Co. Ltd and Coflexipstena Off-shore International.

Others are; Stock Offshore S.A., Heerema Maritime Contractors Nig Ltd and Global Integrated Constructors Nig. Ltd.

The Transaction Information memorandum (IM) for NITEL is to be dispatched to core investors by Monday next week. Thereafter, investors who wish to proceed with the technical and financial bidding stage will be allowed access to the data room for due process.

**Obasanjo** *Contd. from pg 1*

tiative, which was the merger of the millennium partnership for African recovery programme and the Omega plan conceived by the Senegalese President.

He said African leaders were challenged to work with

G-8, with Canada as chairperson of the next summit at which detailed programme of action will be submitted, and urged the committee to produce a clean document for presentation to African leaders.

**Oba** *Contd. from pg 1*

advocating. And unless there is this justice done in Kwara, there will be no peace. The agitation will continue.

"If justice has been done to the Igbo in Kwara and they have been given an Eze, why are the Yorubas, the original owners of the land, denied a leadership of an Oba? It is unfair, it is unjust, and we will not allow peace to reign."

The leader of the mainstream OPC stressed that "anybody who thinks Ilorin doesn't belong to the Yorubas does not understand the history of this nation. All others who speak against the Oba in Ilorin are trying to annex Yorubaland.

Speaking further, he observed that "in our recent history, we know that mistakes were made and we

are trying to correct them so that there will be peace, there will be development, there will be progress in Kwara and Nigeria as a whole. But to say that Ilorin doesn't belong to Yoruba is standing history on the head."

Fasheun further pointed out that the present Emir of Ilorin was known as Kolapo "which he adopted to enable him gain the support of the Yorubas in his quest for the Ilorin throne, but he tactically changed his Yoruba name to Sulu-Gambari on assumption of office."

When asked to comment on whether the present emir will be removed to actualise their dream, Dr. Fasheun explained that "we are not saying there shouldn't be an Emir of Ilorin to cater for those who bow to the turban. But for peace, justice and fair play, the 85 percent of the population which the Yoruba constitutes must be allowed to have their own leader.

"And Yoruba traditional leaders are 'Obas,' so there is no way we will not have an Oba in Ilorin. The presence of an Oba for the Yorubas in

their lives.

NEWS

Yorubas will decide over Obasanjo at the appropriate time – Ige

The Minister of Justice and Attorney-General, Chief Bola Ige, said Yorubas would take a decision on whether to support President Olusegun Obasanjo's candidacy for the 2003 elections at the

appropriate time. Speaking in Lagos on Monday at a lecture marking the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Young Men Christian Association (YMCA), Ige said the decision to support Obasanjo or not has nothing

to do with politics. His words: "The mere fact that one loves the Pope or is willing to work with him does not make one a Roman Catholic," adding that, "I am not in a PDP government, but in Obasanjo's government," he added.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the Oyo State Governor, Lam Adesina, was recently suspended by the *Afenifere* in the state for affirming support for the re-election of Obasanjo in 2003.

On the 2003 elections, Ige,

who is also Deputy Leader of *Afenifere*, a Pan-Yoruba socio-cultural group, said anybody who thinks Yoruba people will see people rigging the elections will not live to hear the result.

"Yorubas will take your bread with the N500 notes inside and will spend it but will still vote our own way," he said.

On emerging Yoruba groups such as the Yoruba Council of Elders (YES), the minister said they did not depict any form of disunity.



Chief Bola Ige

"The Yoruba council of elders is not against Yorubas.

What we have is only some misunderstanding among small group of leaders," he explained.

He claimed that Yorubas were 50 years ahead of other ethnic groups educationally, and attributed this to the legacy of late Chief Obafemi Awolowo and the free education programme of the Second Republic.

He restated the need for a national conference to review the 1999 constitution, stating that "there is need for all of us to sit round a table and agree or disagree over some aspects of the constitution."

Gana commends Haruna's achievements

Information and National Orientation Minister, Prof. Jerry Gana, has commended Governor Boni Haruna of Adamawa State for his administration's policy of completing all the abandoned projects it inherited.

Making the commendation at a public forum in Adamawa at the weekend at the end of an inspection tour of projects in the state by the national media tour entourage, Gana identified some of such projects as the state's secretariat, and the state House of Assembly complex.

The two projects had been abandoned for almost two decades by previous administration. Others, he said, were the rehabilitation of roads, educational and medical institutions, including rural electrification and water projects.

He said the state government had even gone further to provide new medical and educational facilities, adding that by so doing, it had brought dignity to democracy and restored people's confidence in government.

Gana stressed the need for all the three tiers of government to strive to restore credibility to democracy by making governance relevant to the people, particularly through the provision of all the basic necessities that would make life worth living.

Speaking earlier, Haruna said soon after his administration discovered the abandoned projects which cut across all the socio-economic sectors, it adopted the philosophy of prioritizing and completing

the projects, and went ahead to rehabilitate all existing structures.

Haruna said through such measures, a conducive environment had been created for teaching and learning in the schools, as a result of which appreciable increase in student enrolment and academic excellence had been achieved.

FG flags off work on third road project in Gombe

The Minister of State for Works and Housing, Mr. Garba Ali on Monday flagged-off work on the rehabilitation of the 128 km Gombe-Dukku-Darazo road, which is being executed by the Federal Government at a cost of more than N3 billion.

Speaking at the ceremony, Ali said the execution of the project was divided into two sections, section one covers 70 km starts from Gombe and terminates at Dukku, in Gombe State, while section two covers the 58 km stretch from Dukku to Darazo, a town in Bauchi State.

He announced that two reputable road construction firms had been engaged to handle the contract with section one costing N1.6 billion being handled by Dekit Construction Company while section two was awarded to Triacta Engineering Construction at a cost of N1.4 billion.

The minister said Dekit and Triacta were picked to handle the two contracts because they had executed previous ones awarded to them satisfactorily and expressed the hope that they would justify the confidence reposed in them.

Ali also disclosed that the scope of work on the projects included executing "a firm and good quality finished road, capable of taking traffic twice the existing capacity."

The minister recalled that President Olusegun Obasanjo, while on a state visit to Gombe State last year, promised to place the rehabilitation of the road on the priority list of the Federal Government, adding that he was happy that the promise had been fulfilled.



Prof. Jerry Gana

Nigeria, Niger Rep take inventory of border resources

Nigeria and Niger Republic are to set up a technical committee to jointly undertake an inventory of the resources along the boundary between the countries.

A communiqué issued at end of a four-day international seminar on Nigeria-Niger transborder co-operation, stated that experts from the two countries should evolve efficient and scientific methods of utilizing the available resources.

The communiqué said the human and natural resources along the boundary should be efficiently managed to allow for the sustainable development of the those resources for the socio-economic growth of the two countries.

It said there was the need to establish more border markets and free trade zones at strategic locations along the border, adding that private

entrepreneurs and nationals of the two countries should utilize the facilities provided by financial institutions in both countries for the promotion of international

commerce. The communiqué recommended that the two countries should establish permanent joint institutional

agencies to combat desertification, drought, flood, the shrinking of Lake Chad, quelea birds invasion, agricultural pests and human and animal diseases.

Gov Yar'Adua signs Sharia bill into law

Governor Umar Yar'Adua of Katsina State, has signed the codified Sharia law in Katsina State empowering the already established Sharia courts to entertain criminal cases.

The Commissioner of Information, Alhaji Suleiman Jibia, who disclosed this to newsmen in Katsina Monday, said Katsina State was determined to ensure a smooth and effective implementation of Sharia

From Hassan A. Karofi, in Katsina

legal system in the state.

He said it became necessary to codify the laws so that justice could be easily dispensed as justice delayed is justice denied.

Alhaji Jubia added that government would provide the necessary support to ensure that laws and order are preserved to create a peaceful co-existence in the state.

In another development, the state executive council meeting has approved the release of

N100 million to the Katsina Islamic University, established by a non-governmental organization to aid its mission of providing qualitative education to the people of the state, particularly in the areas of Islamic knowledge, science and law.

He added that government believes the gesture will douse the agitations for the establishment of state university as being championed by some citizens

Aviation: FG retires directors

As part of the going re-organisation programme in the aviation parastatals and in particular, Nigeria Airways Limited, President Olusegun Obasanjo, has approved the retirement of four directors.

They are: Mrs. A.O. Ojuwo, Director of Finance; Mr. A. Odiri, Director of Administration; Capt. A. Azike, Ag. Director of Airline/Operations and Mr. Kola Ojo, Ag. Director of Engineering.

The retirement notice, which take effect from Monday, directed all the directors to handover their responsibilities to the next most senior officer in command in their various departments who will now oversee the affairs of the departments.

In another development, the president has also approved the appointment of Alhaji Yusufu Mohammed, as substantive Managing Director, Nigeria Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) with immediate effect.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CONTINENTAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF ORGANISATION (CODERO)

The public is hereby notified that the above named organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matter Act Cap 59 laws of the Federation, 1990.

- The Trustees are:
- Dr. Hamid Bobboyi
  - Dr. Usman M. Bugaje
  - Hajia Bilkisu Yusuf
  - Alhaji Abdul Mumin Bello
  - Aliyu Abubakar Tanko

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission Area 11 Garki Abuja within 28 days of the publication.

Signed:  
Aliyu Abubakar Tanko  
Secretary

## NEWS

## Sarah Jibril lambasts critics of Sharia

Former presidential aspirant and chieftain of the unregistered Progressive Liberation Party, Mrs. Sarah Jibril, has described critics against Sharia implementation as ill-motivated.

She instead called on them to look inward and establish their own religious laws so that a just and morally upright societies could be maintained.

Mrs. Jibril told journalists in Katsina during a one-day conference on women emancipation organised by the Public Enlightenment Project, a non-governmental

From Hassan A. Karofi,  
in Katsina

organization on Monday, that since Sharia is about moral uprightness and correction of moral vices, there was no reason why anybody should oppose such feat for just opposition sake.

She said that she had in some occasions urged some Christian cleric to instead of opposing Sharia, fight for the entrenchment of Christian code of righteousness in the constitution so that morality could be enhanced.

Citing customary

tradition, where widows and the like are subjected to domestic human right violations, should be corrected through such codes.

She chided the unethical nature of Nigerian political leadership as an anomaly that such religious teachings should be able to deal with.

Mrs. Sarah Jibril therefore, called on both Christians and muslims to understand each other's rights and protect them so that meaningful development and growth could be achieved.

She urged Nigerians to encourage dialogue and workshops that would unite followers of both religions so

that a peaceful and healthy nation could be built.

Earlier in his speech, Justice Musa Danladi of Court of Appeal, described women as an embodiment of moral emancipation which Sharia legal system tends to protect.

He said the misconception about Sharia was borne out of ignorance of the law which has given women the highest regard more than any religion.

Quoting from the Qur'an and Sunnah, Justice Danladi, argued that unlike what was portrayed about Islam regarding women, the religion gave the womanhood a conducive and respectful position than any constitution.

He said unless the constitution was about half nakedness and portrayal of women as sexual commodities, Sharia has placed them three grades above men just to show how important they are to the world.

He, therefore, urged women to understand the religious provisions of Sharia and explore it for their betterment.

## FG urged to hasten work on Odi

The Federal Government has been urged to speed up the reconstruction of Odi town, Bayelsa State, and save the people from further suffering as the town was almost destroyed two years ago after the killing of security men sent to quell a communal uprising in the area.

The governing council of the National Human Rights Commission, which had its 7<sup>th</sup> statutory meeting in the Bayelsa state capital, Yenagoa, between the 29<sup>th</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup> of July, 2001, also requested the Federal Government to hasten the rehabilitation of the people of

By Katharina Herda



President Olusegun Obasanjo Odi town to ameliorate their hardship.

According to the Assistant Director of Public Affairs and Information of the NHRC, Chief (Mrs.) T.

Nwodo, who disclosed this to *Daily Trust* in Abuja, yesterday, the council noted after a visit to the town, that the 500 housing units promised by government was yet to be implemented.

The council had discovered that nothing had been done to reconstruction or rehabilitate the town or people. So, it now called on government to fulfill its promise without further delay.

In another development, the council has called for the immediate provision of accommodation for 250 police officers currently living in their offices in Bayelsa State. Chief (Mrs.) T. Nwodo described this as a violation of the officers' right to dignity.

and for Road Development Agency.

He said, "no amount of blackmail," would make his government reverse its policy of selling government houses to civil servants.

Responding on behalf of the committees' members, the state Commissioner of Works, Alhaji Adamu Aliyu, who is also their chairman, assured the governor that they would carry out their assignment with diligence.

## Boni Haruna warns board members against corruption

Governor Boni Haruna of Adamawa State has warned board members in the state against engaging in corrupt practices.

Speaking at the inauguration of the chairmen and members of the boards and parastatals in Yola recently, the governor said he would not condone any form of corruption.

"It goes without saying that you must avoid engaging in corrupt practices or any negative tendency that would portray this government in bad light," he added.

"Instead, you should preoccupy yourselves with generating new ideas that would raise the management standards of your respective boards," he said.

The governor also warned against rivalry and conflicts between the boards and management of government agencies.

"I must warn that government will not tolerate unnecessary friction and conflict of roles between board and its management," he added.

He charged them to be

From Abdullahi Tasiu  
Abubakar, in Yola

efficient in the discharge of their duties, and to encourage the state civil servants to improve their productivity.

The governor also inaugurated two committees for the implementation of government's ownership occupier policy on housing

## Pipeline fire threatens Ogoniland

An environmental devastation of unimaginable proportion appears to be currently staring Ogoniland in the face.

The News Agency of Nigeria reports that the entire area was being ravaged by fire unless urgent steps are taken to put off scores of pipeline fires ignited by pipeline excavators in the area.

The fires, with the attendant thick black smoke, and noticeable from a distance, emanate from different points in trenches where groups of youths have

been excavating pipelines belonging to Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC).

A NAN correspondent, who accompanied assembly reporters on a tour of Gokona Constituency in Ogoniland reports that Kpor, the capital of Gokona district, where two of the fire sites were located, appears to have lost its farmlands to the oil fire.

Meanwhile, the sites were littered with crude oil, all children aged between 10 and 12 who were scooping some of the crude oil, fled on sighting the reporters.

## Lagos CJ refutes media reports

The Lagos State Chief Judge, has refuted reports in some national dailies (not *Daily Trust*) that some indicted judges are still in practice in the state judiciary.

In a statement issued by the Assistant Chief Press Officer, Lagos State Judiciary, Wasiu B. Oluseye, stated that the Lagos State Chief Judge (CJ), Justice I.A. Sotumnu did not grant any media interview last Wednesday as reported.

He said that it was on Tuesday, August 14, 201 that the chief judge, while granting an interview to members of a Non-governmental Organisation (NGO), "Access to justice," stated amongst other things that the allegations against the two judicial



Gov Bola Tinubu

## Watch

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### CHANGE OF NAME

I formerly known as MISS NKE CHINYERE KALU now wish to be called MRS NKE CHINYERE OKECHUKWU EZE. All former documents remains valid, Internal Affairs Ministry, CIPPO and the public to note

I, formerly MISS JUMMAI ADAMU now MRS JUMMAI GIDEON GOJE N.A.N.N.M. and public take note.

## Anglican bishop to expel priests in secret cult

Any Anglican priest or member who belongs to a secret society will be ex-communicated, the Anglican Bishop of Enugu, Dr. Emmanuel Chukwuma has said.

Speaking at the inauguration of Nike-West Archdeaconry, at St. Andrews Anglican Church, Trans-Ekulu Housing Estate, Enugu, on Sunday, Chukwuma said that the Enugu dioceses could no longer tolerate "so-called Christians with divided loyalty."

The bishop also announced that any priest who failed to perform his functions with the fear of God and according to the oath of office would be demoted.

He stated that the diocese could no longer tolerate incompetence among ordained ministers and charged the new archdeacon to brace up to the challenge of his duty.

The bishop expressed displeasure over divided

opinion among some Christians, pointing out that it had affected the gains of Christianity in the country.

He queried, "why is it that churches are springing up in every nook and crannies while armed robbery, corruption, harlotry, adultery and fornication had become the order of the day?"

The Anglican bishop also spoke against unhealthy rivalry in the church, saying that the church was the hope of the country and urged Christians to rise up to the occasion.

The new Archdeacon, Venerable Benjamin Nnaji was until his upliftment, the Vicar of St. Andrews Anglican Church, Trans-Ekulu Housing Estate, Enugu, the headquarters of the new archdeaconry.

St. Andrews church started with a membership of 34 persons, 24 years ago and has risen to become the seventh Archdeaconry in Enugu diocese.

# DAILY TRUST

## EDITORIAL

### Danger signals from the banks

It was the Greek philosopher, Euripides of the materialist school, who said if you can "by all means, make money." And since human nature is obsessed with acquisition, time and space has not diminished the import of the admonition. Today, there are more adherents to this ancient advice than at any time in history.

The latest are the new generation banks presided over mostly by "wonder-kids" – the sons of first generation bankers. In their quest for mega-profits in record time, these banks have introduced a new dimension into the marketing of composite banking products. They recruit mostly young ladies of between 24 and 28 years and give them high targets to meet within a given period. And the confirmation of their appointments or their elevation to the next levels is hinged on this.

Since these targets are sometimes in the neighbourhood of a billion naira, these ladies are somewhat forced to compromise their integrities before moneyed men to win fat or corporate accounts.

It may appear that these banks or their managements are not actually encouraging what has come to be known as "corporate prostitution" since they can claim ignorance of how their marketers get the fat accounts.

But the fact that recruitment exercises into these banks stress youth and beauty and those so recruited are mostly graduates of music, archaeology, theatre arts or other such disciplines strengthens the suspicion that the banks are not entirely hostile to it. As it is, female staff have become raw materials for minting mega-bucks.

Profit making is legitimate in a free-market economy, but where and when the profit motive overrides reason and negates the human essence, it becomes condemnable. To enrich female staff financially and then impoverish them morally is at once an assault on morality and a blow to the image of the banking industry.

It must be accepted that the level of unemployment is high, nevertheless, banks must not exploit the situation to debase womanhood as that would be tantamount to the abdication of their social responsibility. This is what a former British Prime Minister, Lord Callaghan once called "the unacceptable face of capitalism". We cannot but agree with him in totality. These banks must devise better ways of making fabulous profits instead of abusing or misusing their female employees. They must not only have a human face; they must also, like their sober forebears, have a moral face.

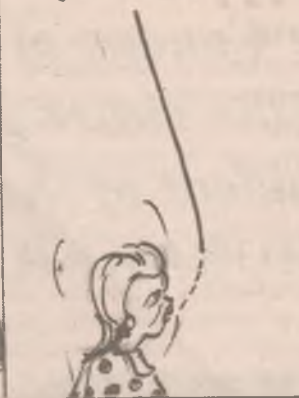
Additionally, the pack of new generation banks should realise that their female employees are normal women desirous of living normal lives – their careers notwithstanding. And the situation whereby spinsters work till late into the night or cannot marry until after three or so years of employment is not helping matters. Today, banking halls have the highest concentrations of single ladies, the majority of whom will end up as unfulfilled maidens or single mothers. This should not be so.

### MEDIA CHAT

In preparation for this great challenge and from past experience I must WATCH my words!



You may be proscribed if you pose a SOURCE of perjury!



Who is my GUARDIAN to be explosive with words?!



In order that NEMESIS would not hurt me, I will on a DAILY basis be armed with TRUST!



## WEDNESDAY COLUMN

### The Ghali Na'Abba website: an assessment

By Y. Z. Ya'u (yunusayau@hotmail.com)

True, elections in themselves do not imply democracy. However, given the fact that decision making has to be compact, we all cannot be there. We must surrender our right to direct participation in decision making to someone to sit on our behalf. We can only do this through free and fair elections. Elections therefore are a very major ingredient of democracy. Elections make meaning only if those elected genuinely represent the people who elected them. Representation has two major requirements.

The first is that there should be consultation between the elected and electors. This consultation allows the representative to know the problems, concerns, views and priorities of the people he or she is representing. Consultation is a two way process. This implies the exchange of information from both sides.

The second is accountability. This accountability has two dimensions. On one level, it means that the representative should truly reflect the consensus of his/her consultation in representational conduct. In other words, she or he should reflect the views, fears, concerns and priorities of the people. As a legislator, for instance, the representative should be informed by the views of the electors. The second level is that the representative has a duty to inform the constituency of every decision and implications. He/she should explain to the people the resources at the disposal of government and the agreed priorities as well as the basis for determining these priorities.

While the flow of information in meeting the obligation of accountability is from one to many, that is from the legislator to the electorate, in the case of consultation, it is from many to one. While broadcast and other forms of mass media have made the former relatively easy, the latter is very difficult to organise by conventional technology. But now information technology has provided us with the means to do both more effectively.

One of the platforms for doing this is the Internet. Information that a representative wants to share with the public can be placed in his website, which is a public notice board. On the other hand, people wanting to either send opinions or ask questions can reach their representative through her/his e-mail.

While some countries have been making great progress towards what is today referred to as virtual or digital parliaments (parliaments online), we in Nigeria are still to wake up to this reality. The awareness about and the accessibility to information technology are both very low in Nigeria. In the USA for instance, virtually every national legislator has a website. In Denmark, it is mandatory for every public office to maintain a website and an e-mail address.

Given the prevailing situation in the country, I was happy to have visited the website of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ghali Na'Abba, named *ghali-naabba.com*. I jumped it through a link up from the *gamji.com* site, a website founded by my former colleague, Dr. Iro Ismaila. I have surfed it several times and found it quite inadequate a site for a person of that responsibility.

The site consists of eleven web pages, each of which stands separately. What appears to be the homepage is the biodata. This contains brief about the Speaker along with his picture. The picture frame takes over half of the page. There is a comment page, a page for the National Assembly and a contact e-mail address. The remaining seven sections are speeches by the Speaker.

The first preliminary point to be made about the site is that we can say it is a dead site. This is because the latest document or update is dated April 2001. The website of a person holding such position should be updated daily. This brings me to the second preliminary point. Websites are supposed to contain a balance of both dynamic and static material. This is more so for a site dealing with legislation. Static contents are those documents which people regularly refer to but which do not change with time. Dynamic contents on the other hand is constantly changing. In the context of the National Assembly, this would feature news of its meetings, decisions, movements, etc.

Although the Ghali Na'Abba site made two provisions for dynamic content (the news and comments), in actual fact, there is no dynamic content in it. The page referred to as news actually contains speeches and therefore does injustice to the in-

tent. As for comments, there are four updated pieces, which I have been seeing for the past one month. This means that both the comment and the news pages, although conceived as dynamic, are not active.

Thirdly, all the other pages are documents, which could have come under one single hyperlink. This is the result of the lack of structure in the site. Before a website is posted, it should be so designed with a clear structure to achieve its purpose. As it is, other than to show that the speaker has a site, the website cannot achieve the noble role of making the speaker and information within the possession of the Speaker accessible to the public. It would seem to me that the site was created without any design specification or even goals in mind.

The lack of structure in the site is underlined by a poor layout and the lack of a site map (anyway, what do you need a map for on a three item site?). The background is without any inviting attraction. Second, the picture on the homepage, and which took more than half of the space is used in all the other pages. Apart from the fact that the picture consumes space, it is too monotonous. There is obvious absence of effective use of space.

The page on the National Assembly is both static and non-active. There is nothing in the page beyond a brief about what the National assembly is. It is very sad that the assembly that has been engaged in many activities cannot be reached via its Speaker. This is because, apart from the content deformity, it has no link to other relevant sites on the National Assembly. For instance, both Gamji and Assemblyonline have put sections on the National Assembly in their websites. The site should have provided a link to these and to other relevant sites such as that of the President.

There are two other technical problems. One is that the use of green to highlight sub-sections of documents (as in all document pages) and its use as the hyperlink indicator is confusing. Users might be clicking on the sub-sections thinking they were separate documents. This is poor use of colour.

The other problem is that it has no user friendly interface or tools. I have talked about the absence of a site map. There are also no tools to make surfing easy. For instance if you are at the end of a document and wish to return to the top, there should be a click option to allow you do this without having to spend time scrolling through. In the same way, there is no connection between the homepage and the other pages (of course the small size of the website has allowed all the pages to be displayed at the top). In a country where telephone cost is still substantially high and access speed is very low, this is both uneconomical and time consuming.

As a means of promoting democracy and accountability, the site is a total failure. It should have bulletins for reaching out to people who would need these dispatches such as the media, researchers and research organisations and civil society organisations. There should be voting mechanism through which the Speaker would have automatic online public poll on issues that appear in the House. Even if he would not directly use this information, it would allow citizens to express their views on the issues. This is the meaning of participation.

There should be a facility for answering back to queries by citizens or even to acknowledge receipt of responses and comments. The most elementary facility that is now almost universal, Frequently Asked Question (FAQ), is not considered worthy of inclusion. Yet this is what would have educated many citizens about the National Assembly and the Speaker without involving his staff in answering routine questions.

Finally, since the National Assembly has not yet developed its own site, the Speaker's site should be able to deposit pieces of legislation that the House has dealt with and those in the pipeline. It should also spell out basic procedure on the ways in which citizens can access the National Assembly.

All said, however, it is a step in the right direction. We look forward to the day that the Speaker's website will not only live up to its billing but that each member of the National and state's Assemblies would maintain active and interactive websites. At that stage we hope that the assemblies would pass the law that would require all public organisations and offices to maintain active websites.

Y. Z. Ya'u is the executive director of the Computer Literacy Project, P. O. Box 10210, Kano.



# NORTH EAST PDP ZONAL RALLY



*The Honourable Minister FCT, ENGR. MUHAMMED ABBA-GANA, on behalf of Borno State Caucus of the PDP, the State Executive of PDP, all PDP members and the entire good people of Borno State, warmly welcome the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, DR. ATIKU ABUBAKAR, the Turakin Adamawa*



**ENGR. MUHAMMED ABBA-GANA**  
*Minister Federal Capital Territory*



**ATIKU ABUBAKAR**  
*Vice President Fed. Republic of Nigeria*

*and the Zanna Zantama of Borno, other delegates and officials of the PDP to the North East Zonal Rally of the PDP, holding in Maiduguri on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> August 2001.*

*You are welcome to Borno State, the real home of peace.*

*Signed*

**ENGR. MUHAMMED ABBA-GANA**  
*Honourable Minister, FCT*

Opinion

A lure of power

By Yahaya Umar Kura

Power is a word that means so many different things to different individuals, depending on their peculiar principles and beliefs.

It is unfortunate that in Nigerian today, 99 percent of the people aspiring to leadership have a crude perception of what power means. Some people simply see it as the stepping-stone out of the grinding poverty of the lower class to the glittering circle of the upper class. To these people, power is just the magic formula that will open doors and afford them access to fabulous wealth and riches.

And some people look at power as the magic wand that will give them a larger-than-life profile and transform them overnight into demigods who wield the power of life-and-death over their fellow human beings. Still others see it as something that will provide them with the opportunity of strutting about in the corridors of power and rubbing shoulders with the rich and the mighty. Some people look at power as the opportunity of riding pompously in an official convoy of siren-blasting posh-looking cars from one corner of the country to another or from the state house to some so-called official function. Such conceited leaders are daily engaged in one commissioning ceremony or another, that in many cases bear little significance to the life of the people.

They attend the commissioning ceremony of boreholes, clinics, schools or mosques. In such 'hollow' ceremonies, the 'august guest' seizes a ceremonial pair of scissors and cuts a ceremonial piece of cloth to the gullible applause of his entourage and other ignorant onlookers. Usually, whatever is being commissioned - whether a borehole, clinic or a mosque - the appearance and the hullabaloo is deceptive and belies the reality beneath the surface.

And others view power as the means of trotting around the globe in official jet aircraft, meeting with international statesmen and sightseeing or shopping in exclusive Euro-American shopping centres. To some people, power is the

chance of a lifetime that is to be seized upon to build palatial mansions fortified with the latest sophisticated security apparatus, together with a string of expensive, posh cars, in a row in garages.

These rulers regard the state as their personal estate in which their personal whim, fence and caprice reign supreme. Thus they shamelessly loot, plunder and squander the nation's resources without any feeling of remorse. For instance, a well-known politician and minister in the Second Republic was so giddy with power that he boasted that he wished he could turn a pauper into a millionaire overnight (through devious and shady contract deals of course!).

To cite another example, a former military dictator was recorded to have stated that 'every man has his price' and therefore it is only a matter of raising the right amount and it will be a simple matter to buy a man's conscience.

Nigeria is a place where so many strange and bizarre events occur daily. Unexpected, unthinkable and unfathomable things casually take place in Nigeria. Thus no eyebrows were raised when the looters and plunderers of the past regimes started making public appearances and mounting the soapbox to brag about how diligently and selflessly they served their people during the days they were at the helm of affairs and holding the reigns of government. These plunderers are not satisfied with only flaunting their ill-gotten wealth in the face of the impoverished people of Nigeria, they have to add insult to injury by going round and mounting platforms to insult the intelligence of Nigerians.

In the absence of any logical explanation for such wanton and insolent braggadocio, one can only jump to the conclusion that these bigots whose sins of omission or commission led to high levels of poverty, extreme inequality and severe shortages of basic necessities are simply suffering from a severe case of

megalomania.

They are so stinking rich that they have the wherewithal to make use of powerful publicity machinery that is presently working 24 hours a day to shore up their badly dented image and present them to the public as heroes rather than the villains people believed them to be. "To put the records straight" as the propagandists like to put it.

In Nigeria today, anybody with sufficient financial strength can manipulate or shape public opinion to suit his narrow selfish interest. One has only to spread a portion of his wealth around to the various corners of the country and within a short time the people will rally round to support whatever he is trying to sell to them. Such is the nature of Nigerians today. They are so dehumanised and so corrupt that they can call a man a devil today and yet tomorrow turn around to call the same man an angel. Thus many corrupt civil-servants, dishonest businessmen, crooked contractors, middlemen and rogue retired and serving military men and officers who committed untold atrocities are today smugly posing as revered leaders of thought in their respective communities and the nation in general.

Frankly speaking, these smooth criminals are not supposed to be roaming around freely on our streets. They are supposed to be cooling their heels in prison and atoning for their unspeakable acts. Alas! Only petty criminals are daily being given harsh sentences by the courts. The question here is, what happens to our sense of social justice? Wherever one goes in this country the scourge of injustice is glaringly evident.

Is our democracy planned in such a way that there is a separate law for the ruling clique and their friends and family and a separate law for the rest of Nigerians?

One wonders what hopes has the common man in Nigeria today!

*Yahaya is of the Department of English and European Languages, Bayero University Kano.*

Buhari, Dikko and Oputa

By Joseph George

Since the inception of the Oputa panel, of all the petitions brought before it, none seems to generate controversy like the ones brought against the three erstwhile heads of state, General Muhammadu Buhari (rtd), General Ibrahim Babangida (rtd) and General Abdulsalami Abubakar (rtd). While Generals Babangida and Abdulsalami are being accused of connivance in the murder of Dele Giwa and Moshood Abiola respectively, General Buhari, on the other hand, is being accused of human rights violations over the alleged encasement of Umaru Dikko by his administration in 1984.

The three erstwhile leaders have been invited several times to go before the Oputa panel to clarify themselves of the allegations, but they have invariably refused to honour the invitations. This apparent levity against a constituted authority, given their position in the society, has generated a spate of criticisms from the society.

Although I would not like to be a party to any act that can be interpreted as violation of human rights, abuse of power and disregard to the rule of law, I would want every right-thinking Nigerian to pause a little and consider the case of Umaru Dikko versus General Buhari.

While the allegations levelled against Babangida and Abdulsalami can be said to be heinous and atrocious, since they involve unjudicious termination of human lives, a second thought should be given to that of Buhari. His action was not informed by mere vagaries of sadism and abuse of power, but it was borne out of patriotism. Therefore it now becomes imperative to reconsider the motive behind his action rather than its execution.

It is an incontestable fact that by the time Buhari seized the reins of power, the country was heading for the abyss of political and economic strangulation. Alhaji Shehu Shagari and his lieutenants had betrayed the trust the electorate reposed in them. Corruption and lawlessness were in top gear. The economy was badly rundown, and one of the major actors in these acts was Umaru Dikko.

Since the economy was in a bad shape when Buhari seized power, his administration had to take decisive steps to stop its further plunge into the abyss of recession. It is against this backdrop that the issue of salvaging the economy became a priority of his administration. It was therefore not surprising that his regime embarked on witch hunts of those suspected to have pilfered the national coffer. While some were arrested and detained, some escaped to the neighbouring or Western countries. Among those that escaped was Umaru Dikko.

He eventually became the most wanted then. This was mainly due to the part he was believed to have played in the act of plundering the nation's wealth. Every Nigerian was aggrieved by his action. And there were strident calls for his head and those of his alleged partners in plundering. It was this public outcry that prodded the Buhari administration to use every available means to bring the operators of the Second Republic to book. And that explained why Dikko was encased in a carton to be brought to Nigeria to stand trial.

Nigeria is a country where the past is not taken into consideration. It's very unfortunate that Nigerians have so soon forgotten the misfortune that people like Dikko brought upon them. If Nigeria were a country where the rule of law is respected, he would not have the freedom to walk our streets a free man let alone have the temerity to drag the Buhari administration to the Oputa panel.

Well, Chinua Achebe has captured our attitude in his *Things Fall Apart*. Those who condemned Umaru Dikko and praised Buhari for the decision he took about one and a half decades ago are the ones lining behind the former now to throw brickbats at the latter for not honouring the invitation to the Oputa panel. "Why did he do it," is what they are saying now.

Before Buhari can appear before the Oputa panel to defend himself of the allegations Dikko brought against him, Dikko himself must first appear before the panel to explain to Nigerians his role as a minister between 1979 and 1983. Otherwise, he has no moral justification to petition Buhari to the panel. And if the panel is worth the law that established it, it ought not entertain Umaru Dikko's petition. He and every government functionary of the Second Republic owe the country an apology.

*Mr. George is of 10B, Bauchi Road, Jos, Plateau State.*

YOUR LETTERS

Oshiomhole's defence of Abdulsalami

Prior to the recent statement credited to him, Comrade Adams Oshiomhole was a household name in the Nigerian 'labour' circle only next to Pa Michael Imoudu. Despite series of accusations including the recent one by a faction of the Nigerian Labour Congress against him (*Thisday* 16/7/2001), Comrade Oshiomhole was held in high esteem until he exposed his real inner self by declaring Abdulsalami Abubakar not guilty of the alleged financial maladministration.

What baffled many Nigerians was why a person of Oshiomhole's standing should declare Abdulsalami innocent on issues before a commission comprised of very highly educated, influential and respected Nigerians.

The activities of Comrade Oshiomhole during the Abdulsalami regime should be investigated to ascertain whether or not he benefited from what the regime is being

accused of. The allegations are too serious to be ignored. Corruption has eaten deep into every sphere of our society from the highest to the lowest hierarchy. An honest Nigerian is being looked at as a dangerous man in the society because he is a threat to those aspiring to acquire illegal wealth.

The issue of handing over government was a MUST and therefore Abdulsalami could not have dodged from it as this could have resulted

to one of the worst crises this country ever experienced.

There should be no sacred cows at this very important time in our history of reconciliation. All Nigerians mentioned at the committee sitting MUST go and defend themselves. A Nigerian head of state is not greater than presidents of America or South Africa and many others all over the world who have appeared before similar commissions in their countries. After all, President

Obasanjo himself has appeared before the commission.

Meanwhile, Comrade Oshiomhole should be suspended from his office if that was not a collective decision of the Nigeria Labour Congress, otherwise Nigerians deserve public apology from the Congress for the embarrassment cause them by the publication.

*P. T. Y. Dalli,  
5B, Rimi Drive,  
Kaduna.*

Security agencies please change uniforms for Muslim women

Recently, British police authorities re-designed suitable uniform outfits for Muslim female cops. It is a well-known fact that Britain is a Christian state yet it does not allow religious bigotry to becloud its sense of judgement. Various religious faiths were given their rights to perform according to the dictates of their religion.

It is quite disheartening that decades after our self-independence we could not change for good. It is high time we re-engineer our programmes to accommodate all citizens of this country regardless of their religious faiths.

I am therefore appealing to all security apparatus in this country to change the current skirts being used as

uniforms by Muslim females in some of our security agencies to tally with their religious belief. If Britain which is a Christian dominated country could consider separate uniform for Muslim policewomen with headscarves or hijab, I see no reason why Nigeria could not do the same.

*Ayuba M. Saidu,  
P. O. Box 3448,  
Sokoto.*

# TRUST INTERNATIONAL

AFRICA &amp; THE MIDDLE EAST

## Detained Students die in Eritrea

A second student held in a desert detention camp in Eritrea for refusing to comply with the government's holiday work programme has died.

The president of Asmara University, Woldeab Issak, said the student, Yemane Tekee, died at the Halibet hospital on Sunday morning where he had been receiving medical treatment for heat stroke.

Last Thursday, the French news agency AFP reported the death, also from sun stroke, of another student in the camp.

The dead students were among those taken to the site at Wia, about 30 kilometres from the port city of Massawa.

Massawa is known for its scorching temperatures as high as 49C (120F) at this time of year.

The agency said that some students were released to write their exams. About 2,000 of them were being held with very little food and in poor accommodation.

They were arrested a week ago in dormitories and at the High Court where they had expected to see the appearance in court of their students union president.

The student leader, Semere Ketsie, was arrested in July for making a speech attacking the compulsory work scheme, government's interference in the university's affairs and inadequate support for the institution.

In a defiant gesture, the students said they would only comply with the holiday work programme when their leader is either released or taken to court.

One of the 300 parents who gathered at the gates of the university pleaded with the authorities for leniency:

"Please I beg you to transfer them out of that place. Why did you send them to the hottest place on earth?" one said.

## Mbeki leads tributes to late activist

South African President Thabo Mbeki has led tributes to the South African newspaper editor and anti-apartheid activist, Donald Woods, who died of cancer at the age of 67.

Mr Mbeki praised Woods for his courage in fighting apartheid and expressed "sincere regret and deepest condolences" to Mr Woods' family.

Mr Woods died in hospital near London surrounded by his wife Wendy and five children, his daughter Jane said.

She said the former South African President, Nelson Mandela, had telephoned his good wishes several days ago.

Mr Woods had drawn world attention to the case of Steve Biko, the black consciousness leader who was killed by South African security forces while in detention.

Former British Foreign Office minister and anti-apartheid campaigner Peter Hain said: "Donald was a close friend and one of South Africa's most beloved freedom fighters. He sacrificed a lot to achieve his dream of a truly democratic non-racial South Africa."

South Africa's ruling African National Congress (ANC) spokesman Smuts Ngonyama said: "It's a shock and a painful blow for the country to lose a person of Donald Woods' stature."

The South African High Commissioner in London, Cheryl Carolus, described Mr Woods as a "truly great son of South Africa". "We are greatly saddened at his death but know too that it ended a long period of illness which he bore with his usual courage and wit."

She said that, though his great life of courage had ended, his spirit lived on with his people.

As editor of the *Daily Dispatch* from 1965 he forcefully condemned the apartheid government's policy of racial discrimination.

Mr Woods was forced to flee South Africa in 1977 after he was arrested and banned because of his friendship with Mr Biko.

Under a five-year banning order, he was barred from his office and forbidden to travel, write or speak publicly.



A Palestinian woman cries in front of a relative's damaged house where Palestinian activist Samir Abu Zeid and his two children were killed on Monday.

## US opposes Palestinian observer proposal

A senior Palestinian official has urged the United Nations to do more to end fighting in the Middle East, as the Security Council discusses whether to send international observers to the region.

But the United States backed Israel in opposing a Palestinian proposal to send observers, making it very unlikely that the UN Security Council would get involved.

Separately, German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer arrived in the region for three days of talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and other officials.

Israeli forces and Palestinians exchanged fire in some half a dozen places across the West Bank and Gaza Strip on Monday. Palestinian sources said seven Palestinians were wounded.

Backed by Islamic nations at the UN, Palestinians renewed their appeal for international protection.

Palestinian delegate Nasser

al-Kidwa said it was "difficult to believe and impossible to justify" what he called the Security Council's lack of action.

BBC correspondent at the UN said that the Palestinians have been circulating a draft resolution more moderate in tone than previous motions put before the Security Council.

But, he said, it still calls for some form of monitoring, which the Israelis reject.

Israeli Ambassador Yehuda Lancry said an international observer force "cannot dismantle the bomb factories ... cannot intercept suicide bombers ... cannot stop snipers and mortar fire".

With the veto-wielding US opposed to an international presence, the council debate is

unlikely to produce any concrete initiative.

The US has said it does not think taking the matter up with the Security Council is the right approach at the moment.

Acting US Ambassador James Cunningham said Washington "question[s] the appropriateness and effectiveness of any action here in New York".

Still, observers believe, the debate may increase the pressure on Washington to take a more active role to try to pull both sides back from the brink.

Recent Israeli actions, such as its assassination policy and army incursions into Palestinian areas, have attracted widespread international criticism.

Palestinian suicide bomb attacks on Israelis have also

## Red Cross pleads for Sudan aid

The International Federation of the Red Cross is again asking for more help to cope with the thousands of people in Sudan who lost their homes during the Nile floods.

An international appeal launched in Geneva 10 days ago has so far met with a disappointing response. So far, only a few boxes of medicine have arrived in the capital Khartoum.

In the past few weeks thousands of people living along the Nile have been driven from their homes as the river reached its highest level for 20 years.

The Sudanese Government and aid agencies are now worried about outbreaks of disease among the displaced people.

The Red Cross says malaria and diarrhoea are the biggest problems.

In the town of Singe, some 300 kilometres south of Khartoum, most of those made homeless have found shelter with relatives or neighbours.

But 500 are crammed into an emergency camp set up in some derelict buildings.

Aid workers spray

stagnant pools of water with insecticide, but cases of malaria are on the rise as are eye and chest infections.

Children are especially vulnerable. There has already been one outbreak of measles.

The Nile, which snakes through the city, is swollen, fast-moving and perilously close to the top of its banks.

The governor of the city, Hashim Haroum, said the next

## Lebanese court releases 75 opposition activists

Authorities in Lebanon have released 75 Lebanese Christians jailed earlier this month in a military crackdown against Christian opposition activists, Lebanese judicial officials said.

They were fined three million Lebanese pounds (\$2,000) by a military court after being charged with threatening national security and belonging to outlawed political parties.

The group were among more than 250 Lebanese Christian supporters of jailed Lebanese Forces (LF) militia leader Samir Geagea and exiled army general Michel Aoun.

Many of those detained by the Lebanese army have already been released or tried on minor charges and given sentences of up to 45 days.

A Lebanese official said 17 members of the Lebanese Forces were still being held.

A judicial source told Reuters news agency that they were connected to the case of senior LF member Tawfik al-Hindi, who was charged on Monday with conspiring with Israel against Lebanon and Syria.

Lebanon is technically at war with Israel and all contacts with it are regarded as treason.

Those still detained face sentences of between three and 25 years.

The activists were rounded up between August 5 and 8 as part of a clampdown against Lebanon's Christian opposition, which calls for an end to the presence in Lebanon of some 25,000 Syrian troops.

On Sunday, Pope John Paul

II criticised the arrests, saying democracy could not be sacrificed for political interests of the moment.

BBC correspondent in Beirut said that the situation in Lebanon has been getting tenser by the day.

Reuters correspondent said Lebanese all over the country are hoping the outcome of the trials will help explain the turmoil their country has found itself in for the past two weeks.

Mr al-Hindi is being held along with two journalists - Antoine Bassil, a correspondent for Saudi Arabia's MBC television, and Habib Younis, who works for the London-based international Arabic daily *al-Hayat*.

## Media crackdown in Zambia

Two journalists and two opposition politicians were said to be in hiding Monday following the issue of arrest warrants after they accused Zambian President Frederick Chiluba of corruption.

Police said the four who face defamation charges include Edith Nawaki and Dipak Patel of the newly formed Forum of Democracy and Development, FDD and the editor of the *Post* newspaper Fred M'membe and his reporter Bivan Salueski.

The *Post* had carried an editorial and an article in which the politicians had alleged that President Chiluba had diverted \$4m allocated for emergency aid.

The food aid money has been missing since 1997. The government allocated it to buy corn, which never arrived.

The warrant followed President Frederick Chiluba's statement over the weekend which said he is considering taking legal action against them.

A police spokesman in the capital, Lusaka, has been quoted as saying: "All the police station in the country have been directed to arrest and detain any of them if seen."

But the issue of the warrant has met with a hostile reaction from civic and opposition groups.

They are urging Zambians to sign a petition which says: "Chiluba is a thief".



Residents of the shanty town of Ghasharat, near Khartoum, where scores of families have been rendered homeless as the river burst its banks and destroyed embankments on Monday.

TRUST INTERNATIONAL

World Report

Thatcher backs Duncan Smith

Lady Thatcher has revealed her support for Duncan Smith in the Tory leadership contest, saying Kenneth Clarke would steer the party to "disaster".

The former prime minister described Mr Clarke as a man "at odds" with the majority of his party members on "too many issues".

In a letter to the *Daily Telegraph*, she says the Conservatives would be deeply split under Mr Clarke.

Her comments follow the two candidates publishing their manifestos and the despatch of ballot papers to more than 300,000 party members on Monday.

In the letter, Mrs Thatcher said Mr Duncan Smith would make a better leader.

She said: "I simply do not understand how Ken could lead today's Conservative party to anything other than disaster.

"He appears to be an even keener enthusiast for the euro than is the prime minister, let alone the chancellor.

"He seems to view with blithe unconcern the erosion of Britain's sovereignty in Europe."

She said she feared that under Mr Clarke, the Tories would be exposed as a party weakened by confusion and contradiction.

She said: "Time and again, Europe will be at the forefront of politics.

"Time and again, the Conservatives would be exposed as either hopelessly split or deeply cynical - either openly rebelling against their leader or going along with policies which they knew - and which others knew they knew - to be wrong."

She continued: "I am confident that, if elected leader, Iain will restore the Conservative party's faith and fortunes.



Gen. Joseph Ralston, Supreme Commander of NATO in Europe, left, is met by Major General Gunner Lange, Commander of the Task Force for Operation Essential Harvest.

NATO plans to disarm Albanian

rebels  
NATO's chief commander is to meet the alliance's leaders to advise them whether NATO should give the go-ahead for a full-scale mission to disarm ethnic Albanian rebels in Macedonia.

General Joseph Ralston is preparing his report after making a whistle-stop tour of the ex-Yugoslav republic on Monday.

Earlier on Monday, an advance unit of British soldiers arrived in Macedonia and met rebel commanders to discuss how the weapons would be collected.

NATO has said it will send a further 3,500 troops on a 30-day operation once it is confident a shaky ceasefire between the rebels and government forces has taken hold.

General Ralston held talks with Macedonian President Boris Trajkovski and other government ministers and met NATO officials already in

Macedonia.

He will take his findings back to NATO's 19-member North Atlantic Council.

"Then it will be up to the nations of NATO as to what to decide," General Ralston said at the end of his visit.

A BBC correspondent in Brussels says that although the ceasefire has not been perfect, there is growing pressure on NATO to act now, in case the fragile political agreement in Macedonia begins to unravel.

Hours before General Ralston arrived, rebels clashed with government troops near the village of Poroj, near the northern town of Tetovo, although observers say the level of clashes has lessened in recent days.

NATO ambassadors in Brussels have been weighing up the risks of moving quickly into an unstable country against the dangers of a further deterioration in the situation while they wait.

If the advance guard decide

that conditions are not appropriate, the NATO mission will be abandoned and the rest of the troops will not be sent.

Correspondents say nobody expects the rebels to surrender all their guns, but they will need to give up several thousand weapons for it to be a meaningful gesture.

The plan is that the rebels will collect their own weapons and deposit them at pre-arranged collection sites.

NATO troops will then move in, seal the area, pick up the guns for destruction in a third country and leave.

Teams from the 400-strong British-led advance guard on Monday went into the rebel-held village of Nikustak, about 16 km north-east of the Macedonian capital Skopje, where they made contact with local rebel leaders.

They discussed details of how the disarmament mission, dubbed Operation Essential Harvest, would work.

Black activist bids for White House

The controversial black civil rights activist, the Reverend Al Sharpton, has announced that he is to take the first step towards running for the presidency in 2004.

Mr Sharpton was last week released from prison, where he served a 90-day sentence for trespassing at a military camp.

He was protesting against the navy's use of a bombing range on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques.

Mr Sharpton said that he wanted to halt the Democratic Party's drift to the political right.

He has formed an exploratory committee prior to launching a bid for the Democratic nomination for the next US presidential elections.

The committee is to be headed by the prominent Harvard academic, Professor Cornel West, who supported Green Party candidate Ralph Nader in the 2000 election.

Its job will be to determine the scope for a Sharpton bid for the presidency - how much support he can attract from other black leaders, how easy would it be to raise money to fund a campaign, and so on.

The BBC's Jonathan

Marcus says that in getting in well ahead of the field, Mr Sharpton is putting down a marker.

He told the BBC that his principal focus was the need to reform the Democratic Party itself.

"I think that we must deal with the abandonment of progressive ideas of some of the leadership of the Democratic Party and the need to force this party to clarify its position on things like public education, the criminal justice system and international policy," he said.

Correspondents say that Mr Sharpton has little or no chance of actually winning the Democratic nomination, let alone the presidency.

But our correspondent says that the civil rights activist clearly hopes to emerge as a key power broker to influence the party's agenda and to have an important say over who becomes its standard bearer in the next presidential race.

Sharpton is a founder of a civil rights organization called National Action Network.

He made two unsuccessful bids for the US Senate in 1992 and 1994 and ran for New York mayor in 1997 but lost.

DIPLOMATIC Suite



Sierra Leone: The things men do

By Abdulazeez Abdullahi

The world's attention was again drawn to the plight of victims of the fighting in Sierra Leone a few weeks back when a 10-year-old Sierra Leonean was said to have been denied entry into the United Kingdom for medical treatment due to government bureaucracy or red tape. The young lad, Issa Kamara, was abducted by rebels and roasted over a fire while his mother was forced to clap and sing as she watched.

Since the Sierra Leonean civil war started some years ago, there have been countless reports of acts of barbarism and harrowing atrocities perpetrated by the rebels who were at one time led by their erstwhile leader, Fode Sankor, the rebels unleashed a reign of terror over civilians in the country, presiding over gruesome murders and maiming of innocent children whose only crime perhaps was being Sierra Leoneans on 'the other side.' The rebels, to my mind, should at once be facing charges at the war crimes tribunal. Dialoguing with them and signing peace accords is akin to confirming some form of legitimacy to their course. They know too well that modern society is

Whatever their short comings, ECOMOG and UNAMSIL's efforts at restoring and maintaining the relative peace in the country is indeed commendable.

not built on savagery and gross inhumanity as they've exhibited.

Whatever their short comings, ECOMOG and UNAMSIL's efforts at restoring and maintaining the relative peace in the country is indeed commendable. For without them, Sierra Leone may have seized to be a nation by now or it probably would have become one full of amputees whose lives is condemned to beggarliness and poverty.

A newspaper in the United Kingdom, the *Eastern Daily Press* was reported to have raised the required money to fly Issa to London where specialists are to carry out an operation to save his hands. The poor child must, despite the hardships he had gone through, consider himself lucky, after all his situation is redeemable. Our hearts, however, go out to many others who are not so fortunate, whose present state is now so irreversible.

It is baffling though why the British government had to come under intense pressure from individuals and organisations before it could allow Issa to be flown over for the operation. The red tape which almost marred the trip was hinged on NHS rules which stipulate that the boy could not receive treatment because of a lack of 'reciprocal agreement' which in theory would allow UK nationals to travel for treatment in Sierra Leone in the same circumstance.

Very outrageous!

Odd World

Americans seek food in Italy

More and more Americans are visiting Italy not to see the sites of ancient Rome but to taste the delights of the rest of the country, according to a new survey.

Not only are long waits under the hot summer sun to get into sites such as the Colosseum turning visitors away, but the attractions of good wine, pasta and parmesan cheese are drawing people to other, lesser-known destinations.

A survey conducted by the tourist research group "Eta Meta" and published in the newspaper *la Repubblica* on Saturday indicated Americans are increasingly heading to Umbria in central Italy, to the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region in the far northeast and to the Mediterranean island of Sicily for their Italian experience.

A little over a quarter of those surveyed said they were choosing alternative locations because they wanted to get to know Italian cuisine better.

Another 21 percent said it was much more relaxing to be in the countryside eating wholesome Italian food after leaving stressful jobs and unhealthy diets in the United States.

And 17 percent said they were following in the footsteps of their Hollywood heroes. For years, Hollywood stars have enjoyed low-key vacations at quiet but luxurious villas in rural Italy, and it appears the trend is rubbing off.

"Americans are realizing that the Mediterranean diet is the best way to stay in shape and that courses in Italian cooking are better for handling stress than visiting a psychoanalyst," a statement accompanying the survey said.

# BUSINESS DAY

## Ethiopian Air flies Kano-Middle East route

From Musa Umar Kazaure, in Kano

Ethiopian national airliner, Ethiopian Air has introduced two weekly flights to Kano route to enhance its international connection flights to Middle East, other African countries, Europe and far eastern European countries.

The first flight, a Boeing 767 arrived Malam Aminu Kano International Airport last week amidst pomp and colour, carrying 43 passengers, among whom were 14 Ethiopian officials.

At a brief reception at the airport, the Ethiopian Ambassador to Nigeria, Kadafo Mohammed Hanfare said the introduction of the Kano route is aimed at further strengthening the bilateral relations between the two countries. He noted that the Ethiopian airliner has been coming to Nigeria for the past two decades and this is its first flight to Kano route.

He hoped that the introduction of the flights will be of mutual benefit to both countries.



Rabiu Kwankwaso, Kano State Governor

The Kano Commissioner of Finance, Dr. Hafiz Abubakar who represented Governor Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso at the ceremony congratulated Ethiopian Air, for introducing the Kano route, promising that Kano will be a good market for the airliner. He said that many businessmen from Kano travel to Saudi Arabia and Dubai frequently, the officials that they will not regret introducing the route.

The new flights, according to the Operations Manager in Kano, will be on Tuesdays at 1645 hrs and Thursdays at 1700 hrs from Kano to Adis-Ababa, Ethiopia. The Kano cultural dancers added colour to the airport ceremony.



President Obasanjo

## NDDC is broke, says MD

Barely six months after the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) received N2.6 billion from the Federal Government, its Managing Director, Chief Godwin Omene said the commission is in dearth of funds.

He also warned that except the federal

From Wisdom-Uduak Patrick, in Port Harcourt

government move very fast by providing funds to the commission, the objectives behind the establishment of NDDC could be threatened and crisis may set in as the expectations of the people of the area were high.

The Managing Director, who gave the warning noted that the government's desire to effectively develop the rural communities in the Niger Delta states should not be jeopardised with the problem of funding.

Receiving a set of documents entitled "survey generic" presented by the Nigerian Institute of Surveyors (NIS), Rivers State branch, the NDDC helmsman enlisted the support of the body of surveyors in the raging battle against attempts by the government to starve the

commission of funds.

Omene, while thanking the surveyors for their well-articulated views as contained in the documents, he assured the NIS of immediate registration both as contractors and consultants, said contracts that could enhance rural development would only be awarded based on the availability of funds.

But while the NDDC managing director is appealing for funds, analysts of the development at the agency said that the organisation was gradually following the footpath of other similar agencies.

The State Directors National Orientation Agency (NOA), Professor Fred Alasia told Business Day that it was business as usual in the NDDC. According to him, since its inception there is nothing

concrete on the ground to show for the N2.6 billion government recently released to them.

*Business Day* gathered that the money was almost gone as hotel bills. "About 16 of them are in different suites in Hotel Presidential, Port Harcourt at N15,000.00 per night food and laundry exclusive."

Professor Fred Alasia said money spent so far by the commissions' officials in hotel would have been more than enough to rent three bedroom flats for its senior officials and still remain for fiscal projects that would better the life of the people of Niger Delta.

He warned that NDDC was gradually going the way of NDBDC, DFFRI, OMPADEC and other similar agencies used to waste government funds that would have been directed at developing the areas around the Niger Delta region.

## GSM charges outrageous -NLC

The Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) has called on the federal government to compel the managements of the three licensed operators of Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) in the country to bring down the cost of their services.

The congress accused the managements of ECONET, MTN and NITEL of taking undue advantage of the thirst of Nigerians for efficient telecommunications services by imposing on them the highest tariffs for one of the "oldest" technology in the telecommunications field.

The congress called was contained in a press statement by the NLC and made available to *Business Day*.

The press statement titled: "Federal Government must stop GSM operators from exploiting Nigerians," signed by the NLC President, Comrade Adams Oshiomhole, stated that "a glance at the tariffs suggest that they are not only the highest in the world, but are also unreasonable, outrageous, unacceptable and totally at variance with our own situation."

According to the statement, the down payment of N50,000, for a new subscriber is quite outrageous for the same services are obtained for N13,673 in South Africa, the home country of MTN, N14,500 in Togo and N28,000 in Zimbabwe, the base of ECONET.

The NLC boss explained that the high charges demanded by the operators of GSM represent a betrayal of ordinary Nigerians who were led by these companies to believe that GSM could be afforded by salary earners.

Said he: "We are also

From Samson Ojo, in Lagos

persuaded to believe that access charge by the operators is absolutely unnecessary and contradicts the principle of competition and it confirms our fear of monopoly practices.

The congress argued that the high tariff currently being advertised by the licensed GSM operators, is a conspiracy of sorts between the operators and the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) because the latter cannot claim ignorance of what obtains in the neighbouring countries.

The text of the statement read: "The truth of the matter remains that Nigeria being potentially the biggest GSM market in Africa should offer the cheapest tariffs, if the universal principle of the volume determining the unit price applies."

The congress expressed disappointment that NCC is allowing the GSM operators to rip-off Nigerian consumers.

While calling on the Federal Government and the NCC to call the GSM operators to order, the statement explained that the Federal Government has a fundamental responsibility and duty at protecting its citizens from the brazen rip-off which the GSM providers have started implementing.



Comrade Adams Oshiomhole, NLC President

## Workers disrupt Nigeria Airways operations again

The embattled Nigeria Airways Limited (NAL) had its operations disrupted again Monday, as its workers trooped out to protest the Federal Government's silence on the cancellation of permission granted to the airline by British Civil Aviation Authority (CBA).

The aggrieved workers blocked the portion of the road leading to the Presidential lounge of the Murtala Mohammed

From Shakirat Abdulmajeed, in Lagos

International Airport, Lagos, but were prevented from entry by the team of airport police command.

The placard carrying workers were seen chanting anti-government slogans, particularly against the Aviation Minister, Dr. (Mrs.) Kema Chikwe. Some of the placards read "Chikwe must go," "the sacking of Yomi Jones is not the solution to the problem of Nigeria

Airways."

They vowed to make activities in the national carrier impossible if the federal government refused to address issues affecting.

The workers were however dispersed by armed policemen who shot canisters of tear gas into the air.

As the tear gas enveloped the air, the demonstrating workers retreated as they run for safety.

## Giwa tasks FG on GSM

Former President of Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), Chief Rufus Giwa, has urged the federal government to make the recently launched Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) affordable to ordinary Nigerians.

Speaking in an exclusive chat with our correspondent, Giwa was of the opinion that "if effected, low charges has the potential of enhancing the socio-economic development of the country and its people."

His words: "The poor man on the street should not suffer for everything in the country, including the right

From Olumide Bajulaiye, in Abeokuta

to communicate. The common man should not suffer when his next door neighbours in Ghana and Republic of Benin are enjoying the same facilities."

The former Lever Brothers Managing Director stressed further that "If everybody has access, it will assist us greatly. If I have to discuss anything with my brother in Oko in Ondo State, he need not to travel to Lagos for such discussion - he will stay there and discuss with me."

He decried the recent GSM rates rolled out by NITEL as too high for the common man, and appealed for a review.

Making phones available to Nigerians, Giwa explained would go a long way "in saving the lives of our people through avoidable deaths on our roads and enhance social and business interactions"

The business mogul insisted that "if Ghana could have a system in whereby the poor man could use telephone, then Nigeria should also have it, that is my position."



Kema Chikwa, Aviation Minister

## APC sets up website for Nigerian dealers

American Power Conversion (APC) has established a website to provide its Nigerian dealers with needed information to enhance their operations.

This was disclosed to *Business Day* in Lagos via an e-mail by APC's marketing manager for Africa, Jacqui Gradwell, who stated that the website

From Bright Ewulu, in Lagos

dedicated to the southern African channel will also serve two other countries - South Africa and Kenya.

According to her, "dealers can now check for upcoming trade shows and APC events in their region."

Apart from this, she stated that company's news, press releases and product informations will be made

accessible to the dealers via the website.

Gradwell was emphatic that the resellers in the above named countries stand to gain from APC online sales support and technical assistance where necessary.

"Technical assistance includes an online chat facility for priority support and interactive Power Supply (PS) sizing

application," she stated.

She stated further that: "Not only do our resellers qualify for a personalised web-page on the website, but we also provide a regular e-mail newsletter."

Meanwhile APC has launched a UPS unit that combines USB and serial connectivity in the same model. The product comes in two versions - Back-UPS CS 500 and Back-UPS CS 350 with a run time of 22 and 16 minutes respectively.

# BUSINESS DAY

## Nigeria may lose N58b to vandalism - Shell boss

The nation faces the risk of losing \$5.8 billion (about N58 billion) daily oil revenue due to the increasing rate of vandalism of Shell Pipelines in Ogoniland.

Deputy Managing Director, Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Limited (SPDC), Mr Egbert Imomoh who was briefing energy correspondents recently in Lagos lamented that "the 28inch and 24inch Trans-Niger Pipelines carrying crude oil from our land fields and also third party production are being

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, in Lagos

vandalised and set on fire." This, Mr. Imomoh warned, could lead to a deferment of over 240,000 barrels per day.

He noted that vandalism had continued on buried pipelines that pass through the Ogoniland to the Bonny Terminal, stressing that if these activities are not curtailed immediately, there would be untold damage to the environment as well as the economy.

Mr. Imomoh also spoke on theft of SPDC pipelines, disclosing that during a tour of the area last week, the company discovered that the old unused 12inch Bomu-Bonny gas delivery lines were being evacuated, neatly cut and trucked away in large quantities.

According to him, since

the beginning of this year, SPDC has recorded 39 cases of pipeline vandalism, stressing further that since the company left Ogoniland in 1993, its facilities left behind including the flow stations, flowlines, pipelines have been subjected to persistent vandalism.

## ...Predicts oil boom 2010

Shell's Head of Evaluation and Identification in the Exploration Department, Mr. Ralf Hoffmann has expressed confidence that the year 2010 target to meet a huge oil reserve of 40 billion barrels is achievable.

He was speaking after his technical presentation at the monthly meeting of the Nigerian Association of Petroleum Explorationists

The Chairman, Board of directors of NICON Plc, Ambassador Yahaya Kwande has decried low level of participation of the government and people of Plateau State in the nation's insurance industry, particularly NICON Insurance Corporation.

Ambassador Kwande, who is also an indigene of the state made this known recently when he led the board members of the insurance company on a visit to the state governor, Chief Joshua Dariye at Rayfield, Jos.

## NICON boss tasks Plateau govt on insurance

From Buhari Bello, in Jos

He said that records available showed a low level of patronage "from the people and government of Plateau State and it is really very sad," stressing that other states were enjoying the full benefit of the insurance services.

The board chairman warned such establishments in the state against the risk of losing their property in an event of disaster and called on them to undertake

security cover with NICON. He called on institutions like the University of Jos to seize the opportunity because of their assets, saying that "this is the only way you can save your investment when trouble comes."

Ambassador Kwande further stressed that NICON could invest on its client's project only when it was being properly patronised.

Responding, the state governor, who was represented by his deputy Chief Michiel Bot Mang regretted the inability of the state to patronise NICON.

He assured that a machinery would be put in motion to ensure that all government organs in the state patronised the company by obtaining insurance on movable and non-movable properties.



Ron van den Berg, Shell MD

## Students press for HYPPADEC

The national body of the league of students of the four hydro producing states of Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara and Niger has called for the speedy enactment of the law establishing the

By Ahmed Shekarau

Hydroproducing Areas Development Commission (HYPPADEC).

A bill calling for the establishment of HYPPADEC has already

been sent to the lower house of the National Assembly, and is awaiting its second reading on the floor of the house.

Speaking to *Business Day* on the forthcoming national seminar on the commission proposed for the 27th of next month in Abuja, Proteim National Coordinator of the league, Comrade Abdulfatai L. Ibrahim stated that the seminar is intended to press further for speedy action on the bill.

Specifically, Comrade Ibrahim stated that "we want to use the opportunity of this seminar to draw the attention of the National Assembly and the Presidency on the need to speed-up action on the legislation to save our people from being turned to mere refugees by the ravaging floods."

He said thousands of houses and farmlands are being "sub-merged on a daily basis," stressing that the students league believe establishing the hydro-commission is "the only way our people could reap the dividends of democracy."

The proteim coordinator who said their league is funded through contributions by members and "little support" from some of their state governors, claimed that "we believe we are stakeholders in the ongoing effort towards consolidating the gains of the commission for the benefits of our people."

He said members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, academics and other prominent sons and daughters of the hydroproducing states will participate in the one-day seminar.

great potential to live up to expectation.

Commenting on drilling activities, the explorationist expressed confidence that it will increase in year 2002 even as licences expire in 2003.

In his presentation titled: "Regional Geologic Framework of the Niger-Delta Deepwater," Mr. Hoffmann noted that the remaining exploration potential is significant in the Niger Delta.

He added that "the deepwater portion of the Niger Delta basin presents a large volume target, with a total ultimate volume potential that appears to be comparable to other major deepwater basins around the world."

Mr. Hoffmann also said that the existing well control in the region showed trapped hydrocarbons have been encountered in 70 percent of prospects drilled.



Prisca Soares, NICON MD

## Indigenous participation

### Adamac clinches N2.4b Shell contract

An indigenous firm, Adamac Industries Nigeria has clinched a \$200 million (about N2.4 billion) contract from Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) for a pipeline project that would boost gas use.

The contract for Offshore Gas Gathering System (OGGS) was won against stiff competition from European, American and Korean contractors, the OGGS Project manager Robert Asgill disclosed in Shell's bulletin.

The pipeline project, according to SPDC, is a key element in its plan to eliminate routine flaring of associated gas, while facilitating the expansion of oil production offshore.

The engineering, procurement, installation and commissioning contract (EPIC) for the OGGS is to be executed by a consortium offirms, comprising DSND Subsea Nigeria Limited, (a subsidiary of Adamac Industries Nigeria) and stool offshore services.

The pipeline system is to collect and deliver associated gas from the new offshore oil field developments and excess associated gas from the west to the NLNG plant in Bonny. The project, SPDC said

included the installation of some 280kms of 3.2inch diameter trunkline, and receiving facilities at the NLNG, plant at Bonny, adding that Adamac Industries will establish a plant for the coating of linepipes at the Onne Oil and Gas Free Zone.

According to Shell's Development Director, John Barry, "it is part of SPDC's policy and vision to see the Nigerian oil and gas service contractor industry increase in size, competence, and ability, such that over time, Nigeria becomes the supply centre for the oil industry in West Africa."

He added, "Adamac Industries, an indigenous contractor based in Port-Harcourt, provides engineering and construction services to the oil and gas industry and is suitably positioned to contribute to SPDC's programme of efficiently using Nigeria's abundant gas reserves."

Also commenting on the consortium, OGGS project manager said "the consortium combines the relative strengths of a wholly owned indigenous contractor and an international offshore construction contractor, and as such is a major breakthrough for the offshore Nigeria oil and gas industry."

### TENDER NOTICE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA NIGERIAN TREASURY BILLS

Notice is hereby given by the Central Bank of Nigeria that 91-day Federal Government of Nigeria Treasury Bills amounting to N15,000 million will be issued by an auction-based system on Thursday, 30/08/2001.

Interested Authorized Dealers (Commercial/Merchant Banks, Designated Discount Houses and Brokers) are invited to submit tenders to reach the Public Debt Office, Central Bank of Nigeria, Lagos, not later than 1.30 p.m on Tuesday, 28/08/2001.

Each tender must be in multiple of N1,000, subject to a minimum of N10,000 per tender. Authorized Dealers are allowed to submit multiple bids and quote multiple rates. A tender may be for own account of Authorised Dealers or made on behalf of interested members of the public, who are advised to apply to their banks or Brokers for the Bills.

Tenders for the Bills should be submitted on the prescribed printed forms in duplicate and in sealed envelopes clearly marked iTENDER FOR BILLS. The result of the tender will be announced before the close of business on Tuesday, 28/08/2001. The Bank reserves the right to reject any tender in part or in full.

Allotment letters will be issued to successful tenderers on Wednesday, 29/08/2001. Payment in full for the amounts of the accepted tenders must be made to the Central Bank of Nigeria not later than 1.30p. m on the issue date 30/08/2001. This will normally be effected by direct debit to the accounts of the affected Authorized Dealers which should ensure that their accounts with the Bank are adequately funded for this purpose.

PUBLIC DEBT OFFICE  
CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA  
TINUBU SQUARE  
LAGOS.

**Jamaica is rich in a musical culture, which is rooted in a reggae tradition. How true is this and what are the other fields in which Jamaica has exhibited unique tendencies?**

Your question is very profound and wide. And perhaps I should begin by saying just how I perceive it on the basis of a definition of culture. Culture is defined as a total pattern of behaviour embodied in shared values, a common world view, relationships, belief, music, artefacts, expressed in the performing and visual arts of the people, and certainly it is confirmed in the common attitudes of the people. In this regard therefore every country is culturally rich. Where Jamaica stands out is in its ability as a small nation to impact upon the world. Jamaica has a population of approximately 2.6 million people occupying some 10,830sq kilometres of land space. But despite its small size the world has come to recognise Jamaica's reggae music both as a musical form and as the stirring chant of the oppressed and marginalized. A cross section of societies, the world over have identified with reggae, and Jamaica has influenced the world in many other ways. Its world view embraces equality of the sexes and races. Its colonial constitution of 1944 enshrined adult suffrage equally to both sexes. Its independence constitution of 1962 entrenched that provision. Jamaica's population is comprised of blacks roughly 91 percent, mixed roughly 7.3 percent, East Indians about 1.3, whites about 0.2 percent, Chinese 0.2 percent. Jamaica's motto is "Out of many, one people," and this is an expression of the equality of races.

Jamaica's determination to succeed as an expression of the quality of mind and shared values is demonstrated consistently through sports, its academic outlook and the intellectual challenges it poses. Our athletes have consistently demonstrated this kind of determination on athletics tracks, and most certainly in the major ath-

letic activities and in football. I think Jamaica so far is the smallest global population that has ever had a team at the world cup. We are hoping this time around to be there and maybe we will meet Nigeria. But there are many other ways that Jamaica has influenced the world. Jamaicans strongly believe in self-determination. We have consistently, as a nation and as a people, supported people all over the world who are struggling for self-determination. We have never lost the faith that everyone is entitled to his own place in the world.

**Late Nesta Marley (Bob Marley) used music to argue for the unity of the black race and heal the wounds inflicted through forms of racial conflict. In the 1970s for instance, he brought the People's National Party leader, Michael Manley and that of Jamaica's Labour Party, Edward Seaga to embrace peace. What has become of his legacy today?**

It is not that Bob Marley brought the leaders of the two main political leaders together in order to embrace peace. Jamaica has a viable democracy. We only have two political parties and these compete vigorously for the votes of the electorate. There are times when emotions run high. Then they sometimes resort to violence to make a statement. This to me underlines what happens in the Jamaican political context. The concert which was organised by Bob Marley and others was entitled "The peace concert" and that was in 1979. At that time the two main political parties were actively engaged in campaigning for the votes of the electorate. The situation became tense, emotions ran high and violence erupted in different sections of the country. It was felt that there was need for unity. This concert was held and the two leaders were invited to attend. So they both attended. And probably the glamour at that occasion was to have both leaders embracing and holding hands. It was a show of unity and also a sign of peace. I think the election was perhaps the

# The Kingston conflict is n

*Mr Carl Marshall is the Jamaican High Commissioner to Nigeria. At the Foreign Desk, he provides a perspective on the famous Jamaican imbroglio, the phenomenal position of Bob Marley in Jamaican culture, both in Jamaican politics, and Jamaica's warm and enduring ties with*



bloodiest election in Jamaican history.

We have had general elections in 1989, 1993 and 1996. After 1980, we have had very peaceful elections. So can we see that as a reflection of the peace concert? I believe that both parties resolved that they should make an effort to contain the enthusiasm of their own supporters. That to me resulted in the peaceful general elections in subsequent years.

**Now elections are around the corner in Jamaica. But Jamaica is now going through the pains of interparty squabbles with lots of lives and properties destroyed. What is the genesis of this?**

In the past, campaigning for the people's votes has resulted in some of the violence and in almost every single election, after that of 1980 people have come to associate any sort of communal conflict as partisan. But in my own opinion the communal conflicts taking place in Jamaica now are not inspired by partisan politics. It's just because many communities are polarised between the respective parties. It is very easy to claim that any kind of conflict, any kind of disturbance is really triggered by political rea-

sons. But in the midst of it there is also the problem of criminality and I refer to raw criminality. The problem of drug trafficking also compounds the problem. This is a new phenomenon, which seems to have overcome Jamaica in the last few years. This was generated by a group of persons whom we call deportees. Many of them are persons who were born in Jamaica but who were bought up outside Jamaica. And many left Jamaica when they were one year or two years of age and they have never really lived in Jamaica, but they remain Jamai-

and they feel that the best way to deal with them is to send them back home. So they return to Jamaica and when they come back they return as criminals.

So we are having that problem in Jamaica where violence and criminal activities have reached a height. From the reports of the constituted authority, the police, are saying that these conflicts may have been triggered by such persons. So in my view it is not politically motivated. It has a strong criminal background to it.

**In the wake of the recent violence in West Kingston**

**various political parties to perpetuate violence to pave the way for malpractice next year's election. How true is this allegation?**

I don't think this is true. The question has to do with the wake of the recent violence in West Kingston. West Kingston describes the Western part of the city of Kingston. It describes a constituency as well as violence that is taking place in Jamaica. It is taking place more in the area of West Kingston, which is the Western part of Kingston. Well, that is one constituency. We have 60 constituencies. West Kingston as a constituency is a stronghold of the Jamaica Labour Party. The leader of the opposition had held this constituency ever since he was elected over 30 years ago. The Peoples National Party during this period has never held this constituency. The Jamaican Labour Party had no fear of losing this constituency. The People's National Party does not see West Kingston as a constituency that needs to win in order to form a government. So there is no need for both political parties to be fighting over that particular constituency. There is no need at all. If the violence were widespread, then it would suggest something quite different. But it is contained within the constituency of West Kingston, which is a stronghold of the Labour Party, and it is not a strong desire of the Peoples National Party to win it.

**The Prime Minister, Mr. Patterson deployed the police and the soldiers to control the violence in West Kingston. But Edward Seaga has accused them of instigating violence in his stronghold. Do you think**

**But in my own opinion the communal conflicts taking place in Jamaica now are not inspired by partisan politics. It's just because many communities are polarised between the respective parties. It is very easy to claim that any kind of conflict, any kind of disturbance is really triggered by political reasons. But in the midst of it there is also the problem of criminality and I refer to raw criminality.**

can citizens. They developed criminal habits when they were abroad.

These foreign countries don't know how to handle them

some people including the Editor of the Sunday Herald in Kingston, Franklyn McKnight believe that party loyalists have been encouraged by the



**His Excellency, the Most Honourable Sir Horward Cooke, O.N., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., C.D.**

# Interview

## Not a political one — Jamaican High Commissioner

In this interview with Musa Aliyu of our tradition of Reggae music, the Kingston culture and politics, the role of Queen Elizabeth II in Nigeria. Excerpts.



through enhanced police training. Why is there a serious concern on the matter at this point in time?

Jamaica and Britain have had bilateral relations for a long time. Part of the bilateral relations include technical assistance from Britain to Jamaica in the training of the Jamaican police. So this has been going on for a long time. The offer of a donation is only a part or rather perhaps a new aspect of the bilateral agreement. It could be that the Jamaican police needs extra training in dealing with the kind of violence. So, perhaps Britain has agreed to support the request for enhanced training in this context.

So, it does not have to do with the fear of the gunmen moving to London?

No, I don't think so. I think it is more a question of the type of training given to Jamaica by Britain. This suggests that there is the need to strengthen other areas. Certainly if you are assisting with the training of police you would be assisting with the training of the police so that the police would be able to do their work. Part of the police work in Jamaica is to prevent violence. This additional amount is only just to upgrade what it has already on the ground.

Jamaica has recently been rated alongside Malta and Morocco as having efficient health care services over and above countries like U.S., U.K. and Canada. What are the facts behind this?

Are you sure of the source of information?

I am sure of my source.

If you tell me now that you are sure of your source, it makes me feel very good that

more light on this arrangement?

Yes we have a parliamentary democracy with Queen Elizabeth of Britain as the titular head of state, which means that she has no executive powers. She has only ceremonial powers, and duties. Mr. Patterson is the head of government because in a parliamentary democracy, the head of state is always different from the head of government. In the presidential system of government he is one and the same person. It may seem usual today, but we started off much like Nigeria. You started with a parliamentary system with the Queen as ceremonial head, though Nigeria had a governor-general. But there are a few remaining countries like Jamaica, Barbados, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and perhaps there are even more than these that have opted to be republics. The concept 'Republic' means they are still attached to the commonwealth but their head of state is someone from your country like what obtains in Trinidad and Tobago and Dominican Republic, which was the first to have done this. So, the Anglophone African countries mostly operate the presidential system.

We are still with it. It is a monarchical system in the sense that the Queen of Britain is the titular head. We have a governor-general who represents the Queen. His function is not executive either. His functions are merely ceremonial. This has been so in Jamaica since 1962 and we became independent in 1962. We have had discussions coming up as to whether the system should be reformed. The system is still with us, and ob-



Mr. Carl Marshall

before Jamaica. We studied your 1960 constitution when we were developing our 1962 constitution. So we have always had close a relationship with Nigeria. Perhaps it is a coincidence and perhaps not. We started in Africa with our resident mission, which began in Ethiopia. Because of financial constraints the Ethiopian mission was closed.

The decision to re-open our resident mission in Africa as soon as possible there after, was motivated by our conscious understanding of our cultural affinity, and historical ties. It was imbued by our strong desire to reconnect with our motherland and the need to strengthen support for our mutual, social and

geria. We now service all the other countries from Nigeria. That means the headquarters in Nigeria. But soon we expect to establish another resident mission to service the countries of Eastern and Southern Africa. The decision as to where will similarly be determined.

The bilateral relation is extensive and it has met with some success. We have a technical aid programme and many nurses from Nigeria go to Jamaica, and others in the medical field go to Jamaica based on an arrangement between the Jamaican and the Nigerian government.

In terms of trade, we buy oil from Nigeria and we are looking at other aspects of development. But I should tell you the first bilateral oil arrangement between Nigeria and Jamaica started under the President, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo (in 1979). We are enhancing this relationship under his presidency again.

But the relationship is deep and strong on the side of the leadership of both countries. It is very strong in G77 and G80 and all the smaller committees seem to have Nigeria and Jamaica. At the U.N. we support each other, and all the other international bodies. There are several Jamaicans here in Nigeria. We have many Jamaican women who are married in Nigeria. We allow dual citizenship, so that offspring of the people will be Jamaican. We treat women in Jamaica with equality. When I said there was equality of sexes earlier, I was very serious because the spouse of a Jamaican female has many rights in Jamaica as the spouse of a Jamaican male. The child of a Jamaican female has equal rights as the child of a Jamaican male. So we treat both sexes equally and you see that doesn't happen in many countries.

**So we are having that problem in Jamaica where violence and criminal activities have reached a height. From the reports of the constituted authority, the police, are saying that these conflicts may have been triggered by such persons. So in my view it is not politically motivated. It has a strong criminal background to it.**

we are so efficient. Jamaica's Primary healthcare system has been effective and I think it is as a result of the kind of effort that we put into primary health care, that Jamaica's health care is so highly rated today. We have had primary health care at the community level. I think the effectiveness of this system is what has underpinned the efficiency of the primary health care services.

Your country operates a constitutional parliamentary Democracy with Queen Elizabeth II as the Chief of State and Prime Minister, Mr. Percival Patterson as the Head of Government. Can you shed

viously a national decision has not taken place as to whether that should be changed.

What is your assessment of your country's relations with Nigeria?

We have had a very long, profound, and cordial relationship with Nigeria. In fact there are many Jamaicans who believe that their ancestors are from Nigeria. Certainly most black people in the West would be able to trace their ancestry to some countries in the coast of Africa, and Nigeria is included within this group. We don't know whether we are Yoruba or Ibo or Hausa. Nigeria became independent two years

economic growth. In addition, Jamaica is the largest English speaking independent country outside of Africa. We see our reconnection with Africa as one of great importance.

The decision as to where to establish such a mission bore in mind, to a large extent, questions of reciprocity, depth and breath of existing country-to-country relationship and geographical location vis-à-vis access to other accredited countries.

In this regard there was no hesitation in deciding on Nigeria. So the only resident mission we have in Africa is in Ni-

political leaders should meet and cooperate in the effort to achieve peace.

The British Prime Minister, Tony Blair, recently paid a visit to Jamaica amidst the unrest. Do you think this visit has to do with the fear that the violence will extend to London with "Yardie" gunmen shifting base? It seems they are shifting on a daily basis according to reports.

Prime Minister Blair's visit to Jamaica really emanated from a proposal made in 1999 in Durban, South Africa that Caribbean heads of governments and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom should meet to discuss a re-orientation of the UK-Caribbean relationship. So that visit was planned a long time ago. It is a coincidence that the two events happened at that time. In Jamaica he met with the heads of governments from the Bahamas, Barbados, and Guyana, St. Kitts and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. So Prime Minister Blair's visit to Jamaica was planned a long time ago.

Britain has offered the Jamaican government a donation of \$285,400 to fight gangsterism and drug crimes

of them are doing enough to restore peace in the area?

Well, I think the Prime Minister as head of government has a responsibility to ensure the safety of citizens across the nation. If a situation develops which requires the presence of the police and the soldiers, I think it is the responsibility of the government to ensure that its own constituted authority, that is the police and soldiers, should be used to bring the situation under control. If that were done, then I would say the Prime Minister is doing his best to control the situation. Violence is not one sided and the real issue is whether the other side is now ensuring that peace reigns. I really can't say that enough is not being done. But what I can really say is that the Prime Minister as the leader of government in calling out the soldiers and the police and he has done what he is expected to do as the political leader of the country.

Directly related to the above is the fact that the Prime Minister has extended the "Olive branch" to the leader of the opposition. What does this really signify?

Jamaica is both an interesting and unique society. There is no war between the politicians. The olive branch suggests that you are calling for peace. There is no war between politicians. I think what has happened is that the Prime Minister had invited the leader of the opposition to meet with him so that they would discuss the matter. I think that is really what the Prime Minister is up to. It is just that he wishes to extend the olive branch because there is no war between politicians, but rather to ask that both po-

# Features

## Remembering the legacy of late Sa'adu Zungur

By Danlami Baban Takko

In his book "Sa'adu Zungur - An Anthology of the social and political writings of a Nigerian Nationalist," Professor A.M. Yakubu of the Nigerian Defence Academy, Kaduna, Says: "Sa'adu Zungur is one of the unsung heroes of Nigeria's anti-colonial struggle. A perspicacious mind, effulgent poet, visionary, erudite scholar, radical politician and Nationalist..."

Born on 24 November 1914 in Bauchi, the young Sa'adu started his early primary education at the age of six at the Bauchi provincial primary school. He enrolled at the Bauchi Elementary school and from there he successfully passed the entrance examination into the Katsina Higher College, the highest institution of learning in Northern Nigeria at that time. Sa'adu spent only a year as a science pupil teacher in Katsina and was transferred to the newly established Yaba Higher College in Lagos, a formidable Institution of learning in colonial Nigeria. When Sa'adu left Katsina for Yaba in 1934, he became the first Northerner to be sponsored by the colonial administration for studies outside the region. However, when Sa'adu came home for the holidays, he refused to return to Lagos.

In 1935, he again enrolled at the Kano school of Hygiene and was in 1939 transferred to the Zaria School of pharmacy.

In Zaria, Sa'adu started what could be described as his political career by founding the following associations: Hausa Youths keep fit class, Northern Nigeria Youth movement and northern provinces General Improvement Union. In the book "Sa'adu Zungur," professor Mahmud observed that the latter union soon became under suspicion by the colonial administration. This was made so because according to the author, the late Malam Aminu Kano (a disciple of Sa'adu) was quoted as saying that the activities of the union transcended the elitist need for a forum to socialise among themselves... Its meetings often turned into debates on the nature of the NA System and its conditions of service. Taboo subjects such as gender equality, etc were freely discussed at such meetings Sa'adu opined that unless women received modern education to enable them partake in government service, the North would one day suffer severe indignity within Nigeria.

No wonder, Barrister Haruna Yakubu, the Executive Secretary of the newly -

formed Sa'adu Zungur foundation described the late nationalist as, "the only single individual who struggled very hard to enlighten the people especially in the area of education." Outlining the objective of the foundation, the executive secretary said it is aimed at uplifting the educational, economic and social status of the youths in particular and to ensure the general development of the citizenry. In general however, Barrister Haruna Yakubu like Professor Mahmud is of the opinion that the late Sa'adu Zungur still remain unsung and therefore the foundation will do everything possible to project his legacies so that "those who do not know him will know him and for others to emulate him."

In "The memory of Sa'adu Zungur" a translation of an obituary by Aminu Kano "Tunawa da M. Sa'adu Zungur", Professor Mahmud quoted the late Malam as saying of Sa'adu, "...Malam Sa'adu is one of five people who have instilled politics in my mind. I do not think that in my long association with people, I have come across someone more intelligent than Malam Sa'adu. I have never met someone who is never tired of writing. Nor have I ever met someone with a more passionate distaste of the current state of this nation."

Indeed to prove what Malam Aminu had said of Sa'adu, the late Islamic Scholar Sheikh Abubakar Mahmud Gumi said in his book "where I stand": "Extremely intelligent and outspoken, Sa'adu Zungur was the son of the Imam of Bauchi. ...Perhaps because of his childhood experiences close to the Royal Palace, Sa'adu Zungur was unremitting in his attack against the corruption of the traditional rulers. The emirs, in particular, had been the subject of many of his poems published in the Newspapers. Furthermore, he had links with Nnamdi Azikiwe and other more prominent politicians in Lagos, at the time when one was immediately dismissed from government service if one was caught reading the *West African Pilot*, the newspaper which Azikiwe edited."

In an article titled: "Leadership in Nigeria: Taking advantage of Honest Frustration," which he sent and was published in Nigeria Review on 24 November 1945, Malam Sa'adu castigated the "stupid

old form of colonial administration" and the large number of unenlightened Natu-



Late Sa'ad Zungur

ral Rulers and Chiefs in Northern Nigeria." As a result of his various contributions in the form of articles

to the newspaper, Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe made him the correspondent of the *West African*

Pilot for the three North - Eastern Provinces of Adamawa, Bauchi and Borno. That was in 1946. Professor

Mahmud described Sa'adu's brand of journalism as going beyond the ordinary. He says: "He was interested in investigative reporting couched in journalistic scoops. His features and reports were characterised by their incisiveness, depth of investigation, preview, thought and topicality. He was determined, in the context of colonial experience of the Northern part of Nigeria, to expose individual governmental intemperance on matters affecting individual and common good."

In 1945, Malam Sa'adu Zungur was appointed the National Secretary of the National Council of Nigeria and the Camerouns (NCNC) led by Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe. In 1950 Sa'adu left NCNC and returned to the North where he actively participated in the formation of the Northern people's congress (NPC) initiated and founded by Dr.

Dikko, Tiyaje, Malam Yahaya Gusau and the late Abubakar Imam. When the Northern Elements' Progressive Union (NEPU) emerged in 1950, however, Sa'adu abandoned the NPC and joined it. According to Sa'adu, part of the reasons why he joined NEPU was: "I joined the crusade for Sawaba wilfully because it is obligatory for a people who are oppressed and repressed to wage a war for self-liberation."

True to his words Sa'adu fought hard and was unrelenting in the effort towards freeing his people (Northerners) from the shackles of ignorance and superstition among others. As a poet, Sa'adu employed his literary skills in this regard, he wrote his famous poems 'Wakar Bida' (against innovation) and Arewa, Jamhuriya Ko Mulukiya? (The North:)

## Behind the sacking of NAMA Boss

The sacking of the Managing Director of Nigerian Airspace management Agency (NAMA), Alhaji Ibrahim Auyo recently by the minister of Aviation has continued to generate ripples in the Aviation Industry. However, watchers view the decision of the minister as unjustifiable.

Although, the minister did not give any reason whatsoever for sacking the NAMA boss, analysts posited that Alhaji Auyo was being made to pay for his role in the controversy surrounding the earlier sack of Chief Rochas Okorocho, the former Chairman of NAMA board of directors by the minister.

Okorocho was removed for allegedly inflating the cost of the contract award for the purchase of radar equipment for the nation's airports.

Upon his removal Okorocho had contested this allegation vigorously, taking his case as far as the National Assembly to redeem his name.

Okorocho was later absolved and acquitted by the House of Representatives committee on Aviation which investigated the alleged scam, and maintained during the probe that the contract in question had been awarded before his appointment. As such, there was no way he could have inflated it.

From Shakirat Abdulmajeed in Lagos

Okorocho's claim was upheld by Alhaji Auyo. Thus, contradicting the minister's position that Okorocho was liable.

The contention by analysts that Auyo may have been victimised is probably informed by the fact that the minister was not known to have issued any query whatsoever to the NAMA boss for any offence before his sack.

There is a general confusion in the aviation industry that Alhaji Auyo, apart from doing his job very well, was the most honest and transparent of all the Chief executives of government's major parastatals in the aviation industry.

The sacking of the NAMA boss has portrayed the Nigerian aviation industry as unserious based on the fact that the aviation industry is just trying to pick up after a long period of its bastardisation which led to its being blacklisted by the international civil Aviation organisation (ICAO).

Analysts viewed the action of the minister as uncalled for arguing that the nation's aviation industry has long been yearning for professionals in various fields, to which the sacked NAMA boss belonged.

On the rumoured allegation that Alhaji Auyo was too

slow to manage a parastatal like NAMA, Industry watchers faulted this allegation as unjustifiable.

"When you look at the little time NAMA was set up and headed by Alhaji Auyo, the man has achieved a lot particularly in the area of navigational equipment."



Kema Chikwe Minister of Aviation

This can be attested to by the recent visit of the representatives of the Federal Aviation Administration of the United States (FAA) who inspected the nation's navigational aids and enquired about areas to assist Nigeria.

The creation of NAMA in January 2000 has no doubt brought Nigeria's aviation back into the limelight. This according to industry watchers was last week disrupted by the step taken by the minister to dismiss the pioneer

Managing Director who was behind the dreams.

Analysts argued that Auyo who has been in the bad books of the minister since the time he testified, was recently given a one week ultimatum by the minister to repair the radar at Abuja international airport, knowing fully well that such a project can never be achieved under one week.

Analysts however urged the minister to realise that the nation's aviation industry "is not a bread and butter affair" and as such should not be used to settle any political score again.

However, the ripples in the nation's aviation industry may not yet be over as the minister has advertised some posts of directors of Federal Airports Aviation of Nigeria (FAAN).

Those that may be affected included the Post of Director of Administration and Finance (DAF) which is currently held by Alhaji Ahmed Shuaibu, the minister has advertised for the position of director of Administration.

Others include the Director of Commercial Services, Airports Manager and the Post of director of Engineering. The Director of Engineering (FAAN) was sent on compulsory retirement three months ago for dereliction of duty during the inferno that gutted the local terminal on May 2000.

NEWS

# Jigawa to spend N40m on monuments

The new Ministry for Regional Development in Jigawa State has concluded plans to spend N40 million on monuments, parks, city gates and parade ground in Dutse, the state capital.

Speaking to some media correspondents in his office, the state Commissioner for Regional Development, Alhaji Ibrahim Baba Chaichai, said a befitting look would be bestowed on Dutse, before the end of this year.

He said the monuments would be 25 metres tall while satellite dishes are to be mounted on their tops with TV, FM stations and corner shops beneath them.

The commissioner said his ministry was poised to give all the main towns in the state, especially in the five emirates, the befitting look they deserved before the expiration of the present administration's tenure.

From Balam Muhammad Nasir, in Dutse

"It is part of our plans to build city gates at the main roads leading into the state capital," he said, adding that the ministry has earmarked N200 million for the project.

It is also part of the plan, he said, to build two mighty roundabouts in the capital city, while the road from Larabar-Tambari to Dutse as well as the by-pass, would be dualised.



Gov. Turaki Samuni

Township roads in all the five emirates are to be constructed, while rehabilitation of street lights will also be carried out at the cost of N150 million.

Alhaji Chaichai stressed that in order to maintain these structures, the ministry had already employed 120 permanent staff while two refuse disposal vehicles have been purchased to complement their duties.

Nigerian Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE), last weekend rejected the proposed 16 percent share to the local government from the federation account recommended by the Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission, arguing that it is against grassroots development.

NULGE's position was disclosed by the body's national president, Dr. Deji Akinwalere, who noted that the proposed revenue sharing

# NULGE rejects new revenue formula

From Yinka Oladoyinbo, in Ibadan

formula still maintained the status quo as it retained a large share of revenue to the Federal Government to the detriment of the states and local governments in the country.

Dr. Akinwalere further stressed that the local government workers opposed the proposed formula because the 16

percent grant allocated to the councils was an increase of only one percent over the period of 10 years.

"Our immediate reaction is to reject the proposal and to call on all Nigerians to reject it in the sense that most of the resources are still concentrated at the centre, the federal and the state," he added.

He expressed surprise



Engr. Tukur

that now that the trend the world over was the decentralisation of power, anyone abreast with modern development strategy would not recommend such a percentage, which he term as ridiculous and unacceptable.

"We are rejecting it and calling on the president and the National Assembly to reject it and they should as a matter of fact review it in favour of the third tier governments because most of the problems and political turmoils in Africa start normally as a result of concentration of resources and power at the centre," he said.

He, however, proposed a revenue sharing formula of 30 percent for councils, 40 percent for the states and 30 percent for the Federal Government, adding that this would enable the local governments settle the primary school teachers' salaries with ease since the salary was been deducted from the allocation.

"Nobody should be deceived that federal government have 41 percent, there are certain special funds, by the time you calculate the special funds, the Federal Government is having 53 percent of the statutory allocation" Dr. Akinwalere added.

He therefore opined that for better development to take place at the grassroots, enough fund should be made available from the federation account, "this will enable the people at the grassroots to have sense of belonging," he concluded.

# FG to purchase excess farm produce

The Federal Government has concluded plans to purchase excess farm produce from farmers in order to control the prices of agricultural products in the country.

The Minister of Information and National Orientation, Prof. Jerry

Gana, who announced the plans in Jalingo at a public forum, said that the measure was aimed at eliminating the activities of middlemen and produce sellers' associations.

Gana said that the Federal Government had identified the country's farmers as its last resort and assured that they would get real value for

their labour.

He condemned the unpatriotic activities of various food and commodity sellers across the nation, pointing out that such associations were capable of bringing a government down through their nefarious activities.

According to him, the Federal Government has directed the immediate establishment of three commodity marketing companies in partnership with genuine farmers as a first step towards protecting farmers from the middlemen.

Similarly, government has recapitalised the NACB with N50 billion to empower farmers to produce more, having viewed the activities of commercial banks as counter productive to the economy because of high interest rates on their credit facilities.

The minister therefore appealed to farmers to take advantage of the policy by investing massively in agriculture rather than using such funds for other purposes.

Also speaking at the forum, Gov. Jolly Nyame, enumerated his achievements which included the implementation of the new enhanced salary package to civil servants and political office holders.



President Obasanjo

# Muslim youths condemn ban on use of imported products

The National Council of Muslim Youth Organisations (NACOMYO) has expressed its worry over the recent decision by the Federal Executive Council to ban the use of imported second-hand products such as vehicles and clothing.

In a press release signed by NACOMYO national president, Ishaq Kunle Sanni, the council described. The decision as anti-masses, adding that speculations were that import duty on used vehicles was increased.

"The present decision to ban *tokunbo* vehicles which was announced by the transport minister, Mr. Ojo Maduekwe was rather a testimony to the insensitivity of the present government to the suffering of the Nigerian masses," NACOMYO said.

"Is the government not aware of the low purchasing

By Yakubu Ozohu-Suleiman

power of the teeming population of Nigerians? Are they not aware of the fact that for any average Nigerian to even buy *tokunbo* vehicle, he has to save for months or years?" the council asked.

The council also noted the 500 percent increase in

NITEL tariff, describing it as another anti-masses posture of the government.

The council observed that this was contrary to the earlier promise by the government to increase the number of users of telephone services in order to boost the economy and discourage the movement of people through travelling, adding that such increase in

tariff has adversely affected the subscribing powers of NITEL customers and led to the tossing of many lines.

While also frowning at the moves by the Federal Government to increase NEPA bills by next year, the council urged the government not only to rescind its decision to ban second hand *tokunbo* vehicles but to also reduce the import duty charged on them.

# High students' population blamed on expansion

The chairman of the governing council of the Federal Polytechnic, Idah, Prof. Olu Agbi, has attributed students' population increase in the polytechnic to the council's approval of the new School of Environmental Studies as well as other five academic programmes.

Prof. Olu Agbi stated this in Lokoja last weekend during a courtesy call on

From Mamman Akpea, in Lokoja

Governor Abubakar Audu of Kogi State.

According to the chairman, on assumption of office last year, his council met a new rector who was dynamic, and committed to the growth of the institution that has suffered serious setback in the past and was set to revert the ugly trend.

He revealed that the

number of students inherited by his council and new rector was below 2,000, for an institution where large sum of funds were being committed for the development of middle level man-power, so the need for change became necessary.

Prof. Agbi told Governor Audu that barely one year after the approval, students' intake now stood at over 6,000

The chairman equally revealed that a multi-purpose workshop complex for the school of environmental studies has been completed together with a lecture theatre for 500 students.

Prof. Olu Agbi added that construction of two large halls to take care of the growing students' population construction of staff complex as well as construction of a second gate through direct involvement of the staff as consultants were been carried out.

He said the institution would be 25 years by February next year and plans are in the pipeline to celebrate the silver jubilee during which the institution's fellowship would be conferred on Prince Abubakar Audu and other eminent Nigerians.

# Displaced persons threaten hunger strike

About 80,000 people taking refuge in Daudu and Ukpriam camps in Guma Local Government Area of Benue State have threatened to go on hunger strike if the committee members do not stop diverting relief materials meant for them.

The chairman of the refugees at Daudu camp, Mr. Zaayem Goja, while speaking to *Daily Trust* expressed his disappointment over the attitude of some committee members who capitalised on the condition of the victims to make quick money from

the sales of the relief materials to outsiders.

Mr. Goja condemned the action of the committee members who due to their selfish interest, have killed the morale of non-governmental organisations that are ready to assist the victims.

According to him, "five to seven persons die daily due to total absence of medical attention at Daudu and Ukpriam camps, despite the claim by the government to have enough drugs in the state."

He said some members of the committee set up by

the government have indulged in deliberate attempts to deny the refugees of food supply to the camps.

*Daily Trust* gathered that some blankets and mats donated to refugees were either found in private houses or open market.

When contacted, the State Commissioner for Agriculture, who is also the Secretary of the committee, Mrs. Elizabeth Shiluwa, denied the allegations but, however, urged the refugees to report whoever was involved in the suspected diversion to the police.

# Congratulations!!!

On the occasion of the Official Commissioning of the  
New Nigeria Police Headquarters, Abuja



•Alhaji Muhammadu Dan-Madami Sa'in Katagum

•Chief Steven Akiga, Hon. Minister of Police Affairs

The Chairman of the Board of Inland Bank (Nig) Plc

**DIG Muhammadu Dan-Madami (Rtd) mni, (Sa'in Katagum)**

&

**DIG Archibong Nkana (Rtd) - Director**

on behalf of themselves, other members of the Board,  
Management and Staff of Inland Bank (Nig) Plc wish to congratulate

*The Honourable Minister of Police Affairs*

**Chief S. Akiga**

and

*The Inspector-General of Police,*

**Mr Musiliu Smith**

on the occasion of the official commissioning of the  
New Ultra Modern Headquarters Building, Abuja.

**(LOUIS EDET HOUSE)**



# INSIDE POLITICS

## House faces N900m fine over bribery scandal

The controversial bribery allegation that rocked the House of Representatives mid last year may have been laid to rest as the House is faced with N900 million fine should it decide to re-open investigation into the matter.

Speaking with newsmen at the assembly premises recently, the chairman House of Representative Committee on Anti-corruption National Ethics and Values, Hon. Adams Jagaba, disclosed that court injunctions restricting the Lower Chamber from investigating the matter have already been served on the House.

Pledging his committee's commitment to fight misappropriation of public funds, Hon. Jagaba urged Nigerians to report (petition) any acts of bribery to

By Ahmed Tahir  
appropriate authority as failure to do so is an offence.

In fact section 23 of the Act has empowered every Nigerians to be a positive private investigator and failure to report bribery or gratification is an offence," he said.

While, promising that his committee would recommend



Na'abba

## Gemade tips Kure for second term

National chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Chief Barnabas Gemade, has advised those bidding to challenge Governor Abdulkadir Kure of Niger State to think twice before entering the race.

Gemade made the statement at the weekend during the PDP rally held at Bako Kontagora Stadium.

He said Governor Kure was a rare specimen in the ranks of PDP governors in view of his glaring achievements in the state and drew the attention of those at the rally to the level of transformation, which has taken place throughout the state.

Since the coming of Kure's administration in 1999, he said, many water projects have been completed, hospitals built and schools established.

"I have travelled all round and I have seen for myself," he said.

The chairman added that "this government is doing well in Niger State. Those who



Gemade

From Kashim Sule, in Minna  
want to challenge the governor therefore, should get ready."

The ambition of Governor Lamidi Adesina to be re-elected for a second term in the 2003 general election may be under threat as a group, the Agbeleoya have threatened to scuttle the re-election bid.

The leader of the group, Chief Mustapha Adeoye, told newsmen that rather than support the incumbent, the group has decided to back Chief Omololu Olunloyo, a one-time governor and an aspirant under the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

Chief Adeoye, who led eight other members of the group to Chief Olunloyo's house, told the former governor and his party supporters present at the occasion that the Agbekoya has concluded plans to stage a peaceful protest on August 29, over the insensitivity of Governor Adesina's administration to the plight of the common man.

He explained that the peaceful protest was meant to remind Governor Adesina about the strength and power of the Agbakoya.

Said he: "Governor Adesina instead of addressing the basic needs of the masses who voted him into office is busy tampering with the Obaship structure in the state to suit his whims and caprices.

The Agbekoya boss

to the presidency patriotic Nigerians who report acts of bribery or gratification for national awards. Hon. Jagaba, however, advised that such petition has to be substantiated noting that "it is an offence under Section 25 of the Act to make false statements that tend to mislead."

All nominees for any national award he suggested, should be cleared by the Independent Corrupt Practice and other Related Offences Commission.

## Moghalu urges N/Assembly to approve new revenue formula

National Secretary of the All Peoples Party (APP), George Moghalu, has urged the National Assembly to look at the parameters used by the Revenue Mobilisation, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) in working out the new revenue sharing formula among the three tiers of government.

The new sharing formula, which was presented to President Olusegun Obasanjo last Thursday, by

A bill that would make it compulsory for local government council chairmen in Rivers State seeking re-election to vacate their posts three months before the election was at the weekend signed into law by Governor Peter Odili.

The Act titled "Local government amendment bill" was among six other bills signed into law by the Rivers State governor.

Odili told newsmen that, the local government amendment bill would among other things regulate the activities of council chairmen in the state, and only allow for three-year term for council

the Chairman of RMAFC, Alhaji Hamman Tukur, proposed 41.3 per cent for the federal government, 31 per cent to the states and 16 per cent to the local governments.

While the new formula for the federal government was reviewed downward by about seven per cent, that of the states and local governments were increased by seven per cent and one per cent respectively.

Reacting to the new sharing formula, Moghalu

## Odili signs LG, five other bills

From Wisdom-Uduak Patrick, in Port Harcourt

chairmen.

The governor also signed into law the bill making female circumcision a crime in the state. According to Odili, "God who created women did not make any mistake, and even if he did he needs no human being to correct such."

Daily Trust also learnt that a monitoring committee would be set up to ensure strict compliance and proper implementation of the law, which takes immediate effect.

Also signed into law by

the governor were the state health and allied matters law, meant to check the activities of mushroom clinics and maternal issues.



Gov. Peter Odili

said: "There must be reasons why the commission came out with the proposal and the assembly should look at the parameters used in working out the formula to either increase or decrease the percentage."

The National Secretary said that like other Nigerians, members of the Assembly would want development to reach their constituencies, adding: "I think whatever they will do on the new formula, they should consider Nigeria first to enable every Nigerian reap the dividend of democracy."

Moghalu described the new sharing formula as a "welcome development," and said: "the truth about it is that whatever can be done to make development reach the grassroots will be welcomed."

He, however, said: "It is one thing to increase the

percentage and another to judiciously make use of it for the benefit of the people."

"So, it is my prayer that those who are given the responsibility to spend the money should be ready to use whatever they will get from the increase to make life meaningful to people of the country," he said.

Similarly, Sen. Sa'idu Dansadau, APP-Zamfara, commended the RMAFC for the proposed revenue sharing formula, saying that more should have been given to the states and local governments because of their greater responsibilities.

Dansadau urged members of the Assembly to have the interest of the nation at heart while considering the proposal, adding: "We should treat the issue with utmost importance."

## Group opposes Adesina's re-election

The ambition of Governor Lamidi Adesina to be re-elected for a second term in the 2003 general election may be under threat as a group, the Agbeleoya have threatened to scuttle the re-election bid.

The leader of the group, Chief Mustapha Adeoye, told newsmen that rather than support the incumbent, the group has decided to back Chief Omololu Olunloyo, a one-time governor and an aspirant under the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

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Said he: "Governor Adesina instead of addressing the basic needs of the masses who voted him into office is busy tampering with the Obaship structure in the state to suit his whims and caprices.

The Agbekoya boss

condemned Governor Adesina for his divide and rule tactics in governing the state and commended Olunloyo for the laudable achievements recorded during his short-lived administration in 1983.

From Samson Ojo, in Ibadan

## AD chairman solicits direct funding for INEC

Chairman of Alliance for Democracy (AD), Alhaji Abdulkadir Ahmed, said in Abuja Monday that INEC must get its revenue allocation direct from the federation account for it to be autonomous.

The proposed new revenue sharing formula presented to President Olusegun Obasanjo last week by the Revenue Mobilisation, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) did not make any special provision for the electoral body.

In the proposed revenue sharing formula, the federal government would get 41.3 per cent of federally-collected revenue, while states and local governments would get 31 per cent and 16 per cent respectively.

The balance of the money to the derivation, ecological, FCT development, agriculture, solid minerals development and the Universal Basic Education funds.

Reacting to the proposed sharing formula, Ahmed said for INEC to be independent of the executive and to conduct free and fair elections, it must draw its funds from the federation account.

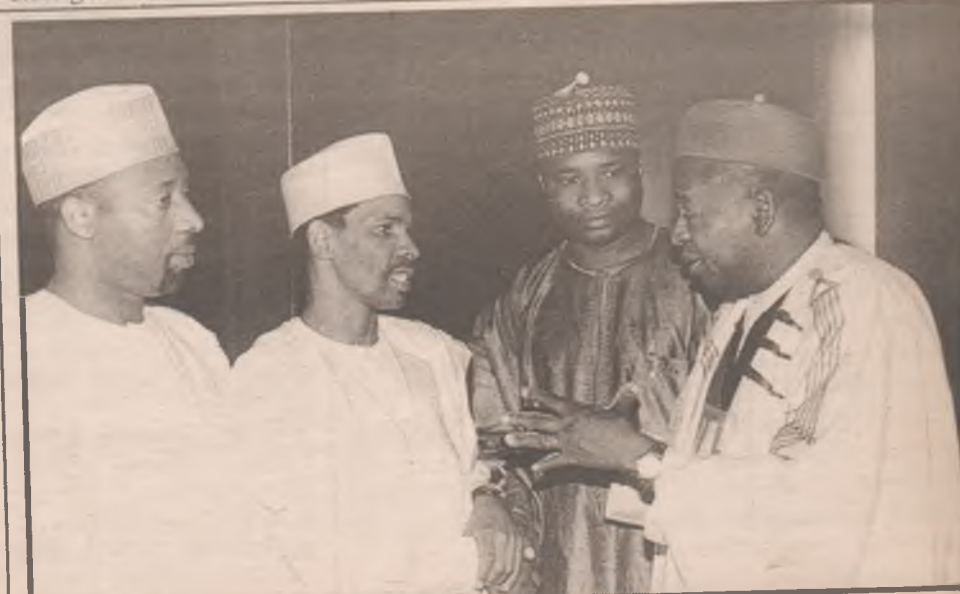
He said "INEC holds the strength to conduct

elections and for it to conduct free and fair elections, it must be included in the revenue sharing formula just like the FCT development fund, the ecological fund, the agriculture fund and the solid minerals development fund."

"Without that, we are going to fall victim of the PDP government in the nascent

democracy," he stressed noting however, that the allocation given to local governments was on the high side.

Ahmed urged the National Assembly to review federal government allocation in the sharing formula downward to make provision for INEC.



L-R: The Minister of State for Power and Steel, Alhaji Murtala Aliyu, the Minister of Water Resources, Alhaji Mukhtar Shehu Shagari, the Minister of State for Justice, Mr. Musa Elayo and the Minister of FCT, Mohammed Abba-Gana discussing during the Federal Executive Council meeting held at the State House Abuja...last week. Pix: Kennedy Egbonodje.



# Life

## LifeLine

### GAY ACTIVIST TIED UP IN S & M PROTEST

Hong Kong police arrested five gay rights activists for disorderly conduct after they staged the territory's first sado-maso-masochism protest against a recent raid on a live sex show.

About 10 men and women, who called themselves "Rainbow Action," marched across Hong Kong's central district to a police station on Sunday, sporting leather outfits and chains and mock whipping each other through the streets.

When they arrived, a hooded demonstrator tied another in bondage gear to the police station's gate.

Scuffles broke out when officers tried to cut him free from him as demonstrators tried to force their way into the station.

The protest was sparked by a police raid on a local sex shop on August 12 during a sadomasochistic party. Twenty-six people were arrested.

The group accused police of applying double standards in determining what constitutes an indecent performance. They said police were more tolerant of broadcasters who show programmes which they said were just as indecent.

The five arrested were led away by police in handcuffs. Police said all have been released on bail of \$128.

### WOMAN ENTERS APARTMENT THROUGH HOLE, STEALS GAMES

A Japanese woman has been charged with entering her neighbour's apartment through a hole that took two weeks to carve and stealing game software and video tapes.

Mika Hasegawa, 28, is alleged to have used scissors to patiently and inconspicuously open a hole through the 4-inch wall of her closet, covering it with cardboard so her neighbor wouldn't notice, police said Sunday.

She then squeezed through the 12-inch by 16-inch hole twice, stealing game software and video tapes from the man who lived next door, a police spokesman in Yorii, near Tokyo said.

### TOWN SPURN 'MR. POTATO HEAD' GIFT

A giant, "Mr. Potato head," statue given by a US town to its twin town in central England had to be removed because local people said they didn't like it.

Pawtucket in Rhode Island, where the "Mr. Potato head" character featured in the "Toy story" movies was invented, sent the seven-foot-tall plastic effigy to the town of Belper where it was put up outside the local McDonald's.

But townsfolk launched a campaign demanding that tourism officer Reg Whitworth get rid of it.

"We started getting letters saying, 'why has this horrible thing appeared stuck in the middle of town? We don't want it here'," Wayne Bontoft of local newspaper the Belper News told Reuters on Monday.

The \$8,700 statue, based on the simple toy which involves ticking plastic arms, feet and facial parts into a potato, but now been banished to a children's playground and will later be put in a nearby "Wild West" theme park.

Bob Billington, head of tourism in Pawtucket, which twinned with Belper in 1993, said the reaction had upset people in the New England town.

"Patato heads here in Rhode Island attract quite a lot of positive attention. We thought it was a rice gesture," he told Britain's Sun newspaper.

### TOURIST ALERT AS PANTHER REPORTED

Residents and holidaymakers on Sardinia are on the lookout for a black panther reported to be roaming the southeast tip of the Italian Mediterranean island.

Three Italians on holiday near the capital Cagliari reported seeing a large beast creeping through the grass as they made their way toward the beach on Thursday, Sardinia's *Unione Sarda* newspaper reported on its website on Saturday.

Police were called in and searched the area, about 12 miles east of Cagliari, but could find no traces. Residents and tourists were told to keep a watchful eye, however.

"We definitely saw it, it was no joke," the newspaper quoted one witness as saying. "It moved really quickly and nimbly through the bush right in front of us. At first we were confused, then we were scared, and then we just ran," he said.

It is not the first time black panthers, known as the beast of the night and generally found in Southeast Asia, have been spotted in Sardinia. There have been reports in the same area for the past two years but none has so far been confirmed.

## Fear and loneliness: Great thorns in human flesh?

By Joseph Aiyejoto

It is not uncommon to hear people talk about the inherent fear in them and the loneliness they experience. There are many factors and situations around that could make a man to be filled with intense fear and consequently, the period of being lonely sets in. Fear is, however, an emotion intended to help preserve our lives by warning us of danger. We must, nevertheless, control fear rather than permit it to control us. Once it has served its emotional purpose as a warning signal, we must dispel it so as to avoid its intrusion into the logical reasoning by which we decide upon a course of action.

But wait a minute, what are the causes of fear and loneliness? Fear on its part can come as a result of wrongdoing that has been committed by an individual against another. As in somebody, who has just lied against or defamed the character of another, or one who has just murdered another or a robber who just carried out his bestial activity. Concerning the above group of people, there is every tendency that there is a pricking of the conscience as soon as they encounter an innocent person, because they, on their part, are guilty. The fear that comes out of guilt is such that can definitely lead to eventual death or a sudden catastrophe.

However, there is another level of fear borne out of the

loss of hope as a result of disaster like the sudden death of a loved one, the loss of property, failure in one's pursuit or some seeming disappointments, fear of poverty, criticism, ill-health, future, old age and death. Fears that come on the heels of these are nevertheless necessary but must not be allowed to dominate the mind as, if permitted, such fears have a way of impeding positive thinking and psychological activeness of not only the spirit and soul but also the body of an individual.

There exists another level of fear, which I have earlier mentioned briefly; i.e. the fear that signals and warns concerning an impending danger. It cautions on the need to either retrace one's steps or stop one's movement as soon as signs of danger are noticed. This can come in the form of the fear of the Supreme Being; or the fear of constituted authorities. The fear at this level sets in as soon as an individual is going beyond the permitted boundary of acceptable religious and societal norms. There is positivism in such a fear as it prevents an individual from going astray. He that is down needs fear no more, thus a saying goes. With this much on fear, you may wish to ask yourself why you need to fear.

Moreover, the innocent is always bold and is not intimidated by circumstances and situations around. If therefore the fear in you is not associated with the signal of danger, then, cast it off in order not to be inhibited and prevented by it from forging ahead; except it is the fear of guilt.

But loneliness! How can one resolve its heinous bite? An individual can become isolated from the society and in fact, from life under such conditions, which seem to push him to being misunderstood, misinterpreted or misrepresented.

For example, one whose principles and ideals are not adequately understood can easily drink deep from the well of loneliness. A man whose trust is dampened would definitely loose confidence in men and hence withdraw into his shell. The fear of the unknown can make an individual lonely. As such, everyman need to checkmate his emotional altitude and attitude in relation to his immediate environment and time in order to be able to adjust as the situation may demand.

Of fear and loneliness, everyone who dreams to be great in life must not shy away, but overcoming it is another virtue that propels an individual to living a worthwhile life.

All great men who have influenced humanity in their own individual ways, because of their personal visions have drunk deep from the well of loneliness. Men experience

positive fear and loneliness because their vision never deserts them and they alone understand their belief. Therefore, since neither royalty nor beauty can keep one away from these two inherent attributes of man, the sure way to live is to be the best of you at all time. In as much as you are right, more of your being would be towards the positive and far away from the negative.

Nevertheless, you may wish to take inspiration from the following great men who lived: came, saw and conquered because they did not allow fear and loneliness to overtake them and/or overrule their set goals. Becon stayed in his pavilion for many years planning how to execute a new feat, Harvey had his abode in the cave, and Descartes stayed in bed alone with his thoughts. Newton was oblivious of the dinner bell calling him, trying vainly to distract him from his ideas, Wordsworth walked the lonely way, thinking about life and his love, Kant sat pensive by his stove, Hegel walked in the mud without shoes as he meditated, completely unaware of his discomfort. Napoleon planned his campaigns while plodding on lonely roads, Charlemagne persisted and intently learnt alone those lessons he had missed as a child. Mozart preferred to dance rather than to eat as long as he could compose. All these had their fears and trod the lonely roads, but they defeated the two by achieving great feats. They refused to allow the time and tide of life, even its vagaries to depress them. So, if they, why not you? The best way to overcome and be yourself is to develop your self-confidence, brushing every odd aside by conquering your fears and developing every courage needed to live. To do this, do not waste a minute thinking about odds and obstacles, instead preserve a right mental attitude—the attitude of courage, frankness and good cheer.

### Randy applicant jailed for attempted rape

An applicant who went sourcing for employment at the federal secretariat, Abuja, has landed instead at an Abuja Upper Area Court, facing charges of indecent assault and attempted rape.

It all happened sometime on July 10, 2001, when one Adamu Shariff, an applicant went to the federal secretariat, Abuja to try and see whether he could secure an employment.

Narrating his experience to *Daily Trust* recently at the court premises, Adamu Shariff said he had decided to go and eat at the basement of the federal secretariat complex when he met pretty Hadiza Shehu selling petty items like kolanuts, sweets and biscuits.

According to him, both of them were chatting at a very secluded area of the basement when a policeman suddenly swooped on them and demanded his identity card.

He said he was unable to produce any identity card hence the police arrested him

for seducing and attempting to rape the girl.

However, the police in their First Information Report (FIR) before the court, insisted that the accused was sighted at a very remote and secluded part of the car basement park of the federal secretariat, caressing the little girl while his trousers were already unzipped.

However, when the charge was read out to him, Adamu opted to plead guilty and passionately begged the Upper Area Court Judge, Mallam Aliyu Abdulrahman for leniency.

The judge in his ruling, said the accused was "wicked" and rather than engage in profitable venture that could earn him a living, has turned into criminality and sentenced him to one year in jail or N5,000 option of fine.



An Hausa artist demonstrates his physical strength to the admirers during Kano and Niger States Day at the Joint North West Trade Fair in Minna ... recently.

Pix: Zubaru Shaba

# Two Housewives sue husband for more access to him

Two housewives, Hajia Saratu Hassan and Fatima Hassan recently caused prolonged laughter at the Abuja Upper Area Court, when they said they were ready to divorce their husband Aminu Hassan for not allowing them more access to him.

By Uwem Umo

of choice cars hardly stays at home and even when he is at home, they hardly have access to him as they would have wanted.

"He is always travelling from Abuja to Kano, Maiduguri and infact anywhere there is business," said the first wife, Hajia Saratu, while the second wife claimed that the Alhaji even "talks about business, money

even in his sleep."

When questioned by the Alkali whether he understood why the two women were seeking divorce, Malam Aminu said he was at a loss as to why his two wives "should plan a coup" against him considering the fact that he cares for them to the extend that he never allows them to lack anything.

Said he, "anytime I am travelling and I do travel

frequently, I make sure I leave them with bags and bags of food and even money with a standby car each."

At this juncture, the presiding judge, Malam Aliyu Abdulrahman advised him to stop travelling for about one or two months, stay more at home and give his time to the two women.

Said the judge, "don't just leave them to bags and bags of materials things, also give them some bags and bags of love and care." and advised the couple to go and report back after one month.



Aisha Isma'il, Women Affairs Minister

It all started when the matter was brought to the Area Court jointly by the two housewives who prayed the court to give them a divorce because their husband was not devoting much time to them and the children.

Both sought divorce on the ground that Malam Aminu was not discharging his matrimonial responsibilities adequately.

The court was however thrown into prolonged laughter when in an answer to a question from the presiding Alkali whether their husband was not providing enough money for food and other requirements, the two women answered that "food and money for other needs was not their problem."

According to them, if it were a matter for any thing material, they could as well have gotten them from their parents but told the court that the issue was beyond materialism.

The women complained that their husband who is a wealthy merchant with stalls in Wuse (old and new) markets coupled with a fleet

## Conmen on the prowl

By Habiba Adamu

A staff of *Daily Trust*, Miss Esther Kantiok Sheyin encountered conmen, who would have charmed her into giving away all her possessions including the money in her bank account and other expensive properties at home.

Narrating the incident, Miss Kantiok said that she was waiting for a taxi at Wuse old market junction by Sani Abacha expressway in Abuja, when one of the two conmen approached her.

She added that he told her he is a businessman from Senegal and had a business transaction with one woman in Abuja. The man who she described as slim, light in complexion and of average height, requested her to direct him to one holy trinity nursery and primary school because, that is where the woman said she is living.

At this juncture, she said his accomplice approached them and warned the other conman that police will arrest him because this is Nigeria, and not Senegal. Adding that how could he supply goods to a woman who did not pay for the supply without collecting her address.

"I then voiced my fears to the second man who was plump dark in complexion and has a pot-belly. I told him I do not want to be mixed up with 419 people but since he is a stranger he can go to the police," she

stated. that she was charmed to do so," she narrated.

Miss Kantiok further explained that the accomplice suggested that the first con man should take a taxi and check Maitama area in search of the woman because that is where many embassies are based.

Her words: "I then guessed at the game they are playing. Because something like this happened to my cousin. She came home one day and gathered all her expensive belongings including the money some people gave her to keep for them for contribution. It was much latter we discovered

that she was charmed to do so," she narrated.

Our staff then advised the man to take a motorcycle because is faster and cheaper, adding that she was about to depart when the second conman tried to delay her by pointing out that the businessman deals with shippers.

Miss Kantiok added that despite their effort to delay her or rather draw her interest to them and subsequently accompany them to wherever they wanted to go, she left them there and took a taxi. "When I turned around to see if they have left too, I saw them approaching another man in the same way as they did to me," she concluded.

## Mummified corpse found in Alps May be Japanese

The mummified corpse of a mountaineer found in the Alps close to the French-Italian border could be that of a Japanese climber who disappeared 29 years ago, the Japanese consulate said on Friday.

"The body could be Makoto Ohashi," Japanese Consul Yuri Kodere told Reuters.

Kodera said that Italian police had found a business card belonging to the missing Japanese climber close to the mummified body discovered on the Grandes Jorasses mountain, part of the Mont Blanc massif, on

Thursday. "Ohashi left one morning in July 1972 with four other climbers. They returned alone," the consul said.

Kodera said the Japanese Foreign Ministry was trying to contact Ohashi's relative to find someone who could identify the body. Ohashi was 22 at the time of the accident and was described as a good climber.

## Potato stops ballet

Around 2,000 ballet-goers were evacuated from London's prestigious royal Opera House on thursday night when a backstage fire alarm went off-triggered by an exploding baked potato.

"There were wisps of smoke. It took fire-fighters a while to find the cause of the smoke," a London Fire Brigade spokesman told Reuters.

"Eventually they found a small kitchenette backstage and in a microwave were the remains of an exploded potato."

The audience was allowed back into the building after about 20 minutes to watch the remainder of the ballet.

"No one has claimed ownership of the potato," the spokesman said.

## LADIES' LINE

By HABIBA ADAMU

### A word is enough for the wise

The rate at which divorce is carried out in our society today seems like people have forgotten the sacredness of marriage. In reality however, we must give 90% of our efforts to make it work once it is contracted.

One of the major problems that drive or force a woman out of her matrimonial home is her mother-in-law that is why. Most women prefer to live with their husbands and children only, rather than staying under the same roof with a mother-in-law.

Most mother-in-laws regrettably treat their daughter-in-laws in a bad way. Some show wackiness, jealousy, malice, indifference etc. to their daughter-in-laws.

In whatever dirty or bad way you treat your daughter-in-law, it contributes directly or indirectly to the lack of peace, unhappiness that exist in their home. This can as well sever their good relationship no matter how long they took in building it.

Remember that it is not easy for him to divided his attention between the two important women in his life. Eyeing everything he do to his wife will only complicate matters. Therefore, it is not good for you to always portray him as some one who prefers his wife more than you his mother. Each of you has a special position in his heart, so, there is no need for you to try and make him despise his wife because it is only that way you would feel safe.

Islamically divorce is something that Almighty Allah (S.W.T.) permits muslim to do but at the same time He is unhappy whenever it takes place. You as a mother-law-law should not be the cause of God's wrath.

Another thing a mother-in-law who is in the habit of treating her daughter-in-law in a bad manner should consider is that she is jeopardising her son's chances of getting into paradise (Aljannah). This is because a man's gate of getting into paradise is through his mother, that is as long as he is obedient to her.

Pressurising your daughter-in-law to the extend of making her to demand divorce from your son, or telling lies to him about his wife will only belittle you. because whenever he discovers that he divorces his loving wife based on your lies it would make him turn his back on you or deviate and disobey your wishes and commands.

We all know that it is an expected duty of a child if not compulsory for him/her to obey his/her parents. By making him to disobey you because of your crafty and cunning ways is like making him to disobey his creator.

There are some mother-in-laws who make sure that whatever their son would buy, it must be two. If he buys wrapper for his wife he must buy one for his mother as well. He could not buy a gift to his wife without buying the same to his mother. He has to hide it from his mother whenever he is to give his wife some money. Whenever he brings things home he has to take it first to his mother to choose before taking it to his wife. All in the name of not wanting to offend and upset her.

Who as a woman would stand all this? Even if there is some behaviours or bad characters you do not approve about your daughter-in-law, being wicked or showing any of the behaviours I mentioned above is not the best way out. Remember that *there are many ways to kill a rat*.

"Love for your brother what you love for yourself" that is a part of the Hadith of the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.). No woman in her right senses more especially these kind of mother-in-laws could stand this kind of treatment, if they are to change position with a daughter-in-law. Therefore it is bad of you to engage in this kind of behaviour.

One thing I want women to understand is that by causing divorce we are only creating havoc to ourselves and the society. The rate of divorcees in our society is equal or more than the number of unmarried women today. And most of these divorcees were forced to leave their matrimonial homes because of a wicked mother-in-law.

If you as a mother-in-law could not help in curbing the menace of divorce practices that is threatening the society and the women's world in particular. Then you would do us a great favour by not creating havoc.

Well, as the saying goes "there is no smoke without fire." Like the Hausa version says "Ruwa ba ya tsami banza." Some daughter-in-laws incur all these and much more because of lack of respect and obedience they show towards their mother-in-laws.

But what we should understand and take note is that, if you have an unscrupulous mother-in-law no matter what, just bear in mind that she can not send you packing out of your matrimonial home. Be patient and love everything to stay in peace and harmony with your husband, and also respect his mother even if she makes it difficult for you because she is also your mother(-in-law).



School children at a recent event

# For the records

## Issues in the new revenue allocation formula

An address by the chairman of the revenue mobilisation, allocation and fiscal commission, Engr. Hamman A. Tukur, mni on the occasion of the presentation of the new revenue allocation formula in August, 2001

the years.

Please permit us to observe that generally speaking, much of the fundamentals of fiscal federalism do not change. The *Anatomy and Physiology* of revenue sharing have also not undergone much metamorphosis in this country. But in our examination of trends since 1946, we were struck by how much political and socio-economic changes have taken place. For example, there has been so much growth in government revenue and corresponding expansion in government activities. Equally, too, there has been explosive growth in population, urbanisation, and in the number of States and Local Government Councils. The expansion in economic activities has also resulted in tremendous environmental pollution and ecological degradation. Besides, over the years our nation has faced tremendous deterioration of our educational system particularly at the foundation stages. The system seems to have moved away from the well established philosophy of education for work to education for mere acquisition of paper qualification by whatever means and with all its attendant corruptive practices. Similarly, the nation's discovery of oil and its exploitation seem to have killed the nation's initiatives in developing its other vast natural resources in the solid minerals and agricultural sectors. The dependence on oil seems to be increasingly threatening not only the security of the nation but its very existence as a corporate entity. The restiveness of the youths in the oil producing areas, and the urge for resource control by the political class are all syndromes and complications arising from this dependence emerging on a mono-economy.

All these factors have direct bearing on the sources and quantum of revenues accruing to the various sectors of the nation. The Commission has taken into account these factors in arriving at the Revenue Formula being recommended as these reflect what has been referred to in the constitution as "changing realities" which any new revenue formula must take into consideration. It is in recognition of the above factors that the "Special Funds" concept in the vertical formulae inherited over the years, has been retained with some adjustment to

incorporate the Commission's innovation of Basic Education for the acquisition of literacy,



President Olusegun Obasanj

numeracy and basic skills that will reasonably equip our teeming youths to earn a living in a responsible manner that can contribute to the overall development of our nation. The Special Funds have also been incorporated to enable the urgent needs for diversifying the revenue base of the nation by deliberately and consistently investing in both solid minerals and agriculture with the appropriate scientific and technological research that will develop these commodities to exportable levels in the quickest and most efficient manner.

Let me hasten to add that the essence of the Special Funds is to form a basis for effective operation of certain specially identified problems of the Federal Republic as an entity. The Funds are being recommended to be used, as hitherto, to tackle peculiar problems. They are also to be used to deal with joint statutory responsibilities of the constituents of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, that require special attention.

On methodology, we took into account the views expressed in the several memoranda submitted to the Commission by the respective tiers of government, the organised private sector, and indeed other Nigerians at large. We again examined the previous reports on the subject in this country as well as the experiences of other Federations, because they have usefully constituted a stock of literature and a corpus of historical information. It would not have been expedient or intellectually desirable or

part to ignore such wealth of experience from which one could tap and rediscover alternative solutions to



Engr. Hamman Tukur

problems over fiscal federalism in Nigeria. As wisdom from the past, we benefited by them and we are certainly better positioned to tackle current fiscal problems arising from the changing realities of our times. Similarly, we held consultations with officials from the various Tiers and Arms of government, and gathered statistical data which we analysed in order to articulate the intended goals and policy outlines of revenue sharing. The Commission then used deductive analysis from data empirically validated to draw our conclusions from the established observations. In addition, we adopted what is usually referred to as the 'mix analysis approach' in our endeavour to ensure goal achievement subject to a minimum level of government responsibility. All of these we consider to be very helpful in determining what may be feasible and acceptable by all. Above all our methodology has the beauty and advantage of simplicity.

We are firm in our belief that federalism is a constitutional arrangement in which the federating units form a unity with defined autonomy in their internal affairs, and in such a manner that law-making powers and functions are distributed accordingly with some to the national or central government, and some to the States and indeed others to Local Governments. Another important guiding philosophy in our approach has been fairness in revenue allocation or what can be adequately described as "distributive justice." In other words, we have rightly felt that revenue allocation

should be done in such a manner as to provide each of the stakeholders with, at least, a minimum level of funds in the light of their responsibilities but taking into account the available resources. We have therefore reflected it in the vertical formula such that no tier of government is worse off in its relative position given the current fiscal realities of our nation. The formula that emerged has also attempted to address the raging controversy about the so-called "zero allocation" for many of the Local Governments in the country. However, the Commission, is sure that Mr. President, will in the course of events, find a more lasting and politically acceptable solution to this perennial problem.

On the principle of derivation, which is the subject matter of Volume II, we have been guided also by the several memoranda and representations on the subject as well as research by Consultants appointed by the Commission. It became clear to the Commission that the majority of respondents, particularly from beneficiary areas, opined that the derivation fund should benefit people at the grass roots. The Commission's recommendation therefore has sought to ensure that those who should benefit from the fund do so directly and are also involved in its administration. We wish to emphasise that the derivation fund is intended to improve the quality of life of the beneficiaries. Therefore both the States and Local Governments should be development-oriented in its utilisation. The Commission strongly recommends that to ameliorate the restiveness of the militant youths, the funds should not form part of the Consolidated Revenue of the beneficiary State Government. The State and Local Governments for the direct benefit of the communities in the areas should exclusively use the funds. In this regard, the Commission urges the State Assemblies of the areas producing the natural resources to involve the traditional rulership class and their communities in the management of the Funds.

Mr. President Sir, may I at this juncture acknowledge that it would have been utterly difficult, if not impossible, to accomplish this onerous assignment without the co-operation and support

of all the Arms of Government - Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary as well the three tiers of Government - Federal, State and Local Governments. The Presidency in particular has given the Commission the necessary moral and financial support and encouragement for which we are eternally grateful. To all Nigerians, we would like to express our appreciation for the tolerance, understanding and co-operation we have received. Our various experts, consultants and the Commission's officers are all to be commended for the arduous work put into this historic exercise.

Your Excellency, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, it is now my honour and privilege to present to you on behalf of the Revenue Mobilisation, Allocation and Fiscal Commission these reports which contain our considered recommendations of the **FORMULAE FOR THE ALLOCATION OF REVENUE** accruing to the Federation Account, including the derivation principles to all the beneficiaries. Specifically, the vertical formula is as follows:

Federal Government 41.3,  
State Governments 31.0,  
Local Governments 16.0,

#### Special Funds:

(i) FCT Development Fund 1.2 (ii) Ecological Fund 1.0 (iii) National Reserve Fund 1.0 (iv) Agriculture and Solid Minerals, Development Fund and its associated Science and Technology Research 1.5

(iii) Basic Education and Skill Acquisition, (BESA) Fund 7.0 and the horizontal formula for disbursement of the funds amongst States and Local Governments is also as follows: (i) Equality 45.0 (ii) Population 25.0 (iii) Population Density 2.0 (iv) Internal Revenue Effort 8.0 (v) Landmass 5.0 (vi) Terrain 5.0 (vii) Rural Roads/Inland Waterways 1.5 (viii) Potable Water 1.5 (ix) Education 4.0 (x) Health 3.0

The Derivation Principle remains 13% for now with 60% of it to the States and 40% to the Local Government Councils producing areas.

Your Excellency, these reports constitute our advice on the subject in compliance with Section 162(2) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Thank you.

Engr. Hamman A. Tukur,  
mni

BSc, M. Engr., C. Engr.,  
FNSE, MIEE, FYCT  
CHAIRMAN,

Revenue Mobilisation,  
Allocation and Fiscal  
Commission Thursday 16th  
August, 2001



# Crime & Punishment



## Ondo commissioner questioned over N23m theft

A four-man team from the office of the Inspector-General of Police (IGP), arrived Akure last Friday to investigate allegation of N23 million theft made against the Ondo State Commissioner for Lands and Housing, who was sacked last week, reports the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN).

The State Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Chief Dele Ogedengbe told NAN that the team scheduled to return to Abuja later had held useful discussions with his office over the matter.

He, however, reiterated the stand of the state government on the matter, saying that the responsibility "rests squarely on my ministry because it is an Ondo State government affair."

Ogedengbe dispelled an insinuation that he had been summoned to Abuja to answer a query on why legal action was instituted against the sacked commissioner without proper investigation.

"It is a blatant lie. I was not summoned to Abuja and

it is neither the business of the Federal Government, IG, or the state police command to question me about how I handle the matter."

"Not even the state governor can question the way I deem fit to handle the matter. It is only a public outcry that can query how an attorney-general is conducting the affairs of justice. He might then be forced to resign," Ogedengbe said.

He, however, noted that complementary efforts could be applied to achieve the same goal of bringing the culprit on an allegation of

fraud to book.

On the whereabouts of the embattled commissioner, the attorney-general said he had returned from Abuja and was at present in police custody as his prosecution would continue.

The commissioner, (names withheld) was sacked from the state cabinet on August 8, for allegedly defrauding the state government of N23 million in an estate property deal. He was consequently arraigned, together with an Akure-based estate agent, now at large, before an Akure magistrate's court which fixed August 23 for hearing.



Gov. Adefanti

## Three PDP members remanded in prison custody for conspiracy

Three members of the Ebonyi State chapter of the PDP, Timothy Odaah, Onu John and Sylvester Nwabara, were remanded in prison custody Tuesday on the orders of an Abuja Chief Magistrate court for alleged conspiracy and culpable homicide.

The accused are also being held for "causing grievous harm by dangerous means, assault and mischief".

Prosecutor, Mr. Harrison Omeoka, had told the court, presided over by Alhaji Muhammad Kolo, that the accused persons stormed a

meeting of the national executive of the party on August 10 and attempted to kill one Francis Elem.

Omeoka said the suspects also carted away membership registration forms of the Ebonyi State

chapter of the party on the day of the incident.

No plea was taken at the sitting, but the magistrate ordered that 37 other accomplices, still at large, be brought before the court at the resumed hearing of the case on September 17.

## Eight ritualists in police net

Eight suspected ritual killers were on Monday paraded by the Ogun State Police Command at its Elewera Headquarters, having been arrested with a human skull.

Also paraded were stolen vehicles, a Lexus Jeep and a Honda (CRV) Jeep, recovered from suspected ban-

From Olumide Bajulaiye, in Abeokuta

quets at Igbogila while attempting to ferry it across to the Republic of Benin.

While parading the ritualists, the state police commissioner, Prince Udom Ekpoudom, explained that prior to their arrest he had earlier received information from some members of the public about their hideout.

"A team of detectives stormed a hide-out of criminals at Ago Igunu and Ijoko, Sango Ota where the trio of Akani Garuba, Lateef Ogun and Olalekan Soyaju were arrested with a human skull.

"They are at present assisting us with information on what they intend using the skull for, though one of them had informed us that it was part of items needed for ritual purposes," the police commissioner said.

Also arrested are Peter Ayinde, Sunday Ayinde, Kioman Ayinde, Isma'ila Ayinde and Tamason Ayinde, all from Benin Republic, who were accused of perfecting plans to murder their nephew

Twenty-year-old Emmanuel Nzemeka, who was nabbed at the premises of Triumph Merchant Bank, Ikoyi, Lagos, while attempting to cash N30,000 with a forged cheque, was last week sent to jail without an option of fine at a Lagos Chief Magistrate Court.

The accused was sentenced to one month imprisonment with hard labour for each of the four count criminal charge, having pleaded guilty as charged.

The trial magistrate, (Mrs.) Emiola Fabam held that "the crime is a very serious one. I have decided to be lenient with the accused person because after due consideration of the cheque admitted as exhibit 'C', it is obviously written by a novice and this means that the accused person is still new in the trade." The accused is an able bodied man who can utilise his youth and strength

## Man jailed over N30,000 forged cheque

From Adelanwa Bangboye, in Lagos

in more productive ways but has chosen otherwise," the court held.

In his plea for mercy (allocutus), M.P. Johnson, lawyer to the accused, begged the court to tamper justice with mercy and that the accused had no previous criminal records.

According to prosecuting police Sergeant Nicholas Atumonye, the accused on July 22, 2001 at about 1130 hours went to a Church at Shell Hell Muson centre, Onikan, Lagos, where he stole a bag containing N5,000 cash, documents and Triumph Merchant Bank cheque booklet No. 000433612 to 00043650 and Lion Bank cheque booklet

No. 00012412-00012450 property of one Patrick Etim.

About two days later, the accused was apprehended at Triumph Merchant Bank, 186, Awolowo Road, Ikoyi, Lagos where he presented a forged cheque with the signature purported to be that of Patrick Etim.

When the N30,000 forged cheque was presented, the forgery was detected by the Bank's signature verification officer who immediately alerted his unit head and a report was made to the police.

Daily Trust gathered that in his first statement to the police, the accused reportedly denied stealing but on August 5, 2001, following further interrogation he volunteered additional statement admitting the offence.

## Man, 50, falls victim of police bullet

Indiscriminate use of firearms by the law enforcement agents has claimed another victim in Lagos where a 50-year-old man was allegedly shot by a team of mobile policemen at the Oshodi flyover.

Two mobile policemen have been detained in connections with the incident.

The 50 year-old man, who was later identified as

Ibrahim was said to have been shot by a team of mobile policemen under the Oshodi flyover.

The tragedy reportedly struck when a commercial bus with registration number LA 779 WF approached a stop-and-search spot mounted by the mobile policemen and the driver allegedly refused to stop.

Police report revealed that the bus driver was halted for a routine check but instead of obeying the command, he sped off to beat the policemen who were alleged to be extorting money from drivers at the check point.

Angered by the action of the driver, the armed policeman reportedly shot at the vehicle with the intention of demobilising it, only to

have the bullet hit the innocent 50-year-old Ibrahim who died on the spot.

His corpse and the driver of the vehicle were taken to Oshodi police station.

In another development, the police have recovered a pump action gun No. 2586687 from a suspected armed robber who was

lynched by a mob at Iponri, in Surulere, Lagos.

Based on information received, the irate mob had set ablaze an armed robbery suspect, when a team of anti-robbery policemen led by one Inspector F. Ezemade went to the scene and recovered the pump action gun which was taken to the Iponri police station.

## Ex-Army major charged with robbery

A retired army major (names withheld) has been charged with robbery before a Lagos Chief Magistrate Court.

The 53-year-old major and one Collins Adeniyi Adedapo 35 and others now on the run were charged under the robbery and fire arms special provision decree No. 5 of 1984.

Specifically, the major was alleged to have falsely told the police that his brothers' car which was stolen was sighted at Lagos State University and requested for police assistance contrary to section 125 (a) of the criminal code.

The accused army major according to the police, used

a Peugeot 504 Saloon car with a fake registration No. BM395GGE to mount an illegal road block and attempted to rob one Angus Eze, an offence punishable under the robbery and fire arms Special Provision Decree.

Before carrying out the crime, the duo and others now on the run were alleged on August 8, 2001 to have conspired together to commit armed robbery.

No plea was taken from the accused persons. While adjourning further hearing till September 26, trial magistrate Mrs. A.O. Ogala ordered that the two accused persons be committed to prison custody on remand.

## Fake NAFDAC officials arrested

The police in Lagos have nabbed two men parading themselves as officials of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC).

The two fake NAFDAC officials, Ifeanyi Akpovili and Anselem Okparaji, were alleged to have conspired together on August 1, 2001 to impersonate NAFDAC officials at 36 Nonifu close, Onigbongbo, Maryland, Ikeja.

They were alleged to have extorted the sum of N2,000 from one Daniel Onwuka in March under false pretence. The offence is punishable under sections 516, 484 and 408 of the criminal code.

In another development, the police last week upon information received that one Idris Harima alias Aloma has in his possession some arms and ammunitions, policemen attached Ojo division left for the house of the suspect at No. 2 Hassan Street Afromedia Ojo, with a duly signed search warrant.

During the search, five locally made single barrel shot guns were allegedly recovered in his room.

Confirming the incidents, Lagos Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) Victor Chilaka said the suspect has been arrested and taken to the state C.I.D. Panti Street with the exhibits for further investigation.



From left: the Minister of Police Affairs, Chief Steven Akiga, President Olusegun Obasanjo and the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Musiliu Smith during the Presidential Retreat for the Nigerian Police in Abuja..... August 18, Pix: Kehndy Egbonodje

# Abuja News

## Work starts on Gwarimpa Housing Estate

In an effort to provide houses for all residents of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), work has now resumed on the long abandoned Gwarimpa housing estate.

The Managing Director of Federal Housing Authority (FHA), Engr. Ibrahim Mustapha, in a chat with newsmen in Abuja stated that FHA is no more owing any contractor, saying that those who are complaining of non-payment of their fees had no certificates to certify such payments.

Mustapha said most of the houses in Gwarimpa Estate are to be demolished because of the poor work done by the contractors, a situation he blamed on the past government for awarding such a sensitive project to contractors who have no knowledge of building.

He disclosed that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, union houses and other private firms are involved in order to achieve the dream of having the biggest estate

By Emmanuel Ande

in Nigeria's capital city.

Commenting on the retrenchment of staff, the FHA chief executive said it is to enable the Authority to refocus and redefine its duties to yield democratic dividends to the people.

He pointed out that since

the Authority is going to be commercialised, it is not possible for it to accommodate unresourceful staff, adding that some of the staff are not useful to the authority.

"How can you have 30 drivers when you have fewer than 20 vehicles?" he queried.

He maintained that the survival of the FHA purely depends on the patronage of the public, noting that its major obligation is to make sure that those who invested their money got the desired benefits.

The FHA chief executive also disclosed that in the next two weeks, work would

commence on the rebuilding of the federal housing estate in Lugbe, a project he described as the worst among FHA projects in Abuja.

He said that more than half of the FHA structures in Lugbe would be demolished because of their bad condition.

## Sheda gets stable power supply

The people of Sheda in the Kwali Area Council will soon begin to enjoy steady electricity supply, courtesy of a new transformer that has been brought to the place.

The National Electric Power Authority, NEPA, will soon install the transformer, which was provided by the Ministry of Federal Capital Territory.

Residents of the village, which has been without electricity for many years now, have expressed happiness with the provision of the transformer.

They said it would help solve some of their socio-economic problems.

The residents who spoke to *Daily Trust*, said they had earlier appealed to the Minister to provide the transformer, and thanked the chairman of the council, Mr. Samuel Gwamna for his efforts in getting the transformer. A female resident who asked not be named, expressed displeasure with a situation whereby government offices in the area enjoyed electricity supply while residents did not.

Another resident, Mr. Yakubu Adamu, described the provision of the transformer as a dividend of democracy, saying the people of Sheda would ever remain grateful to the area council and the ministry for the effort.

He appealed to the council chairman to ensure the timely installation of the transformer and its effective utilisation.

Mr. Adamu also appealed to the council and the Ministry of Federal Capital Territory to focus on the transformation of rural areas within the territory to enable rural dwellers feel the impact of government and the newfound democracy.



Chief Segun Agagu, Minister of Power & Steel.

## No ripples over Perm Secs' postings - Yayale

Head of Civil Service of the Federation, Alhaji Mahmud Yayale Ahmed, has dismissed rumours of the existence of ripples within the presidency as a result of the posting of Permanent Secretaries.

Speaking with newsmen in his office, Alhaji Ahmed pointed out that much as the presidency always ensured that no state is left without a permanent secretary, it is not its responsibility to force such permanent secretaries to perform.

He explained that periodic postings were done to increase efficiency, and not as a punitive measure,

By Austine Odo

moreso as no one should make any place his permanent abode.

The Head of Service said the posting of permanent secretaries though very significant, was one of his easiest assignments, and that such posting had been done as a way to achieve necessary organisational efficiency. He added however, that public officers must not emphasise on their individual goals, which would be against organisational goals, if their overall aim was to have a quality to be responsible and responsive to the yearnings

of the ordinary people.

"The Civil Service must



Alhaji Mahmud Yayale Ahmed, Head of Civil Service of the Federation.

always gear itself to the realisation of that laudable objective, and in the course of it, you always can imagine exceptions, and enjoy these exceptions to happen, because you will learn more," he said.

Alhaji Yayale stressed that government was refocusing the civil service in a transparent and honest way, devoid of any ripples in the posting of permanent secretaries.

"There is no ripple and there will be none as far as I remain the Head of Service of the federation," he concluded.

## Patients decry poor services in Garki General Hospital

Barely six months after the Minister of Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Engr. Mohammed Abba-Gana, promised to change the deplorable condition of government-owned hospitals in the FCT, condition in the Garki General Hospital has worsened as it has now turned into a mere consulting clinic.

Some patients who spoke to our reporter complained that they hardly see doctors to attend to them, as nurses always ask those seeking medical attention to wait for doctors, only to wait for over six hours without seeing any doctor.

Mrs. Grace Yusuf, a patient, told *Daily Trust* that since she was admitted to the hospital, only the nurses are attending to her, "any time I ask the nurses of the doctor who is supposed to attend to me, they would tell me that he is not around and I have spent over one week here now," she said.

Mr. Ben Oga, who has a patient in the male accident ward, told our reporter that since he arrived at the hospital with his elder brother who sustained injuries in a road mishap, it is only nurses that have been taking care of his brother.

Oga said the Garki General Hospital is no more a place to save lives, but a slaughter ground, a situation he blamed on both the poor

attitude of Nigerian medical doctors working in government owned hospitals and the lack of good facilities in the hospitals.



Engr. Mohammed Abba-Gana, FCT Minister.

"Government is not serious to equip its hospitals, the people in power always go abroad for medical treatment at the expense of tax payers, if you calculate the money government spends to treat only Malam Adamu Ciroma, the Minister of Finance in Germany, it can comfortably equip over 10 hospitals in the country," he stated.

It would be recalled that in February this year when the FCT Minister visited government hospitals in the Federal Capital Territory he promised to give it a human face, but till date, the situation is growing worse as patients patronising the hospitals hardly get the prescribed

drugs.

When *Daily Trust* visited the hospital yesterday, patients were seen abandoned

on their sick beds, even as the resident doctors' strike is long over. A nurse was seen advising other patients to seek

medication in private hospitals, since the Garki General Hospital cannot cater for them.

## Jilted man attempts suicide

A middle aged unemployed man at the weekend allegedly attempted suicide at Karao, one of the satellite towns in Abuja after he was jilted by his girlfriend.

The man was alleged to have taken a quantity of shaving powder after the girl informed him of her intention to end the relationship for reasons best known to her.

*Daily Trust* gathered that the relationship between the man who already had a teenage daughter and the girl had been going on for the past two years until the girl decided to call it quits.

It was also gathered that efforts made by the man to make the girl change her decision proved futile, prompting the man to drink the shaving powder because of her decision.

Neighbours said when the girl was informed that the man had drunk the shaving powder because of her, she merely told her informants that it, was none of her business, adding "I no de sell, I no dey buy, no be wahalla."

The man who was rushed

By Ikenna Emeka Okpani

to hospital, *Daily Trust* gathered, was discharged yesterday.

Close friends who did not want their names in print said the man responded rapidly to treatment and would soon be his usual self.

Giving reasons for the man's action, one of his close friends told *Daily Trust* that the lady was the "father of the man" as she was a usual face in the evenings at

zone 4. "So she makes a lot of money from the zone 4 lady's business and takes care of the unemployed man. Now that she wants to end the relationship, how does he survive? Maybe that is why he ran out of his mind and decided to take shaving powder," the friend said.

At the time of this report, the girl in question had not changed her mind despite all entreaties made by sympathisers to reconsider her decision.

## Community leader calls for increased security in Tasha

The Igbo community leader in Tasha II area of the Federal Capital



Mr. Dika Bwala, FCT Police Commissioner.

Territory, Chief Agwu Onwuka, has appealed to the inspector General of Police, Mr. Musiliu Smith to increase security in the area, following increased activities by armed robbers.

Speaking to newsmen in Abuja recently, Chief Onwuka said the robbers attacked Tasha II almost on a daily basis, thereby putting the lives of residents in continuous danger. He called on police authorities to urgently build a police post in the area for constant monitoring of unlawful activities. According to him, that step would be one in the direction to remedy the high level of insecurity in the area.



# Lawal, Tchoutang not wanted at Roda

Dutch club Roda JC Kerkrade have put their two African internationals - Garba Lawal and Bernard Tchoutang - up for sale.

The team from Limburg said their squad is too big and want to off-load the pair.

Lawal, who played for Nigeria in the 1998 World Cup finals, and Tchoutang, a member of Cameroon's Nations Cup winning side last year, have been placed on the transfer list as a result.

"These two players leave too often because of international commitments and that we don't want to deal with anymore," said Roda director Nol Hendricks.

"We are prepared to talk to any clubs about a sale.

In the future, we are also going to make sure we don't buy players who we are going to lose all the time because they have to go off and play for their national teams," Hendricks added.

Roda say they are also not interested in loaning the two out but want to sell the 27-year-old Lawal and 24-year-old Tchoutang.

Their transfer listing is the

By Ismaila Umaru Lere  
latest in an ever-increasing hardening of attitude among European clubs towards African and South American players who have regular international commitments.

Lawal has been at Roda since 1996 and helped them win the Dutch Cup in 1997. Tchoutang joined the Dutch outfit from Turkish club Vanspor at the start of the 1997/98 season.

# Velappan slams Afro-Asian stadia

The Secretary-General of the Asian Football Confederation, Peter Velappan, has condemned the stadia being used for the Afro-Asian Games.

Mr. Velappan called them "obsolete" and likened attempts to renovate them as "saving a dying cancer patient."

He was in a party of African and Asian officials who were in New Delhi over the weekend to inspect the facilities for the first Afro-Asian games due to take place in November.

Two stadia will be used for the eight team tournament.

The Ambedkar stadium is popular with local fans, though is cramped and basic.

The other venue, the Jawaharlal Nehru stadium, which will hold the opening and closing ceremonies, was

built 20 years ago for the 1982 Asian Games.

Both are being refurbished and India's Sports Ministry said they will be ready by 30 September.

But critics said it is simply an eleventh hour sprucing up of old venues.

The line-up for the football tournament also leaves much to be desired.

Korea and Japan, the World Cup co-hosts, are not participating as their players are too busy.

And in another blow to the games, the Secretary-General of CAF, Mustapha Fahmy, admitted that the four African teams would be unlikely to bring their European stars along.

Releasing them in what is already an extremely busy year looks an increasingly dubious prospect.



Inter Milan's Adriano, right is fouled by Real Madrid's Fernando Hierro, left while Madrid's Aitor Karanka looks on during the Santiago Bernabeu trophy soccer match in Madrid, Spain. The foul led to the winning goal for Inter as they beat Real Madrid 2-1.

# Canadian Embassy lambast Sports Ministry

The Canadian Embassy in Accra, Ghana has lambasted Sports Ministry officials for their penchant for junketing round the world, noting that it was the main reason it refused to issue visas to some officials recently.

By Patrick Andrew  
Ishaya Mark Aku when they applied for visas to



Edmonton, Canada to join the Nigerian athletes participating in the World Championship.

Though the minister and his personal assistant were issued visas, others were rebuffed by the Embassy with the advice that they should cultivate the habit of sitting down in their country to work.

Trustsports learnt from an official in the ministry that the embassy specifically said "programmes for development were planned at home not in foreign land nor during foreign conferences hence your officials should better learn to cut down on unnecessary foreign trips," the official said, adding that the sports ministry was thoroughly embarrassed.

Trustsports recalls that it was not the first time the embassy had rebuffed requests for visa from sports officials, recently when the leadership of the Sports Writers Association of Nigeria (SWAN) applied for visa to enable them travel to Canada to attend the AIPS Conference, the Embassy declined, a development that caused Nigeria to fail to participate at the conference.

# There are no mafia in Super Eagles -Erico

Contrary to Daniel Amokachi's outburst in the press recently that there is a mafia group in the national team, Super Eagles coach, Joe Erico, has said that there is no iota of truth in the Amokachi claims.

Speaking on a popular television programme in Lagos at the weekend, coach Erico said that Amokachi was not fair to himself, saying that the former Everton FC player was not totally fit as at the last time he trained with the Super Eagles before the Sudan match.

The former NEPA coach maintained that the technical crew was not ready to compromise the ethics of the game by selecting Amokachi ahead of fitter and stronger player, adding that the Amokachi could not make the team due to these factors.

"I can assure you that

From Babs Oyetoro, in Lagos  
there is nothing like a mafia or clique in the Eagles. We have our standard of picking players. If you don't meet the

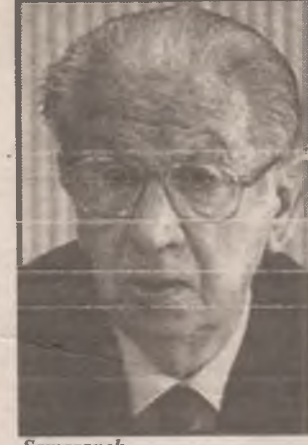
standard you cannot make the team," he explained. He assured that Nigeria would do better in the World Cup promising that discipline would be their watch words

before and during the World Cup. Commenting on the preparation for the World Cup, the coach said the technical crew has mapped out

the strategy of monitoring all the Super Eagles' players in their various clubs to determine their forms. "We are going to put three team in place," he added.

# Samaranch goes back to hospital

Former International Olympic Committee president Juan Anto-



Samaranch nio Samaranch is back in hospital.

days in a hospital in Lausanne last month after returning from the Olympic meetings in Moscow, where Jacques Rogge was elected as his successor.

The IOC said at the time he was suffering from "extreme fatigue."

After his release on 27 July, Samaranch spent a few

days in Lausanne, then travelled home to Barcelona, where he is now receiving further treatment.

IOC Director-General Francois Carrard said: "I am told he is staying for some days at the hospital for further observations.

"I spoke with him a couple of days ago and he is

in good spirits."

No details about Samaranch's medical condition have been released, however friends have said he is being treated for kidney problems and is undergoing dialysis.

Samaranch was IOC president for 21 years and is now honorary life president.

# Maradona regrets taking drugs

Diego Maradona said the biggest regret of his career was taking drugs - but urged the football world not to judge him on that alone.

The 40-year-old Argentine, widely regarded as the best player in the world after

Pele, was suspended from the game for 15 months for drug abuse 10 years ago.

More famously, he was expelled from the 1994 World Cup finals for testing positive for banned substances.

But in an interview on the official FIFA website, Maradona said he had learned his lesson after three positive tests in all.

"The biggest mistake of all was taking drugs," he said. "This one action saddened and hurt many people especially my wife and my daughters.

"It is something I will never stop regretting but it doesn't make me a monster."

Maradona claimed that game had started to become almost robotic since he stopped playing four years ago.

"Much more importance is now attached to physical conditioning, tactics and defensive play than to technique and attacking football.

"Sometimes I watch a game and wonder whether the players have been replaced by robots."

Argentina's 1978 World Cup-winning hero said today's players were being asked to perform far too often.

"Often they go on to the field looking tired and jaded. Fans pay a lot of money to see the top teams and players and what they end up getting is often a disappointment."

Maradona, who no longer plays but has 18 satellite dishes at home so he can watch football worldwide, was equally outspoken when it came to player

wages. Unlike many in the game, he believes the top players should earn even more than they do.

"Clubs receive the lion's share of all transfer fees and that is simply not right," he said.

"I still don't think that top players earn enough money."



Super Eagles' coach, Shuaibu Amodu, and two assistants want things straightened out.

**UNITED NIGERIA DEVELOPMENT FORUM (UNDF)**  
NATIONAL SEMINAR

**THE IMPERATIVES OF  
UNITY, PEACE & JUSTICE  
IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Date:** 28 - 29th August, 2001

**Time:** 9:00Am Prompt (Daily)

**Venue:** Africa Peace Hall, Int. Women Centre,  
Abuja (Opeta Centre)

**UNDF**

# DAILY TRUST



**THIS SPACE  
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SALE**

## Amodu wants NFA to clarify his status

By Ismaila Umar Lere,  
with agency report  
\$11,000.

"I have not really lost sleep over the salary that I'm being paid," he said.

Nigerian football fans and pundits have suggested that for Amodu's achievements, the NFA should raise his monthly wage to what Bonfrere was earning - \$30,000 per month.

Super Eagles coach Amodu Shaibu has demanded that his employers clarify his "actual status" after qualifying Nigeria for next year's World Cup finals in Japan and South Korea.

Amodu took over the reigns of the national team after his predecessor was sacked.

Former Eagles technical adviser, Dutchman Johannes Bonfrere paid the price for a string of poor results which placed the country's World Cup qualification in jeopardy.

Amodu, the first-home grown coach to get Nigeria into a World Cup, said: "All I am concerned about now is to know my status."

"People have asked me why I am bothered since President Olusegun Obasanjo and everybody are saying I should lead the team to the World Cup."

"My experience in and out of the national team for seven years has taught me to do things properly."

When Nigeria qualified for Japan and Korea, the NFA said it had rewarded Amodu with a permanent deal to take the team to the 2002 African Nation's Cup in Mali and the World Cup finals.

But speaking about the deal as he and his assistants see it, Amodu said: "The brief we were given was to qualify for the Nation's Cup and World Cup."

"There is now need for the authorities to come out clearly and let us know what happens next."

"Until that is ironed out, anything can happen because this is Nigeria."

Amodu was first appointed as Nigeria's coach in 1994 but was sacked in 1997 by the sports authorities at the time for "non-performance and gross insubordination".

The coach said he was not bothered about the NFA's inability to increase his current monthly wage of



Brazilian Inter Milan striker Ronaldo pushes the ball past an Enyimba defender during the friendly soccer match in Milan on Sunday. The match was a testimonial for the Onu International organization and the money earned will be used for the African and South American poor children.



AS Roma captain Francesco Totti, right, and striker Gabriel Batistuta, cheer after winning the Italian Supercup 2001 against Fiorentina at Rome's Olympic Stadium on Sunday. Roma won 3-0.



Argentina's Juan Veron, second left, is mobbed by teammates after he scored against Ecuador during their World Cup qualifying match at Atahualpa Stadium in Quito, Ecuador. In the background is Ecuadorean Jaime Kaviades. Second right is Argentine Hernan Crespo. Others are unidentified.

### Strands of Fate: written & illustrated by Bulama Mustapha

