

STILL IN CAPTIVITY

11 SCHOOLGIRLS OF FGC, BIRNIN YAURI

589  
DAYS

1 STUDENT OF BETHEL BAPTIST HIGH SCHOOL, KUJAMA

561  
DAYS

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State assemblies reject  
financial autonomy for LG**

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N/Assembly, Emeziele  
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- Hawkers sell petrol for N500/litre in Abuja, N600 in Ondo

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■ From Left- Right: National Lottery Regulatory Commission (NLRC) state representative, Engr. Hanza Goya, Globacom Head of Sales, Niyi Anifowose, latest Glo Festival of Joy promo car winner, Anas Adamu, Kano State Commissioner of Finance, Alhaji Adamu Fanda, Emir of Kano representative, Dan Amar of Kano, Alhaji Aliu Harazimi, jointly presenting the keys of a brand new car to the prize winner in Kano, Kano State, on Tuesday.

Promotional

**RACE TO NASS**

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**Buhari's senatorial district:  
Kaita, Daura set for epic battle**

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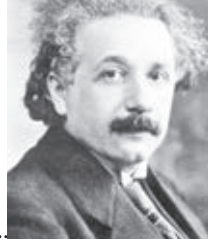
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**Buhari's senatorial district:  
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## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new



- Albert Einstein

## AFRICAN SAYINGS

"Wisdom is not like money to be tied up and hidden"

(African Proverbs)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

## WEATHER

Compiled by JAMIL H. SALIM

ABUJA	KADUNA	KANO	MAIDUGURI	Jos	SOKOTO	IBADAN	ENUGU	P/HARCOURT	LAGOS
PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD
36 MAX	21 MIN	36 MAX	16 MIN	34 MAX	13 MIN	36 MAX	14 MIN	31 MAX	18 MIN
37 MAX	23 MIN	38 MAX	22 MIN	37 MAX	17 MIN	37 MAX	23 MIN	31 MAX	18 MIN
33 MAX	25 MIN	(Temperature in centigrade)							

## PRAYERS TIMES

RAJAB 3, 1444 AH

PRAYERS	ABUJA	ENUGU	KADUNA	KANO	KATSINA	LAGOS	MAIDUGURI	P/HARCOURT	SOKOTO
FAJR	5:39	5:38	5:40	5:37	5:41	5:57	5:19	5:42	5:50
DHUHR	12:46	12:50	12:47	12:42	12:49	1:02	12:26	12:49	12:59
ASR	4:01	4:05	4:02	3:57	4:04	4:17	3:41	4:04	4:14
MAGHRIB	6:31	6:31	6:31	6:26	6:26	6:50	6:08	6:35	6:41
ISHA	7:36	7:37	7:36	7:31	7:34	7:55	7:13	7:40	7:46

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna



## PHOTO OF THE DAY

Agents from First Bank attending to residents, during the CBN currency swap in Kaltungo Local Government Area of Gombe on Tuesday

Photo: NAN

## STOCK INDEX

GAINERS	MBENEFIT	UNILEVER	CILEASING	ABCTRANS	INTENEGINS	LOSERS	NB	CAVERTON	CHAMPION	WAPIC	NGXGROUP
OPEN	N0.33	N12.20	N3.46	N0.34	N0.53	OPEN	N41.85	N0.95	N4.60	N0.42	N25.40
CLOSE	0.03	1.10	0.31	0.03	0.04	CLOSE	-4.60	-0.10	-0.40	-0.03	-1.60
CHANGE	10.00%	9.91%	9.84%	9.68%	8.16%	CHANGE	-9.90%	-9.52%	-8.00%	-6.67%	-5.93%

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## Old notes: Motorists seek extension of deadline in Gombe

From Haruna Gimba Yaya, Gombe

Commercial motorists in Gombe State have called on the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to extend the deadline for the withdrawal of the old naira notes in order to allow the new notes to circulate effectively.

Speaking at a sensitisation campaign organised by the apex bank at a Motor Park in the Gombe metropolis, the motorists complained that old notes were more in circulation than the new notes.

A driver, Muhammad Sani, said that the number of passengers that boarded vehicles with the old naira notes outnumbered those coming to the motor park with the new ones.

Another driver who simply identified himself as Malam Ahmed alleged that the new notes were being hoarded by the banks.

"Some of us have visited bank Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) but it keeps dispensing old notes contrary to the directive of the CBN. When you deposit

the old note at the counter in banks, they ask you to go and withdraw from the ATMs, but the machines keep dispensing the old notes," he said.

Responding, Gombe Branch Controller of the CBN, Shehu Alhaji Goringo, who led the team to the sensitisation campaign, revealed that there were enough newly redesigned naira notes to be distributed to Nigerians.

He also explained that the CBN had directed all commercial banks to desist from giving out old notes to customers.

## ...CBN meets Sokoto traders over rejection of old notes

From Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Sokoto branch on Tuesday met with leaders of business communities in Sokoto State over the rejection of old naira notes by their members.

*Daily Trust* reported that many business owners, especially in the state's metropolis had been rejecting old notes with some of them closing their business premises, a situation that was causing untold hardship among the residents of the state.

Our reporter also gathered that commercial motorcyclists and some filling stations had started rejecting them.

Briefing newsmen, the CBN branch comptroller, Dahiru Usman, said the meeting was called to allay the fears of the traders.

"We discovered that many traders have been rejecting our legal tender even before the January 31 deadline and this is causing hardship among the residents of the state.

"We invited their leaders

and they told us their reason for doing so but we assured them there is no need for that as we are working to ensure no businessman loses his money because of this policy.

"We are meeting with banks' managers today before the closing of the office. We will direct them to dedicate more hands and time to the business communities because they deposit a huge sum of money. With this, we are confident of mopping up all the old naira notes on or even before the deadline," he said

Usman added that there were enough redesigned naira notes for dispensing in the state.

Earlier, the Secretary General of the Sokoto Marketers Association, Alhaji Abubakar Altine, hinged their decision to reject old naira notes on the difficulty in depositing money in their banks' accounts due to the influx of depositors who wanted to meet up with the CBN deadline.

"But we have rest of mind now. We will tell our members to continue collecting old naira notes without any fear," he said

## ... Kebbi traders may shut markets

From Ismail Adebayo Birnin Kebbi

Traders in Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State have resolved to close the markets because the scarcity of redesigned naira notes is making it difficult for them to carry on with their trading activities.

The chairman Kebbi State Traders Association, Alhaji Umar Dangura Gwangwaji, who disclosed this, said traders had made efforts to get the new naira notes from the various

banks but it was difficult.

"If we continue to collect it from customers, which bank will collect it from us when the date expires," he said.

Daily Trust reports that motorists and food vendors in the Birnin Kebbi metropolis on Tuesday refused to accept the old notes from customers as banks and POS operators could not dispense the new currencies.

Customers queued for hours at the various ATM points to collect the new notes with no

success.

"I have been coming to the bank since Monday to withdraw money to buy food items for my family because nobody would collect the old notes from me. But the situation is becoming more frustrating as I couldn't get money from the bank ATM.

"See how I'm carrying money about but nobody would collect it from me because it's old notes yet I couldn't get the new ones from the banks," Yusuf Ali, a customer of GTB lamented.



## Al-Qalam University Katsina The First Islamic University in Nigeria

### AL-QALAM UNIVERSITY KATSINA APPRECIATES AND COMMENDS THE CHAIRMAN OF BUA GROUP, ALHAJI ABDULSAMAD RABIU

I, the Vice-Chancellor, Al-Qalam University Katsina, Professor Nasiru Musa Yauri, on behalf of the Katsina Islamic Foundation, and the University's Board of Trustees, the Council, Senate and Students, wish to express our appreciation and gratitude to the Chairman of BUA Group, Alhaji AbdulSamad Rabiu whose Foundation, The AbdulSamad Rabiu Africa Initiative (ASR Africa) has given a N250 million infrastructure development grant to our great institution, Al-Qalam University Katsina.

I would also like to commend ASR Africa's support to Nigerian Tertiary Institutions as one of the biggest educational interventions by a non-government actor in Nigeria and the rest of Africa.

The recently announced ASR Africa infrastructure development grant to 22 tertiary institutions in Nigeria amounted to a total of N5.5 billion.

We are very optimistic that the ASR Africa grants will help to develop the capacity of tertiary institutions and empower them to make meaningful contributions to national development.

I am calling on all beneficiaries to reciprocate the good gesture of the philanthropist by putting the grants to good use.

Signed  
**Professor Nasiru Musa Yauri,**  
Vice Chancellor, Al-Qalam University Katsina.

Alhaji Abdulsamad Isyaku  
**Rabiu**  
Chairman/CEO of BUA Group



# Buhari chairs 14-man c'ttee as fuel scarcity worsens

By Simon E. Sunday

President Muhammadu Buhari on Tuesday approved the constitution of a 14-man steering committee to enforce petroleum products supply and compliance with official prices.

This is coming as consumers of petroleum products express outrage over worsening scarcity of the commodity amidst price hikes that have largely become unregulated.

While some actors in the petroleum sector lauded the setting up of the committee, others said the president and his lieutenants were racing against time.

## Buhari's new moves

In a statement yesterday, Buhari who has been the minister of petroleum since 2015 when he unveiled his cabinet will personally chair the steering committee while the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Chief Timipre Sylva is the alternate chairman.

Other members of the committee are the minister of finance, budget and national planning; permanent secretary, ministry of petroleum resources; national economic adviser to the president; director-general, Department of State Services (DSS); comptroller-general, Nigeria Custom Service (NCS); the chairman, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the commandant-general, Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC).

The rest of the members are the authority Chief Executive, NMDPRA; governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN); the group chief executive officer, NNPC Limited; special advisor (special duties) to the minister of state petroleum while the minister of state's technical advisor (midstream) is the secretary.

## Terms of reference

In the statement issued by the Senior Adviser (Media & Communications) to the Minister of State, Horatius Egua, the president directed NMDPRA to ensure strict compliance with the government's approved ex-depot and retail prices for petrol.

The committee is also expected to ensure stock management, visibility on the NNPC Limited refineries rehabilitation and track daily distribution to tackle smuggling, as part of its terms of reference.



■ A fuel hawker along Area 3 expressway in Abuja, yesterday

Photo: Onyekachukwu Obi

Buhari further ordered the committee to ensure national strategic stock management, visibility on the NNPC Limited refineries rehabilitation programme and ensure end-end tracking of petroleum products, especially PMS to ascertain daily national consumption and eliminate smuggling.

To further ensure sanity in the supply and distribution across the value chain, he directed NMDPRA to ensure that NNPC Limited, which is the sole supplier, meets the domestic supply obligation of petrol and other petroleum products in the country.

The minister directed that the interests of the ordinary Nigerian be protected from price exploitation on other deregulated products such as diesel, kerosene and cooking gas.

"The federal government will not allow misguided elements to bring untold hardship upon the citizenry and attempt to discredit the government's efforts in consolidating the gains made thus far in the oil and gas sector of the economy," the statement stated.

*Daily Trust* reports that the committee is yet to be inaugurated or take off as the minister said President Buhari is expected back in Nigeria today from the 2nd edition of Dakar International Conference on Agriculture in Senegal.

## 'Buhari racing against time'

Nura Ali, a retired worker of the

NNPC said President Buhari was racing against time.

"Going by his experience since his days in the military, we shouldn't have been where we are today.

"He was among the architects of some of the infrastructure we have in the oil sector but over time, all depots and the refineries built became comatose.

"I wish he took a decisive action from day one when he was sworn-in as president; sadly this did not happen until recently. Honestly I don't think the committee will make any difference in the next four months when the president will hand over," he said.

Collins Mic, who also worked at the NNPC and now works in a private oil firm said the real deregulation of the oil sector will only be actualised by the incoming administration.

"Buhari and the team should just do their best and move on. If you look at the committee very well, all the actors are the same actors working since time immemorial to right the wrongs in the sector.

"The next government should cash on the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) and make the oil industry flourish. If the president as petroleum minister and Commander-in-Chief could not make much difference, I don't think if something tangible would come out from a committee but Nigerians are optimistic people,

we should give them a chance," he said.

## Petrol prices soar amidst scarcity

Petroleum marketers including NNPC Ltd, a commercialised public firm, last week, hiked petrol prices to over N190 per litre but the federal government had denied approving the hike.

The pump price for petrol at NNPC Retail outlets rose from N179 per litre to N185/l while private outlets sold for between N190/l and N195 from N180/l on Thursday.

According to some marketers, the hike was due to a slight rise in the ex-depot price of petrol from N148/l to above N150/l.

A marketer said depot owners got a memo from NNPC Ltd, being the sole importer of petrol, conveying the increment in wholesale price. This allegation could not be independently verified as of press time.

Although this is the first time petrol prices have risen this year, *Daily Trust* reports that prices rose severally in 2022 beginning from January when the scarcity hit major cities with the aftermath of the adulterated petrol distribution further worsened later by the Russia/Ukraine war.

## No fuel at stations as black marketers thrive

Rising from around N165/l, petrol prices kept rising and has reached N190/l at major stations.

However, other independent stations sell for up to N310/l across

states.

Currently, the scarcity is across the states and worse off in Lagos and Abuja. *Daily Trust* reports that even though more stations took delivery of petrol consignments on Tuesday, long-tailed queues were visible hours before the stations discharged the content and readied to sell the product.

Across the city centre in Wuse, Utako and Maitama, motorists were seen on queues at the few stations operating while other motorists succumbed to the will of petrol hawkers who sold a 10-litre content of petrol for N5,000 yesterday. Mr Jerry Onuh, said he was forced to buy for N3, 500 in Nyanya as his vehicle ran out of fuel.

"I had no choice but to buy a 10 litre at N3, 500 which translates to N350/l. My friend in Wuse II bought for N5, 000/l (N500/l) from hawkers when he went to the Arдова outlet but couldn't get fuel," he lamented.

A motorist in Jabi said he paid N4, 000 to black marketers at N400/l while pleading to get 10-litre of petrol.

Despite several meetings, the fuel scarcity had persisted as operators and the regulator of the downstream sector seem to be on a deadlock spree.

The NMDPRA said its Chief Executive, Farouk Ahmed had recently met with officials of the Depots and Petroleum Products Marketers Association of Nigeria (DAPPMAN), "Where they discussed critical issues on sustaining a steady supply of petroleum products across the country."

The NMDPRA head also engaged with members of Nigeria Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG), Nigerian Association of Road Transport Owners (NARTO) and the Petroleum Tanker Drivers (PTD) as well as with the Major Oil Marketers Association of Nigeria (MOMAN) but the fuel scarcity has worsened.

On Tuesday, the Group Executive Director, Downstream at NNPC Ltd, Engr. Adeyemi Adetunji, during an AGM of NARTO in Abuja, said the company has held several meetings with operators on the fuel supply issues.

"Up to last weekend, we had a series of meetings even into the night and very soon Nigerians will begin to see the results," he stated.

# FRSC recovers, returns N3.2m to accident victim in Kogi

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Kogi Sector Command on Tuesday recovered and returned the sum of N3. 2 million to the family of an accident victim in the state.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the money belonged to one Mrs Beatrice Ehimare who was involved in a road traffic crash on Jan. 23, along Lokoja-Abuja road.

The recovered cash was

presented to the victim's son, Mr David Ehimare by the Unit Commander RS8.38 Gegu.

During the ceremony held in Lokoja, the Kogi Sector Commander, Corps Commander Stephen Dawulung, commended the officers and men for their diligence and patriotism.

"I wish to reiterate here today that it's my Command's resolve to continue to execute its mandate of saving of lives and protection

of property with the highest level of commitment, diligence and integrity of which the FRSC is known for.

"As a Command, we wish Mrs Beatrice quick recovery from the injury sustained from the unfortunate road crash that occurred on Monday.

"We hereby advise motorists to avoid speeding and other unwholesome road traffic behaviours that could expose them

to road traffic crashes that could jeopardize the lives of innocent passengers," Dawulung said.

The victim was travelling in a Siena Commercial Bus conveying eight passengers from Edo to Abuja, which lost control at Ohono Bridge around Gegu on Lokoja-Abuja road at about 2.30 p.m.

The bus crashed under the bridge resulting to the death of three persons while four others,

including Ehimare sustained injuries.

The injured were rescued by FRSC personnel who evacuated them to Ideal Hospital, Koton-Karfe and Specialist Hospital Lokoja, for medical attention.

The N3.2 million was among the items recovered at the scene and after conducting due diligence, the owner was identified and the full amount returned on Tuesday. (NAN)

# 20<sup>th</sup> Daily Trust DIALOGUE

*Theme:*

## Interrogating the 2023 Presidential Agenda

*Chairman of the Event*



**John Cardinal Onaiyekan**  
Archbishop Emeritus of Abuja.

*Royal Father of the Day*



**HRH Alhaji Ismaila Mohammed, MFR**  
(Veteran Journalist)  
Sarkin Karshi, Abuja.

**Panelists**



**Mrs. Ibukun Awosika**  
Former Chairman,  
First Bank of Nigeria (FBN).



**Prof. Jibrin Ibrahim**  
Professor of Political Science and  
member of the Board of the Centre  
for Democracy and Development (CDD).



**Dr. Yetunde Anibaba**  
Lecturer, Analysis of Business  
Problems, Lagos Business School.



**Dr. Eugene Enahoro**  
Human Capacity Development Specialist  
and CEO, Heltoni Services Limited.

📅 Thursday, January 26, 2023 ⌚ 10:00 am

📍 **NAF Conference Centre and Suites**, Gwarinpa Express Way, near NEXT Shopping Mall, Kado, Abuja

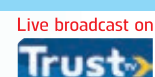
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# Motorists groan as fuel hits N600/litre in Ondo

From Tosin Tope, Akure

**S**cores of motorists in Ondo State have continued to decry the lingering scarcity of Premium Motor Spirit, otherwise known as petrol, and the hike in the price of the commodity by marketers.

Oluwaseun Ogunmola, one of the motorists, told *Daily Trust* that it took him six hours on a queue before getting petrol for his car.

"I have been in the queue since 6am. You can imagine the hardship I passed through. Imagine getting this at N350 per litre," he lamented.

Another motorist, Mr Ayodele Adelaide, expressed displeasure that fuel was not available

## •We're helpless – IPMAN

despite the fluctuating pump price.

*Daily Trust's* further findings revealed that many of the filling stations, especially, in Akure were not selling the product as their gates were under lock and key.

The few available ones selling had long queues as motorists struggled to the product for their vehicles.

It was discovered that some of them were selling between N300 and N400 per litre, especially independent marketers.

Some petrol stations on the outskirts of Akure sold the product between N500 and N600, especially for stranded travellers plying the inter-state routes.

The development has further caused a hike in the cost of transportation across major towns of the state.

Commercial drivers in the state charged N150 per drop as opposed to N50 and N100 before the scarcity of petrol.

One of the passengers, Iyabo Omowunmi, while lamenting the high price, said, "It's very frustrating. I can't imagine paying double for fares now while going to the office. The government should find a solution to this urgently."

In a brief chat with *Daily Trust*, the chairman of the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN) in Ondo

State, Mr Sina Amao, said the issue was beyond them.

"The issue (fuel scarcity) on the ground is beyond us. The problem started with the distribution of the product, and even as I speak, there is a limit in stock.

"We are buying at the rate of N290 per litre, with N20 for transportation at landing cost. So, you can see that now our major problem is the NNPC: they don't even have the product in stock.

"And another issue is that they're working towards the removal of fuel subsidy. So, don't be surprised that commoners would still pay higher prices to get the product," he added.

# CSOs, opposition kick as Katsina 'earmarks' N499m LG funds to receive Buhari

From Tijjani Ibrahim, Katsina

Civil Society organizations (CSOs) and the opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Katsina State have reacted to Governor Aminu Bello Masari's alleged approval of N499, 650,000 from the Local Government Joint Account for the purpose of mobilising residents to welcome President Muhammadu Buhari to the State on Thursday, January 26.

According to a letter that went viral on social media, the approval of funds dated January 18, 2023, signed by one Yahuza S. Ibrahim on behalf of the Permanent Secretary, Government House, and addressed to the commissioner for local government and chieftaincy affairs, the sum of N14,695,588.00 is to be released to each of the 34 LGAs from the available balance of the 34 LGCs of the State in order to "cater for adequate and effective mobilization of citizens' to welcome the president to the state."

President Buhari is expected in the Katsina state on a two-day official visit from January 26 to 27 where he would commission some projects executed by the state government.

However, in their reaction, the coalitions of civil societies in the state, through the chairman, Comrade Abdurrahman Abdullahi, described the move as "one of the ways through which LGA funds are siphoned."

He said, "It is a case of high level corruption and squandamania. It is unfortunate for a state like Katsina where children receive education on bare floor, access to health care is poor due to shortage of human resources and medical equipment, portable water is inaccessible to many communities and many more social shortfalls to withdraw such a stupendous amount in the name of entertainment for presidential visit.

"This money, if properly utilised, is enough to pay one year allowances for over 4,000 casual workers in the state, provide 500 communities with portable drinking water or fabricate 50,000 desks for our students to learn in a more

conducive atmosphere," Abdullahi said.

"After all, this has clearly told us that all that the government has been saying about LGAs inability to pay their workers' salaries due to insufficient funds is not true," he said.

On its part, the opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), through the Katsina State Chairman of Atiku/Lado Integrity Forum, Lawal Audi Yar'adua (A.K.A Lawal Dan Ade) who addressed a section of the press, described the move as frightening.

"I doubt if this amount will be released for the purpose stated in the letter, but if it is true that it will be used for receiving the President who is claiming to be fighting corruption, why don't they use it in catering for victims of banditry across the state?"

"Why don't the government also use the funds for teachers' training and payment of exams for students which the PDP used to do while in power?"

Attempts to hear the reactions of other opposition parties, including PRP and LP in the state did not yield any result as they both promised to get back to our reporter on the matter but failed to do so as at the time of filing this report.

In his reaction, the state Commissioner for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Ya'u Umar Gwajo-Gwajo, said he was not aware of the said letter, having been away from office for days attending the campaign of his senatorial candidate.

"I call on people to stop acting based on speculations, let there be certainty on whatever people will want to react to.

"If the said letter is true and it gets to my table, I will see what it contains and if such approval is given, I will see what it is intended for and who should act on it. But for the time being, there is nothing like that and we have our local government funds intact in the account," he said.

Also reacting, the Director General (New Media) to governor Masari, Al'Amin Isa, said the said letter of approval was fake and challenged those who made the allegation to prove its authenticity.



■ Director-General, Industrial Training Fund (ITF), Mr Joseph Ari (R) presenting ITF souvenir to the Minister of State for Industry, Trade and Investment, Amb. Mariam Katagum, during the Minister's visit to the ITF Headquarter in Jos on Tuesday

Photo: NAN

# UNICEF wants presidential candidates to prioritise education

From Ismail Adebayo, Birnin Kebbi

UNICEF has called on all presidential candidates to consider investments in education a top priority in their manifestos.

A statement by Ms Cristian Munduate, UNICEF Nigeria Representative, to commemorate the International Day of Education, made available to newsmen in Birnin

Kebbi, urged them to deliver on the commitments made by President Muhammadu Buhari at the UN Secretary General's Transforming Education Summit in September 2022 to end the global learning crisis.

It said in Nigeria, 75 per cent of children aged 7 to 14 years could not read a simple sentence or solve a basic mathematics problem.

It added that for children to be able to read, they must

be able to learn to read in the first three years of schooling.

It stated that UNICEF was committed to supporting Nigeria's government to transform education and to prevent the loss of hard-fought gains in getting children into school, particularly poor, rural children and girls, and ensuring that they remain in school, complete their education and achieve their full potential.

The statement also said UNICEF, together with partners, would continue to support federal and state governments to reduce the number of out-of-school children by providing safe, secure and violence-free learning environments in formal and non-formal settings, engaging communities on the importance of education and providing cash transfers to households and schools.

# Security guard stoned to death while separating fight in Ondo

From Tosin Tope, Akure

A 59-year-old security guard manning a public primary school, Bamiduro Adewole, has been stoned to death while settling a fight between a trader and a customer in Ondo State.

Adewole met his death after he was hit by a stone on his forehead while mediating between one Funmilayo Asojo and a

long-time debtor over the sum of N700.

A police prosecutor, Augustine Omhenmhen, revealed this to an Oke-Eda magistrates' court sitting in Akure, the state capital.

Omhenmhen said the incident occurred on December 28 at Ute Town in Owo Local Government Area of the state.

He told the court that

Asojo picked up the stone during a fight and, in an attempt to hit his debtor, hit Adewole with it on his forehead.

He said the offence contravened sections 319 and 355 of the Criminal Code Law, Cap. 37 Vol. II Laws of Ondo State, 2006. He said the peacemaker was rushed to the hospital for treatment but died two days after the incident.

The prosecutor asked the court to remand the defendant at the Olokuta Custodial Centre pending advice from the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

Ruling on the murder case, the sitting magistrate, R. O. Yakubu, ordered the defendant to be remanded in prison and adjourned the case till March 19 for further mention.

# FOCUS ON YOBE

EVERY WEDNESDAY

## Education, infrastructure, others top Yobe agenda as Buni attends int'l conference in Niamey

Yobe State Governor Mai Mala Buni says his administration has placed education, infrastructural development among others as the top of its post-insurgency recovery process.

Buni, represented by his deputy, Idi Barde Gubana, disclosed this to journalists at the 3rd high level International Conference on Lake Chad Region, which took place in Niamey, Niger Republic.

A statement issued by the Director of Information, Husna Ibrahim, said Yobe state, being one of the worst hit states, had rolled out plans that will facilitate the recovery process.

The governor expressed optimism with the commitments of funders, donors and international organizations on



■ Yobe State Deputy Gov. Hon Idi Barde Gubana (Left) and the Borno State Gov Zulum during the 3rd high level International Conference on Lake Chad Region in Niamey, Niger Republic.

interventions on the recovery process.

“Already the state government in partnership with organisations have rolled out plans and programs as well as projects to help its speedy recovery.

“The Yobe state government is hopeful that its recovery process and strategy will be strengthened and implemented to the later.

“Quality Education and infrastructural development among others is paramount in our recovery efforts across the state.”

Buni said his government was also mindful of the impact of the conflict on the economy, women and children affected disproportionately and would continue to better the living standards.

He said all the challenges, in addition to the current global recess, called for a collective and deliberate approach and committed actions from government and all the development partners.

“We hope for better coordination and financing so as to move away from the situation bedeviling especially the vulnerable.”

The Yobe State delegation, led by Gubana, had the Commissioner for Humanitarian and Disaster Management, Dr Garba Iliya, Permanent Secretary, Political Alh Lawan kolo, Executive Secretary SEMA, Dr Mohammed Goje and Director, Information Services, Haj Husna Ibrahim as well as the Yobe Civil Society Organisations Network led by the Executive Director, Babashehu.

## Yobe contributory health agency enrolls 31, 730 vulnerable persons

The Yobe State Contributory Healthcare Management Agency (YSCHMA) has registered 31, 730 vulnerable and poorest of the poor under the new Buni Social Equity Programme for free medical treatment at a health facility of their choice.

The Executive Secretary of the agency, Dr Babagana Tijjani, said the enrolment followed an approval of N100 million by Governor Buni to the agency for the exercise.

Tijjani stated that the new registration of the vulnerable was also meant to consolidate on the success recorded by YSCHMA during the first enrolment adding that the present administration in the state remained committed towards the



■ Governor Mai Mala Buni

success of the universal health coverage initiative.

“The 31, 730 vulnerable registered cut across the 178 political wards of the state and will be given free treatment at the health facilities of their choice.

“The approval of the amount for the exercise by His Excellency Hon Mai Mala Buni did not come to us by surprise taking into consideration his commitment to the realization of the universal health coverage initiative.

“Due to his support, the agency was able to successfully enroll civil servants under the formal sector while registration for the non-formal sector has since commenced across the state.

“As I am talking

to you, YSCHMA has successfully enrolled 42, 107 vulnerable under the federal government Basic Health care Provision Fund (BHCPF) while 86, 350 beneficiaries of the contributory healthcare system enjoyed referral cases services under the formal sector programme of the agency.”

The ED further stated the governor had, on assumption of office, embarked on mass rehabilitation and expansion of primary healthcare centres across the state in addition to recruitment of medical personnel, which helped in the effective implementation of the agency’s activities.

He also said the capitation to healthcare providers under the

agency had helped in strengthening the capacity of many healthcare facilities.

“Before the rehabilitation and expansion of the PHCs embarked upon by His Excellency, many of the primary healthcare centers in the state did not have the capacity to enjoy our capitation but, for now, the reverse is the case.

“They have been strengthened with not only the needed facilities but trained personnel who graduated from our various health institutions to render the much needed service at the grassroots.

“This is a great effort and action towards the realization of universal health coverage,” Tijjani disclosed.

## Flood: GOALprime launches intervention in Jakusko LG communities

The GOALprime Organization Nigeria (GPON), a non-governmental organization, has launched a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programme (WASH) in the communities affected by flooding in Jakusko local government area of Yobe State.

The Northeast WASH officer of the organisation, Mr. Usman Saidu, while speaking to the benefiting community in Gasmu of Jakusko local government, said the project funded by the

Nigerian Humanitarian Fund (NHF) was meant to help the affected communities in the areas of WASH for better society. Saidu stated that the organisation would also work with the local government in order to intensify lifesaving and mitigate the risk of waterborne diseases.

“We are here as part of our mandate to intensify lifesaving through WASH assistance to mitigate the risk of waterborne diseases and enhancing emergency rehabilitation

assistance of WASH facilities and services damaged by flooding in Jakusko local government area of Yobe State.

“Through this project, GOALprime will provide the following WASH services, rehabilitation and optimization of non-functional boreholes, water quality test for chemicals and bacteriological analysis, water points chlorination and FRC monitoring, door to door hygiene promotion sensitisation and mass speaker campaign sensitisation.

“Also to be provided include rehabilitation of the non-functional latrines, construction of communal latrines, provision of WASHCOM with technical support to carry out routine operation and maintenance on water systems,” he said.

The WASH officer also said they would engage the benefiting communities of the project through local committees of stakeholders in the local government to hear their needs before the implementation of any project.

“Our policy is a bottom to top approach so as to prioritize the needs of the benefiting communities not ours.”

The village head of Gasmu, Lawan Bukar, commended the organisation for the intervention, describing it as a gesture at the right time.

Bukar, who commended the organization for the intervention, equally called on the state and federal governments to come up with measures that would stop the annual flooding in the area.

## 12-year-old killed, organs removed in Zaria

From Abubakar Sadiq Mohd Zaria

A 12-year-old boy, Suleiman Aminu, known as Abul Khair was discovered killed in Zaria, Kaduna State on Monday with some of his organs removed.

Speaking to Daily Trust in Zaria, the father of the deceased, Aminu Saleh Mohammed, said the boy was sent on an errand by his sister around 4pm on Sunday to collect her phone from the neighborhood and went missing.

"We embarked on his

search and reported his missing to the police that Sunday.

"It was around 6:15 pm on Monday that I was informed of the boy's discovery behind the Madarkaci rock in Kwarbai, Zaria," he said.

Mohammed further explained that upon examining the body, it was discovered that some parts of his organs including his private part, tongue and eyes had been removed.

"His shoulder was also broken while his head was smashed with a cement block. In fact, he had been severely beaten with knife

cuts all over his body," the distraught father added.

Daily Trust however gathered that the corpse of the boy was later handed over to the family for burial by the police.

Confirming the incident, the Kaduna State Police Public Relations Officer, Mohammed Jalige, said further investigation was ongoing to apprehend the culprits and bring them to book.

Jalige however advised parents to always monitor the movement of their children to prevent them from falling into the wrong hands.

## Troops kill 3 bandits, rescue 16 victims on Kaduna road

From Mohammed Ibrahim Yaba, Kaduna

Troops of Operation Forest Sanity have killed three bandits and rescued 16 people during operations on the Birnin Gwari-Kaduna road and a location in Igabi LGA.

Daily Trust gathered that the troops responded to a distress call along the Udawa-Manini axis of the Birnin Gwari-Kaduna road to engage the bandits.

The Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, in a statement said after foiling

the attack, the troops took some victims who sustained injuries to hospital for treatment.

He said the troops responded to a distress call from Gonan Doctor Village in Igabi LGA and laid an ambush at a likely crossing point in Maraban Huda village.

"The troops engaged the approaching bandits and neutralised two. The troops also recovered one AK-47 rifle, one pump action gun, one improvised explosive device, one Baofeng radio, and 10 motorcycles," he said.

## Ogun Islamic clerics meet gov'ship candidates, seek policies

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

The Ogun State governorship candidates of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Social Democratic Party (SDP), and Action Alliance (AA) on Tuesday met with the League of Imams and Alfas in the state as part of build ups to the 2023 governorship elections.

The interactive session was organized by the clerics' Directorate of Leadership and Good Governance on behalf of the Muslim Ummah in the state.

While addressing people present at the event, the president of the league, Sheikh Sikirulai Babalola, noted that the event was to get to know the governorship candidates and was not sponsored by any politician.

The SDP candidate, Anthony Ojeshina, presented his agenda tagged IEAI - Industrial, Energy, Agricultural and Infrastructural revolution.

Ojeshina who had been commissioner for environment in the state promised to combine his experience in public and

private practice to create a model state.

On his part, the PDP candidate, Ladi Adebute, promised local government autonomy and an end to farmers-herders clash while explaining his ITURADE agenda

Adebute speaking through his deputy, Adekunle Akinlade, explained the ITURADE agenda to mean "Improved security, True Local Government Autonomy, Urban and Rural Regional Development, Agricultural and Economic Development, Development of Youth and sports, Enhancement of education, healthcare and social services" as the seven areas of focus.

He blamed the present administration for the loss recorded to farmers and herders crisis in the state.

Also, the AA candidate, Dr Samuel Adeyemi, who promised to make the Ogun economy bigger than Lagos in under two years, said he would pattern his government after the late Chief Obafemi Awolowo by providing free education from the basic to tertiary level.

## Policeman rejects N1m bribe to release man arrested for kidnapping

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano

The Kano State Police Command has arrested one Alhaji Bamuwa Umaru, 62, in Sabon Gari Local Government Area of Kaduna State for offering N1million bribe to a police officer to secure the release of one Yusuf Ibrahim arrested for kidnapping.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, SP Abdullahi Haruna Kiyawa, disclosed this to newsmen on Tuesday.

He said the man approached the officer in charge of the state anti-kidnapping squad, SP Aliyu Mohammed, and offered him the bribe to secure the release of Ibrahim, 27, of Danjibga Village, Tsafe LGA, Zamfara State.

"The suspected kidnapper was arrested by a team of Operation Restore Peace led

by CSP Usman Abdullahi, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Rijiyar Zaki Division Kano after he was identified by a driver they kidnapped along Funtuwa-Gusau Road, and collected the sum of N500,000 as ransom before his release.

"On preliminary investigation, the suspect confessed to the crime and further confessed to having participated in a series of kidnappings at Sheme, Yankara, Faskari and Kucheri villages in Katsina and Zamfara states, respectively."

Kiyawa said Ibrahim further confessed that their syndicate members killed about 10 of their kidnapped victims and that he alone killed two of the victims.

The PPRO added that both the kidnapper and the man that offered the money would be charged to court upon completion of the investigation.

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# PLATEAU STATE UNIVERSITY, BOKKOS

(OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR)

## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

### 6TH AND 7TH COMBINED CONVOCATION

The Vice Chancellor, Plateau State University, Bokkos Professor Yohana Daniel Izam on behalf of the Governing Council, the Senate, Staff and Students of the University cordially invites parents, guardians, students and the general public to the 6th and 7th combined Convocation ceremony of the University scheduled to hold as follows:

#### THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY, 2023

Convocation Lecture on the theme "University Education – the Foundation for Peace, Unity and Economic Development" to be delivered by the Vice-Chancellor, Karl Kumm University, Vom, Professor Nanven A. Gambo.

**Time: 11:00am**

**Venue: Senate Chamber, PLASU-Bokkos.**

#### FRIDAY 27TH JANUARY, 2023

Convocation ceremony for the conferment of Honorary Doctorate Degrees and award of First Degrees

**Time: 10:00am**

**Venue: Convocation Ground, PLASU-Bokkos.**

Commissioning of projects by his Excellency, the Executive Governor of Plateau State Barr. Simon Bako Lalong KSGG and the Executive Secretary, TETFund, Architect Sonny Echono.

**Time: 2:00pm**

**Venue: Project sites, PLASU-Bokkos**

Graduands are to visit the University's website [www.plasu.edu.ng](http://www.plasu.edu.ng) for the procedures for collection of Academic Gowns and Convocation Booklets which will commence on **Wednesday 25th January, 2023.**

Signed:  
**Yakubu F. Ayuba**  
Registrar



## UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA UNIVERSITY, KATSINA

DUTSINMA ROAD, P.M.B. 2218,  
KATSINA POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

### ADMISSIONS INTO POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR THE 2022/2023 ACADEMIC SESSION

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for admissions into Postgraduate Programmes of Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina for the 2022/2023 academic session. Interested applicants can apply online via the University website [www.umyu.edu.ng](http://www.umyu.edu.ng)

For the list of available courses, method of application, requirements and application fees, please visit the University website [www.umyu.edu.ng](http://www.umyu.edu.ng)

Duly completed application forms and supporting documents should be forwarded to the **SECRETARY, POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL, UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA UNIVERSITY, KATSINA. P.M.B. 2218, KATSINA** not later than 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

Signed,  
Secretary Postgraduate School



#### PUBLIC NOTICE

### FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

#### PUBLIC DISCLOSURE FOR THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (ESMP) FOR REHABILITATION AND RENOVATION OF 578 JSS AND SSS SCHOOLS IN 34 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, KATSINA STATE FOR AGILE PROJECT

In accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act CAP E12 LFN 2004, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major developmental activities to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of their proposed projects, the Federal Ministry of Environment hereby announces twenty-one (21) working days Public Display for the above stated documents submitted by Katsina State AGILE project. This display is to enable the public to make inputs that shall facilitate informed decisions on the project EIA by the Ministry.

#### BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project entails rehabilitation and renovation of 578 Junior Secondary Schools and Senior Secondary Schools across 34 Local Government Areas of Katsina State under AGILE project for Educational subsector

#### THE DISPLAY CENTERS ARE:

- The 34 Local Government Council of Katsina State where the project is domiciled;
- Katsina State Ministry of Environment, Katsina, Katsina State;
- Federal Ministry of Environment, Katsina, Katsina State;
- Federal Ministry of Environment, Environmental Assessment Department, Independence Way South, Central Business District, Abuja - F.C.T.

#### DURATION OF DISPLAY:

**Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> January to 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2023 **Time:** 8:00am – 4:00pm Daily.

**ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE HON. MINISTER, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT HEADQUARTERS, MABUSHI, ABUJA -F.C.T ON OR BEFORE 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023.**

SIGNED  
PERMANENT SECRETARY  
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER.



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Together, we shall conquer and restore the glory of Sokoto State after many years of the locust, in the political wilderness. Jarma, you are warmly welcome.

**SIGNED:**

**Senator Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko,**  
Sarkin Yamman Sokoto  
APC Leader, Sokoto State

# CITY & CRIME

## Woman quits marriage, marries daughter's boyfriend in Kano

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano

A drama played out in Rano Local Government Area (LGA) of Kano State after a woman, Malama Khadija, dissolved her own marriage and married her daughter's suitor.

The incident happened after the daughter, Aisha, rejected her suitor, with the mother saying it was not prohibited in Islam.

Earlier, the woman's relatives told Freedom Radio that they were accusing the Hisbah Commandant of Rano LGA

of marrying off their daughter without their consent and that they didn't even know where she was.

But speaking to Freedom Radio also, Malama Khadija said she was healthy and hearty and that she was living happily with her new husband.

She explained that after realising that her daughter decided not to marry the man, she felt that both of them should not lose him and so she decided to contact his family, adding that she was as beautiful as her daughter.

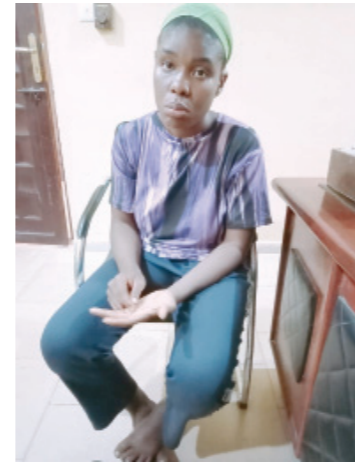
She said, "I didn't do it with ignorance. I contacted clerics and they said it is not prohibited. When I contacted him, he agreed, but my parents and relatives refused to do the marriage rites. That was why I decided to go to Hisbah and we are happily married now."

Malama Khadija's uncle, Abdullahi Musa Rano, said they refused to allow her to marry the man because she deliberately dissolved her first marriage in order to marry her daughter's suitor who was not qualified to be her husband.

He explained that, "She mounted pressure on her husband to divorce her just to marry the man. We can't do this shameful thing in our family which was why we refused to join them in marriage. We are not happy with what Hisbah did and we are reporting to bring out our daughter. We want the general commandant and the state government to look into the matter."

When contacted, the Hisbah Commandant, Ustaz Nura Rano, said only the state command of the board had the right to speak on the issue.

Contacted, the state's General Commandant of Hisbah, Sheikh Harun Ibn-Sina, promised to investigate the matter.



■ The woman

## Police in Enugu seek to reunite woman with family

The police in Enugu State have disclosed their desire to reunite a 20-year-old woman found wandering in Obe community in Nkanu West LGA with her family.

Spokesman of the command, DSP Daniel Ndukwu, on Tuesday, said the woman was taken to Ozalla Police Division on January 20, by a man and that efforts to obtain relevant information from her about her family had been fruitless as she appeared to be in a state of mental disorder.

He said, "She has at different times given names such as Gloria, Ada and Mercy as her name."

"Parents, family members, friends or anyone that can identify and help the police to reunite the young lady with her family should please report to Ozalla Police Division or call the division on 08053934696." (NAN)

## Man arraigned for impregnating, abandoning woman, son

A 45-year-old man, Lukman Adekoya, was on Tuesday arraigned before an Ikeja magistrates' court, Lagos, for impregnating a woman and abandoning her after she gave birth to a son.

The prosecutor, DSP Kehinde Ajayi, told the court that the defendant in 2020 impregnated one Atinuke Oshorinde and later abandoned her and their son to suffer.

He said, "He refused to supply their needs and abandoned both mother and child thereby endangering their lives."

"The defendant refused to provide accommodation for them and left them to suffer." He noted that the offences contravened Sections 247 (1) and 249 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State 2015.

After pleading not guilty to the charges, the Magistrate, Ejiro Kubeinje, granted the defendant bail in the sum of N20,000 and adjourned the case to February 2. (NAN)

## Suspected kidnappers of baby nabbed in Zamfara

From Shehu Umar, Gusau

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Zamfara State has arrested four suspects who attempted to kidnap a two-year-old baby at Anguwan Shado, a suburb of Gusau.

Parading the suspects, the state's Commandant of NSCDC, Muhammad Bello Muazu, said that the suspects, Muslim Sani (25), Abdulrazak Bashir (20), Tukur Bello (24) and Jafar Lawal (23), were arrested in connection with attempted kidnapping of a two-year-old baby, Hawau Masaud, whose 13-year-old elder sister, Umalkaidi Shahibilu, was carrying during an errand.

He said that one of the suspects who Umalkaidi described to be wearing a black clothes and who was later identified as Muslim Sani came and snatched Hawau from her and ran into an uncompleted building where the other three accomplices were waiting.

He further said Umalkaidi raised alarm which attracted residents who tracked the kidnapped baby to the uncompleted building where the four suspects were arrested.

The suspects, however, said that they were in the uncompleted building smoking Indian hemp and denied any knowledge of the crime.

However, preliminary investigation revealed that the four suspects were at the crime scene and two of them were identified by the elder sister and brother of the kidnapped baby as those who snatched and harboured her. Muazu, therefore, said that the suspects would be charged to court after investigation is concluded.



■ The suspect and the rescued baby

## Islamic teacher bags life jail for defiling 8 pupils

of the 10th prosecution witness, a midwife with the Women at Risk International Foundation (WARIF), Mrs Oluchi Nwoke-Okoi, revealed that the pupils had vaginal injuries.

The judge also held that the defendant asked the pupils to turn their backs while he defiled them one by one.

She said: "The demeanour of the defendant is nothing to write home about. His stony face appears mischievous; he is extremely unkind and ruthless, fingering his students with his index finger."

"What an Islamic teacher who took undue advantage of poor students in Islam and messed around with their

purity and dignity!" "He is meant to teach his students morals, discipline and values, but alas, the reverse was the case."

"The dignity and safety of our students must be cherished. Dirty Islamic teachers of his kind must be locked away and be made to pay for their dirty sexual indiscretions."

"The defendant is hereby convicted of all the charges and sentenced to life imprisonment on each of the eight counts, but the sentences shall run concurrently."

The judge also ordered that the convict should have his name written in the Sexual Offenders Register of Lagos State. (NAN)

## QUICK READ

### Court slams N1.5m fine against 6 people for calling woman witch

A High Court sitting in Kano on Tuesday ordered six persons to pay one Sahura Suleiman N1.5 million as damages for calling her a witch.

In a suit filed by Sahura, she alleged that the six respondents jointly, falsely and recklessly uttered slanderous words against her such as witch, hypocrite and bastard.

The respondents are Rabi'u Wise, Talatu Salisu, Umni Tasi'u, Mariya Musa, Nauwara Salisu, Aisar Gandu, Baba Umaru and a native doctor (Suwidi Habibu).

Justice Zuwaira Yusuf held that the respondents unjustly defamed the character of the plaintiff and ordered them to collectively pay her the sum of N1m damages.

Yusuf also ordered the respondents to pay the plaintiff the sum of N500,000 for breach of her fundamental human rights.

She also gave an order compelling the respondents to apologise to the plaintiff publicly in the town and restrained them or their servants, agents, from further defaming the plaintiff. (NAN)

### NSCDC gets new commandant in Lagos

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) has deployed Mr Usman Alfadarai as the new commandant of the Lagos State command.

The outgoing commandant of the state, Mr Okoro Eweka, confirmed the development on Tuesday.

Alfadarai, until his deployment to Lagos, was the Principal Staff Officer to the Commandant-General of NSCDC. (NAN)

### 2023: FCT minister tasks Tinubu/Shettima campaign group

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The FCT Minister, Muhammad Musa Bello, has urged the leaders of the Tinubu/Shettima Grassroots Independence Campaign Council (GICC) in the FCT to ensure that the presidential candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Bola Ahmed Tinubu, and his running mate, Kashim Shettima, and other party aspirants in the territory win in the general elections.

Bello, represented by his Special Assistant on Special Duties, Hajjiya Farida Odangi, gave the charge at the inauguration of the GICC's executives on Monday.

He noted that there was the need for them to campaign vigorously across the 62 political wards of the six area councils for the success of the party's presidential and National Assembly candidates.

He said, "To each and every one of you that has been inaugurated, the responsibility before you is to ensure that APC wins the forthcoming elections in the FCT."

In his acceptance speech, the FCT Coordinator of GICC, Ayuba Ngbako, assured the minister that the group would work collectively to deliver for APC.

## FCTA takes measures against diphtheria

By Hussein Yahaya

The FCT Executive Committee (FCT EXCO) has directed that necessary pre-emptive measures be taken against the emergence of the deadly childhood disease, diphtheria, by all health agencies in the territory.

The Director, Information and Communication in the FCTA, Muhammad Sule, in a statement on Tuesday, said that the FCT EXCO gave the directive at its meeting held in Gwarinpa District. Sule explained that the EXCO also directed the health and human services secretariat to ensure increased surveillance, awareness creation and sensitisation to curb the risk of the disease.

He said the EXCO further urged the secretariat to liaise with the area councils to convene an emergency meeting with relevant technical partners and work out modalities to effectively counter the disease.

He noted that, "This has become necessary as cases have been reported in some states around the FCT."

Sule said diphtheria was a bacterial infection caused by an organism referred to as corynebacterium diphtheria which affected the throat, nose and sometimes skin of unvaccinated children, and rarely, adults with poor immunity.

He said, "The symptoms of the disease include fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, red eyes, neck swelling and difficulty in breathing."

"Diphtheria spreads easily among people through direct contact with infected people, droplets from coughing or sneezing and contact with contaminated clothing and objects."

"The people most at risk are the unvaccinated and those who live in crowded areas and/or where there is poor sanitation."

"To reduce the risk of contracting the disease, children are expected to get fully vaccinated with three doses of the pentavalent vaccine as recommended in the National Childhood Immunisation Schedule."



■ Customers struggling to enter a bank in Abaji on Tuesday

## Petrol stations, traders reject old naira notes in FCT councils

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Even as the January 31, deadline set by the Central Bank Nigeria (CBN) for Nigerians to return their old naira notes to banks is yet to elapse, some filling stations and traders have started rejecting the old naira notes in some area councils of the FCT.

Findings by City & Crime in Abaji, Kwali, Gwagwalada and Kuje area councils on Tuesday revealed that some filling stations and petty traders were rejecting the old naira notes from customers.

A driver, James Ishaku, who said he was at a filling station in Kuje metropolis Tuesday morning, said the pump attendant rejected the old naira notes he gave him.

He explained that when he brought out the money from his pocket and opened his car tank the pump attendant told him that he would not accept the old naira notes.

He further said, "When I was trying to explain to him that the CBN deadline is 31st January, he

refused to listen and he didn't serve me the fuel."

He added that he was forced to use the old naira notes to buy the fuel at a higher price from black marketeers.

In Abaji town, a driver, Usman Ibrahim, complained that a pump attendant at a filling station rejected N4,000 made up of old N200 notes from him.

He said, "Just some few minutes ago I went to buy fuel at a petrol station and the pump attendant said he would not collect old naira notes. I collected the money from a POS this morning."

A trader in Kwali, Mrs Rebecca Ayuba, said she was forced to stop accepting the old naira notes from customers because of the apprehension the CBN deadline had been generating among the people.

She noted that only one bank operated in Kwali town, saying many traders who went to the bank to deposit the old naira notes were still finding it difficult to do so because of the influx of customers,

especially villagers who normally came to sell their farm produce in Kwali market.

She further said, "Oga, no bi my fault ooo! How I wish you were here in Kwali on Monday to see how the bank was filled with customers, including farmers who came from the villages."

Similarly, customers besieged the only bank in Abaji town with large sums of the old naira notes for deposits.

A customer, Mrs Zainab Aliyu, who said she came from Umaisha in Toto LGC of Nasarawa State, explained that she had been finding it difficult to deposit her old naira notes since Monday due to the influx of customers.

She explained that, "I came from Umaisha on Monday and went back around 5pm without having access to deposit the money. I came back this morning still struggling to see how I will deposit the money."

City & Crime further observed customers as they queued up in front of ATMs in the area waiting to withdraw the new naira notes.

# INSIDE POLITICS

“I made a promise that I will serve Nigeria and Nigerians to the best of my ability and so far, I have not disappointed anybody — President Muhammadu Buhari

## Constitution review: State assemblies reject financial autonomy for LG

By Abdullateef Salau

**State Houses of Assembly have voted against a bill seeking to grant financial and administrative autonomy to local governments.**

The proposal was part of the 44 constitutional amendment bills transmitted by the National Assembly to the state assemblies for concurrence.

A simple majority of votes is required in at least two-thirds of state assemblies (24 out of 36) and the amendments that sail through would be sent to the president for assent.

The Senate, in a motion by Ovie Omo-Agege (APC, Delta) during plenary yesterday, said 27 out of the 36 state assemblies have forwarded their resolutions on the constitution amendment bills to the National Assembly.

Omo-Agege, whose motion was presented by Opeyemi Bamidele (APC, Ekiti), said 35 bills have satisfied constitutional provision, having been approved by not less than 24 state assemblies.

He, however, said nine bills could not scale through.

Prominent among them are the abrogation of state-local government joint



account; establishment of local government as a tier of government; institutionalisation of legislative bureaucracy in the constitution; and inclusion of presiding officers of the National Assembly in the membership of the National Security Council.

There has been debate over the issue of autonomy of local governments, which usually operate joint accounts with state governments.

The joint National Assembly ad hoc

committee on constitution review had, in October last year, knocked state governors for preventing state lawmakers from concurring with constitution amendment proposals, especially the ones on autonomy for the 774 local government areas.

“No doubt, some state governors have worked tirelessly to turn the conference of speakers and some state assemblies into political puppets, thereby undermining and delegitimising the legislative institution at the

state level.

“This interference has been ramped up, especially in opposition to the bills granting financial and administrative autonomy to local governments,” Omo-Agege, who is the co-chair of the constitution review committee, told reporters.

Among the 35 bills approved by state assemblies are: financial autonomy of state legislatures and state judiciary; power devolution to allow state governments build and operate airports, prisons, railways, and power grid system.

Others are legislative power to summon president and governors; timeframe to submit ministerial and commissioner nominees; timeframe for submission of national budget; and separation of the office of the Attorney-General of the Federation and of the State from the minister or commissioner for justice.

The Senate, therefore, directed the Clerk to the National Assembly to transmit the 35 approved bills to President Muhammadu Buhari for assent.

It also urged the state assemblies in Gombe, Jigawa, Kebbi, Kwara, Oyo, Plateau, Sokoto, Taraba, Zamfara to forward their resolutions on the bills to the National Assembly.

### SDP presidential candidate vows to tackle poverty, insecurity, others

From Yvonne Ugwuezuoha & Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Presidential candidate of the Social Democratic Party, SDP, Prince Adewole Adebayo, has pledged to eradicate poverty and combat insecurity in the country if elected president in the next month's election.

Prince Adebayo made this pledge during a presentation at the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, NIIA, in Lagos.

He said unless communities are secured from the scourge of banditry and terrorism, fighting poverty will be a wild goose's chase.

This, he said, is because

farmers had deserted their farms due to banditry and were forced to pay taxes to bandits to access their farms for planting and harvesting.

Prince Adebayo further said economic diplomacy would be his guiding framework for foreign policy.

**SDP gov'ship candidate kicks as Lagos 'exco' defects to PDP**

Meanwhile, the Lagos State Executive Committee of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) said it has collapsed its structure into the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the state and subsequently endorsed the party's candidate, Abdul-Azeez Olajide, popularly known as Jandor.

Speaking at the official defection of the state SDP exco led by its chairman, Dabiraoluwa Adeyinka, the party said it is convinced that Jandor has the capacity to deliver the state.

At the reception, the former SDP chairman said she was attracted to the PDP with the emergence of Nollywood actress, Funke Akindele, as the deputy governorship candidate of the party.

But SDP governorship candidate, Chief Kunle Uthman, in a chat with *Daily Trust* denied the defection of the exco, saying only the chairman and two exco members had defected.

He said the remaining 11 were strangers.

### Atiku woos Delta voters, pledges to revive economy

From Meluwa Kelvin, Asaba

The presidential candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Atiku Abubakar, has said he will restructure the country's security architecture and grow the economy if voted into office.

Speaking yesterday at the party's presidential campaign in Asaba, Delta State capital, Atiku said from 1999 to 2015, PDP grew Nigeria's economy and made it the largest in Africa, but the All Progressives Congress (APC) destroyed it with its inept leadership.

While appreciating voters in Delta, Atiku said the oil-rich Niger Delta State had

never failed the PDP since 1999 till date.

He said from his political journey, Delta State has always supported him and promised not to betray the trust of Delta and the entire Niger Delta.

“All through my political journey, Delta State has always supported me and I want to promise you that I shall not betray the trust of Delta and the entire Niger Delta.

“That is why in my modest appreciation, I chose one of you as my vice-presidential candidate and you know that a running mate is always a stepping stone.

“Therefore, it is up to you to show your support by giving Governor Okowa the massive support to enable us to rescue and rebuild our dear country,”

he said.

Atiku also said, “The Niger Delta and other parts of the country will benefit from our resource control and restructuring agenda because it is our intention to devolve more powers to the states and local governments to tackle peculiar challenges facing the people.

“The APC government has disunited Nigeria in all aspects and it is our commitment to restore the unity of this country by ensuring that every part of this country has a sense of belonging.”

Earlier at a meeting with traditional rulers in Delta, Atiku promised that if elected, he would ensure that clear constitutional roles were given to monarchs in the country.

### Efforts to rig elections will be frustrated – Tor Tiv

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

Paramount traditional ruler of Tiv people worldwide, the Tor Tiv, Prof. James Ayatse, has warned that any attempt by politicians to rig the forthcoming elections would be frustrated.

Ayatse gave the warning in his goodwill

message yesterday at the commissioning of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) secretariat in Makurdi.

He commended Benue State Governor Samuel Ortom for demonstrating his roots as a Christian to build a befitting edifice as secretariat for CAN administration.

Speaking on the forthcoming general elections, the monarch said, “I stand as the father on this land to counsel and to caution that everything must be done in peace. There should be no fighting, there should be no violence, and people should come out en masse to perform their civic responsibility.

### Najatu was a mole, sacked for incompetence – Tinubu

By Saawua Terzungwe

The presidential candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Bola Ahmed Tinubu, yesterday said the former Director of Civil Society Organisations of the APC Presidential Campaign Council, Hajija Najatu Muhammad, was a mole in the party.

Najatu had, in a letter dated January 19, 2023, withdrawn her membership

of the party and resigned from her position in the campaign council, saying she would no longer support the APC's presidential candidate, Tinubu.

She was later granted an interview where she said Tinubu, whom she accused of suffering dementia, was so ill that he could barely hold a cup of tea.

Mahmud Jega, Adviser, Public Affairs, Tinubu Media Office, in a statement

on Tuesday said Najatu was sacked “for incompetence, quarrelsomeness and after being uncovered to be a mole planted in our winning campaign in order to leak sensitive information to our desperate opponents.”

The statement said, “Although she deceived the gullible public by claiming that she resigned, her sack letter with ignominy from the campaign and the party had just arrived at her desk.”

## RACE TO NASS



From Tijjani Ibrahim, Katsina

# Buhari's senatorial district: Kaita, Daura set for epic battle

Senator Ahmad Babba Kaita, who represents Katsina North Senatorial District, where President Muhammadu Buhari hails from, and Nasiru Sani Zangon Daura, the current member, House of Representatives, Zango/Baure Federal Constituency, are set for an epic battle for the Senate seat.

Our correspondent assesses the chances of the two candidates, both of whom joined the National Assembly in 2011, ahead of the 2023 national elections.

## Background

Like Daura, Senator Babba Kaita was a member of the House of Representatives (Kankia/Ingawa/Kusada) federal constituency, from 2011 until 2018 when he moved to the Senate through a by-election following the death of the occupant of the seat, Senator Bukar Mustapha.

He is seeking re-election in the coming election. Kaita lost confidence in contesting for the governorship of Katsina State on the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC). He decamped to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). Political observers link his defection to his feud with the state governor, Aminu Bello Masari.

On his part, Daura, who is a third term in the lower chamber, and as one of his campaign chiefs, Rt Hon. Shehu Usman Bala, would say, "decided that Zango local government has had its fair share in the lower chamber, let us move it to the other component member of the constituency, Baure".

## Strengths

While both of them enjoy the fact that they are still serving as legislators, Zangon Daura, has the power of incumbency at both the state and federal levels to his advantage.

Katsina State under the APC is doing whatever is possible to see that the party retains its seats at both the federal and state levels, having swept away almost all the local government areas of the state.

On his part, Babba Kaita, apart from being the current senator, his widespread reach will add to his strength as he had taken development projects to, not only within the senatorial district, but all parts of the state, especially when he was nursing the governorship ambition.

Another advantage of Kaita will be the massive defection of members of the APC to PDP some months ago in the zone, due to what they called their dissatisfaction with the APC administration.

Adding to the strength of Babba Kaita, his Media Aide, Abdulkadir Lawal, said, "His



■ Kaita



■ Daura

performance at the national assembly gives him an edge over his opponent.

"For example, he has done well in terms of youth empowerment, especially by securing jobs to over 600 youths in different federal establishments only from 2019 to date."

"Secondly, in his primary responsibility, Senator Kaita has done a lot in terms of sponsoring bills. No senator has done close to him in this aspect in Katsina State.

"One of the most important bills he sponsored is that of local government autonomy and that is what caused the rift between him and the state governor, Aminu Bello Masari, that eventually led to his exit from the APC.

"He sponsored other bills, like the Federal Colleges of Education Re-enactment Bill, which seeks for the overhaul of federal colleges of education to conform to international standards.

"He also sponsored a bill to rename the Daura Federal Polytechnic after his predecessor, late Senator Bukar Mustapha, to immortalise him. This is in addition to his efforts at ensuring that the school construction is completed.

"There is also a bill to establish a teaching hospital for Federal University Dutsin-Ma."

Lawal added that, "In terms of projects, Senator Kaita has constructed over 500 classrooms across the state.

"He brought, as his constituency project, the Federal

Fire Training Institute, Kankia, the first of its kind in the North West.

"He has built about 22 maternity clinics within the zone; he constructed the National Open University study centre in Mani; many computer training centres and many more.

"So, I will assure you that people now have reasonable political awareness to vote for a person rather than a party."

On his part, Bala, believes that his candidate is confident of winning the Senate seat, going by his performance at the House of Representatives in the last 11 years.

"Number one, in terms of youth employment, we lost count of the number he has assisted to secure jobs in the Federal Roads Safety Commission, customs, immigration and central bank amongst many other federal agencies and parastatals.

"This is not limited to Zango/Baure constituency or even the Daura zone, as Hon Nasiru has helped anyone that is from Katsina State.

"One other good aspect of Hon. Nasiru, is his simplicity. For example, during the 2015 governorship primaries, he slept amongst the delegates at the Polo ground.

"That endeared him to the people to the extent that those from Bakori were saying was there a possibility of swapping members of the house, they would have exchanged theirs with Hon. Nasiru.

"Secondly, Hon. Nasiru is not greedy; he is working for the

welfare of the people. This has to do with his family background. We all know the kind of person his father, Alhaji Sani Zangon Daura is.

"I am a member of the family and I can tell you the time I left Katsina State House of Assembly as Speaker, I did not have up to N100,000, and that had to do with the constant admonition by Nasiru's father, that we should be as accountable as possible.

"Even in this primary election that Nasiru contested, his father had to support him financially, because he did not have enough to do it," he said.

In terms of his legislative duties, Bala said Daura has done a lot in the area of attracting dividend of democracy to his people, citing the role he played in the actualization of the Federal University of Transport Daura as well as Federal Polytechnic Daura through the bills, amongst others.

## Weaknesses

The two gladiators; Daura and Kaita have some issues to deal with in their political parties. The APC is facing issues with the people, not only in Katsina State, but across the country, due to the economic situation that people attribute to the leadership style of the party despite their claimed performance in all aspects.

The PDP is also engulfed in crisis in Katsina State, particularly with the controversial change of state leadership, which could affect the chances of the party.

There are two people claiming the chairmanship of the party, Alhaji Lawal Uli, and Alhaji

Lawal Magaji Danbaci, who is from the Daura Zone.

## Constituents speak

In an interview on Liberty TV, an APC stalwart, Senator Abu Ibrahim, described Babba Kaita as a good politician, a grassroots mobilizer that "nobody will wish away."

On his part, a resident of Daura, Malam Muhammad Salisu, said, "Here in Daura, majority of people are more hopeful on Babba Kaita, because he relates better with the people.

"Recently, the APC contestant, Nasiru Sani, distributed some support items to the people, but other people are still grumbling over the matter.

"The party (APC) has been losing its members in this part, honestly due to perceived injustice. For instance, there are allegations about the recent N20,000 distributed by the federal government.

"There are allegations that many of those who were given slots were asked to return N15,000 after receiving the money," he claimed.

Also speaking, a resident of Kankia, Malam Bello, said, "You know, no one knows the future, but honestly Babba Kaita is more popular in this part. One other factor is that a lot of people will not vote based on party loyalty but based on personality.

"Babba Kaita has brought a lot of projects in different parts of the state and that will make people vote for him, even those that are not in support of his party," he said.

# ZONAL HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANISATION VACANCIES

Our company is a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) incorporated as a private company and registered by the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) solely to manage the provision of health care services to registered participants in North Central geo political zone, through Health Care Facilities accredited by the Authority (i.e. We are to provide health insurance for the residents of North Central states (FCT, Kogi, Niger, Kwara, Benue, Plateau and Nasarawa states), who are either in the formal economy, informal sector or and the Vulnerable

Hence we are desirous of recruiting and selecting competent, talented and experienced self-motivated and result-oriented candidates to fill the following positions:

## 1. MANAGING DIRECTOR/CEO

The prospective MD/CEO is required to build a strong corporate and informal relationships to rapidly ensure the coverage of our clientele reaches up to 30 % of the target area in the first 2 years.

The CEO with his team must proactively seek new markets and pursue new opportunities. His communication skills must be excellent such that it will help build relationships with potential clients that will influence the buy-in and the use of our various developed insurance health plans

### Job Description

- The Chief Executive Officer and accounting officer is to
- Manage the day-to-day running of the organization to achieve our goals and objectives
  - Be responsible for the judicious utilization of available resources to ensure the success of our HMO
  - Supervise the heads of department to efficiently carryout their responsibilities
  - Summon management meetings whenever required
  - Maintain a record of activities of the organization
  - Encourage the involvement of the Board Chairman or/and Board Members when necessary to drive the process of ensuring a big potential health insurance market
  - Be responsible for the final approval of all exit flows of funds from the organization
  - Responsible for staff welfare and regular review of terms and working conditions of staff
  - Regularly liaise with National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) to know and carryout updated policy guidelines

### Candidate Requirements:

- Minimum of first degree or equivalent
- Post Graduate Qualification in Management, Public Health, Health
- Management, Health, Economics, Insurance or other related fields.
- Certificate in and/or professional membership of Health, Management and
- Health Insurance related bodies
- Minimum of 10 years post NYSC experience
- ICT savvy
- Minimum of 10 years cognate experience in senior management position in relevant and related fields
- Attendance of related courses/workshops/seminars e.t.c

### Job Benefits

- Competitive salary
- Health Insurance coverage for self, spouse and dependents <18 years.
- Job will be both office and field based but with opportunities to travel to
- Masslife state-level offices

### Skills and competencies

- Good Planning and organisational skills
- Knowledge of audit and risk processes in a similar organisation
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Computer Literacy and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office

### Person Specification

- Self-Motivated and able to influence and motivate others
- Willingness to work at odd hours or put in extra hours
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship management skills
- Excellent Time Management skills
- A logical thinker who pays attention to details
- Able to work under pressure to respond to service needs
- Candidate must be between the age of 40-50

## 2. HEAD, FINANCE DEPARTMENT

### Job Description:

- Responsible for the general accounting activities of the organization
- Keeps a record of inflow and outflow of funds in the organization
- Record all the contributions of enrolees and the sources
- Prepare a register of contributors and their organizations
- Calculate the amount of capitation and fee-for-service due for each enrolee and present inform of a register
- Vet the bills prepared before payment
- Supervision of the preparation of salaries and staff payroll/payment schedule.
- Prepare staff emoluments
- Advice management appropriately and timely on financial matters to take advantage of or to be wary of.
- Inform management on the timely external obligations that must be fulfilled
- Prepare Annual Financial Account of the organization
- Analyse business operations, trends, costs, revenues, financial commitments and obligations, to project future

- revenues and expenses or to provide advice.
- Develop, maintain, and analyse budgets, preparing periodic reports that compare budgeted costs to actual costs.
  - Ensure that departmental expenses are within the approved limits
  - Compute taxes owed and prepare tax returns, ensuring compliance with payment, reporting or other tax requirements.
  - Manage Procurement processes in the organization
  - A member of the management team

### Candidate's Requirements:

- Minimum of first degree or equivalent in Accounting or Related fields
- Post Graduate Qualification in Accounting or related fields
- Certificate in and/or professional membership of Accounting or Related fields
- Minimum of 8 years post NYSC experience
- Knowledge of MS Excel, MS Word, Accounting Software
- Minimum of 8 years cognate experience in relevant or related field
- Attendance of related/workshops/seminars etc

### Skills and competencies

- Good Planning and organisational skills
- Knowledge of audit and risk processes in a similar organisation
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Computer Literacy and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office

### Person Specification

- Self-Motivated and able to influence and motivate others
- Willingness to work at odd hours or put in extra hours
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship management skills
- Excellent Time Management skills
- A logical thinker who pays attention to details
- Able to work under pressure to respond to service needs
- Candidate must be between the age of 35-45

## 3. HEAD, HUMAN RESOURCES/ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

### Job Description:

- Responsible for the management of human resources of the organization
- Develops and frequently revises welfare conditions of the staff based on the available resources of the organization
- Suggest and submits the names of staff members who are diligent and efficient in their respective assignments for appropriate compensation
- Suggest and submit names of staff members who frequently err or are unruly for appropriate disciplinary action
- Responsible for general administration of the office
- Responsible for new staff adaptation and orientation in the organization
- Maintains records of all activities of the office
- Maintains academic and behavioural records of all staff members
- Recommend appropriate training skills required by an individual or group of staff for the enhancement of organizational goals
- Responsible for office maintenance
- Responsible for vehicle/s acquisition, maintenance and servicing
- Responsible for order and storage of office consumables
- Support the Board with meeting, travel and other arrangements
- A member of the management team

### Candidates Requirements:

- Minimum of first degree or equivalent in Administration or related field
- Post Graduate qualification in Administration, Health or Health related fields
  - Certificate in and/or professional membership of Administration, Personnel or related fields
  - Minimum of 5 years post NYSC experience
  - Knowledge of MS Excel, MS Word
  - Minimum of 5 years cognate experience in relevant or related fields
  - Attendance of related courses/workshop/seminars

### Skills and competencies

- Good Planning and organisational skills
- Knowledge of audit and risk processes in a similar organisation
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Computer Literacy and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office

### Person Specification

- Self-Motivated and able to influence and motivate others
- Willingness to work at odd hours or put in extra hours
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship management skills
- Excellent Time Management skills
- A logical thinker who pays attention to details
- Able to work under pressure to respond to service needs
- Candidate must be between the age of 35-45

## 4. HEAD, HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Job Description:

- Responsible for medically related activities in the organization
- Head of team of advocacy and sensitization
- Responsible in part to the marketing of the organization
- Responsible for Quality Assurance in Health Facilities providing services under the organization
- Responsible for accreditation of Health Care Facilities providing services under the organization
- Head of General Operations of the organization
- Works with the Underwriter on design of Policy Plans for

- various stakeholders
- Vet medical bills for fee-for-service
  - Gives Authorization Code request from Health Care Facilities to provide secondary care on registered enrolees
  - Conducts regular spot-checks on health care facilities to ensure provision of quality care
  - Responsible for monitoring and evaluation of health care facilities providing services under the organization
  - Maintains a utilization record of all enrolees in health care facilities of the organization
  - Conduct periodic satisfaction survey of enrolees to determine efficiency of the health facilities

### Candidates Requirements:

- Minimum of first degree in Medical and Related field
- Post Graduate qualification in Public Health, Health Management, Health Financing or Health Related fields
- Certificate in and/or professional membership of health, management or related fields
- Minimum of 5 years post NYSC experience
- Knowledge of MS Power point, SPSS, or other statistical tools
- Attendance of related courses/Seminar/Workshops

### Skills and competencies

- Good Planning and organisational skills
- Knowledge of audit and risk processes in a similar organisation
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Computer Literacy and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office

### Person Specification

- Self-Motivated and able to influence and motivate others
- Willingness to work at odd hours or put in extra hours
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship management skills
- Excellent Time Management skills
- A logical thinker who pays attention to details
- Able to work under pressure to respond to service needs
- Candidate must be between the age of 35-45

## 5. HEAD, ICT DEPARTMENT

### Job Description:

- Responsible for all ICT Operations in the organization
- Maintain safe electronic records of the organization on and offsite/clouds
- Keep and regularly update the status of enrolee data
- Produce data register for payment to health providers monthly
- Production of enrolees identity cards
- Resolve enrolee data challenges
- Design and develop appropriate applications for interrogation of data and easy retrieval of data
- Develop data aggregation system in consonance with the health system demography.
- Keep a record of utilization data of enrolees
- Manage the call centre
- Responsible for the request and purchase of ICT equipment
- Acquire and maintain advocacy and sensitization equipment for power point projection and public address system
- Registration of new enrolees
- Develop and maintain a vibrant website for the organization
- A member of the management team

### Candidates Skills Requirements

- Certification in and/or professional membership of ICT related fields
- Minimum of 5 years post NYSC experience
- Knowledge of Databases, Oracle, Statistical/epidemiological tools such as SPSS, Epiinfo
- Minimum of 4 years post NYSC experience
- Attendance of related courses/workshops/seminars

### Skills and competencies

- Good Planning and organisational skills
- Knowledge of audit and risk processes in a similar organisation
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Computer Literacy and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office

### Person Specification

- Self-Motivated and able to influence and motivate others
- Willingness to work at odd hours or put in extra hours
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship management skills
- Excellent Time Management skills
- A logical thinker who pays attention to details
- Able to work under pressure to respond to service needs
- Candidate must be between the age of 35-45

## 6. HEAD, UNDERWRITING DEPARTMENT

### Job Description:

- Responsible for development and review of Health Plans for the organization
- Responsible for proposals that will suit the various organizations
- Head of the marketing team
- To work with other departments in developing Benefit Package for different plans
- Assist in determining organizational risks and mitigants
- Develop critical data surveys such as ability-to-pay and willingness-to-pay
- Analyse the various health facilities encounter data and advice.
- Take part in advocacy and sensitization
- A member of the management team

### Candidates Skills Requirement:

- Minimum of first degree or equivalent in Actuarial Sciences, Insurance or Related Fields
- Post Graduate qualification in Actuarial sciences,

- Insurance Health Management, Health Financing or Related Fields will be an advantage
- Certification in and/or professional membership of Insurance or Actuarial Sciences bodies or related fields
  - Minimum of 5 years post NYSC experience
  - Knowledge of MS Excel, MS Word and field specific software
  - Minimum of 5 years cognate experience in related fields

### Skills and competencies

- Good Planning and organisational skills
- Knowledge of audit and risk processes in a similar organisation
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Computer Literacy and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office

### Person Specification

- Self-Motivated and able to influence and motivate others
- Willingness to work at odd hours or put in extra hours
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship management skills
- Excellent Time Management skills
- A logical thinker who pays attention to details
- Able to work under pressure to respond to service needs
- Candidate must be between the age of 35-45

## 7. UNIT HEAD, MARKETING

### Job Description:

- Responsible for mapping and identifying potential markets with relevant departmental heads
- Designing specific marketing strategies for individuals and groups
- Assembling necessary work tools required for marketing strategies
- Developing jingles, fliers, billboards and so on for the promotion of the organization
- Setting targets for the marketing departmental staff in the HQ and state offices
- Reviewing strategies regularly to be ahead of competitors
- Keeping records of organizations and enrolees obtained from marketing
- Determining and requesting for senior management support when the potential market requires high level contact.

### Candidates Skills Requirement: Skills and competencies

- Good Planning and organisational skills
- Knowledge of audit and risk processes in a similar organisation
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Computer Literacy and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office
- Minimum of 5 years cognate experience

### Person Specification

- Self-Motivated and able to influence and motivate others
- Willingness to work at odd hours or put in extra hours
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship management skills
- Excellent Time Management skills
- A logical thinker who pays attention to details
- Able to work under pressure to respond to service needs
- Candidate must be between the age of 35-45

## 8. UNIT HEAD, MEDIA

### Job Description:

- Responsible for determining the appropriate media vehicle for marketing strategies
- Suggest efficient Agenda Setting to sell the organization in the media
- Keep a log of media journalists for easy contact when dissemination of information is required
- Keep a record of all electronic and print history of the organization
- Work effectively with marketing unit during sensitization
- Open social media accounts like twitter, face book, Instagram, Tik-Tok and so on to promote the organization
- Regularly feed and make active the website of the organization with relevant information
- Identification and promotion of brand ambassadors
- Broadcast appropriate materials in the media after every landmark event

### Candidates Skills requirements: Skills and competencies

- Good Planning and organisational skills
- Knowledge of audit and risk processes in a similar organisation
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Computer Literacy and proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office
- Minimum of 5 years cognate experience

### Person Specification

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## OPINION

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## Amosun at 65: Examining a people-centred leader

By **Adewale Olasunkanmi Ogunyomade**

On January 15, 2023, Ibadan, Oyo State's most prominent radio station, Fresh FM, tersely but unintentionally, periscoped the life of Ibikunle Amosun, former Ogun State governor. It was on its flagship programme called *Opeyemi*. *Opeyemi*, literally translates to "Is My Turn To Testify," is patterned after Christendom's congregational gratitude session to the Almighty. During Ayefele's *Opeyemi*, held late every Sunday, "testifiers" who have gone through earth-shaking vicissitudes of life share their horrific and Providence interventions which shape their lives and keep them from being swept offshore by the vagaries and turmoil of life.

On this day appeared an apparently old man with shaky voice spoke of the travails he had undergone in life. He had been sentenced to death for murder but had his fate with the hangman commuted to life imprisonment. Since 1994, he stayed in an Ogun State prison as a lifer. This day, however, he said, Senator Amosun decided to celebrate his birthday with prisoners at Abeokuta Correctional Centre. This particular convict was given the task of handling the Islamic prayers by prison officials. After the Islamic prayer session, the man, according to him, informed his audience, pointing at the prison gallows, that he would have been executed in that house of horror but he was grateful to God that he escaped death. Then he pleaded to the pity of all present, including Amosun, that he should be considered for amnesty, having been in jail for almost three decades.

Senator Amosun, the convict said, entreated him to intensify his prayers to Almighty Allah but asked the prison officials for details of his imprisonment.

Thereafter, Amosun, said the man, took his matter to Abuja. Not long after, he was pardoned. In tears, the man showered profuse prayers and eulogies on the former governor for giving him a new lease of life.

Today is another birthday celebration of this celebrated politician and humanist.

Born January 25, 1958, young Ibikunle attended the African Church Primary School, Abeokuta from 1965 to 1970 and the African Church Grammar School, Abeokuta where he studied between 1971 and 1977. Ibikunle attended the Ogun State Polytechnic and bagged a Higher National Diploma in 1983. Convinced that he had an exemplary ability in financial accounting, Ibikunle studied hard for and secured the Associate membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN) and in 1996, secured its fellowship. He capped these up by also becoming an Associate member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria in 1998.

A year after his graduation, Amosun began to hone his skills in the career. With the Lanre Aremu & Co. (Chartered Accountants) did he start as an audit trainee. Six years after, he transferred his service to XtraEdge Consulting where he was appointed a Managing Consultant of the highly rated firm. This same year, Ibikunle founded his own firm, Ibikunle Amosun & Co. (Chartered Accountants) with its headquarters in Lagos. Still convinced that he needed to populate his brain in the knowledge of accounting and finance, in 2000, Amosun applied for and secured admission to the University of Westminster in London where he studied and bagged a Masters of Arts degree in International Finance.

At 45, it would seem that Amosun was

engaged in an existential interrogation of what is called midlife crisis.

He began to interrogate the purpose and essence of life. Is wealth for wealth sake the purpose that man came to this world to achieve? Is man fulfilled simply by being able to fend for his family and capable of affording anything his heart desires? Is life not a total ruin if man spends his life merely tending to and attending to his own existential needs alone?

Ibikunle Amosun then surveyed the horizon. The corporate world, he reasoned, had very limited avenues to better the lives of the people, other than its corporate social responsibility programme. Limited in scope and restrained in the number of beneficiaries, CSR has only tokenism to offer to the teeming, suffering people in a developing world. Then the young accountant's mind hovered over the landscape of politics.

Amosun discovered that only politics could properly measure and stem the tide of irregular poverty that afflicts the Nigerian people and specifically, his people in Ogun State. So, into the murky rivers of water, with its multifarious challenges and tendencies, did Ibikunle Amosun delve.

In April 2003, Amosun was elected senator under the People's Democratic Party (PDP). In 2007, Amosun attempted to contest for the Ogun State governorship, under the ANPP. Unfortunately, he lost the election. In the April, 2011 gubernatorial election which he again contested under the banner of the defunct Action Congress of Nigeria, (ACN) Amosun won with 377,489 votes. In the 2015 polls Amosun won again, thus serving the people of Ogun State for a second term.

Amosun's eight years in office were unprecedented in the annals of the history of governance in the western part of Nigeria. Not only did he change the face of governance and the architecture of governmental intervention in the lives of the people, Ogun State became a byword for infrastructural revolution.

Amosun exhibited a boundless energy for changing the landscape and worked till the last minute he spent in office.

Perhaps the most outstanding of Amosun's infrastructural achievements is the construction of roads, bridges and flyovers with which he littered the landscape of Ogun State with. It is to Amosun's credit that Ogun State opened its doors to multinational companies, businesses, entrepreneurs and investors.

He created massive wealth, employment, prioritised the uplift of schools and their development as centres of teaching and learning, while upgrading hospitals with massive provision of facilities and equipment.

It is instructive to note that the Ogun State, which later became the sugar that political ants fight tooth and nail to lick, was a troubled economy by the time Amosun took over. In 2011, he met an economy that boasted only a paltry N700 million as monthly Internally Generated Revenue (IGR). It is to his credit that, within eight years in office, this celebrated finance expert increased this revenue base by over 1,000 per cent, landing the IGR at N7 billion Naira monthly.

On 29 May 2019, Amosun handed over but was later elected again as Senator for the Ogun Central Senatorial District.

Here is wishing Senator Amosun a happy 65th birthday celebration and many more years of interventions in the lives of his people.

*Ogunyomade wrote from Lagos*

## [ POLITICS AND ECONOMY ]

NASIR AMINU

08037863467 (Text only)

## Kaduna \$350m World Bank loan: A success or failure?

In this election season, people quickly recall elected politicians' virtues. They also pay attention and respond to those who contributed to their current deprivations so they can pay them back at the polling unit. Even elected politicians practice it. For example, El-Rufai never misses the opportunity to attack and curse three former senators – Danjuma Lah, Shehu Sani and Suleiman Hunkuyi. The reason for his vile insults is that they blocked Kaduna State from getting the biggest loan in the history of sub-national governments in Nigeria – a \$350 million World Bank loan.

Without a doubt, posterity will judge them. Many will recall that these senators played a significant role in making the 8th Senate, under Bukola Saraki, reject the application based on the recommendation of the Senate Committee on Local and Foreign Debts and the three senators from Kaduna.

**In retrospect, the agreement is a two-edged sword. If the loan was used as stipulated by World Bank, that means there is a breach of FRA (2007), and it is a high crime. If the loan was misapplied, as stated by El-Rufai, Kwari and Uba Sani, it is equally a high crime that should require the State Assembly to scrutinise further.**

El-Rufai declared he would keep pursuing the approval despite Senate's objection. His persistence ought to have raised eyebrows. In one of his press conferences in October 2017, El-Rufai stated that part of the loan would be spent on replacing the 22,000 teachers he sacked then. In November 2017, the then Finance Commissioner – Suleiman Kwari – announced that the loan would finance infrastructural development, such as the building and rehabilitating of schools, hospitals, and roads.

Eventually, the 9th Senate – under Ahmad Lawan – approved the loan. The two new Senators – Uba Sani and Suleiman Kwari – who replaced Sani and Hunkuyi at the national assembly played a role in this feat. But before the approval, in February 2020, the Chief of Staff to the Governor – Sani Dattijo – made the headlines for his inability to defend the loan request at the Senate Committee on Foreign and Local Debts. It was not a good show.

Given the nature of the large sum of the loan and its catchy title, we dug deeper into the loan document on the World Bank website. It is called Kaduna State Economic Transformation Programme-For-Results, and unexpectedly, some dodgy points caught our eyes.

According to the website, the loan commitments were made in June 2017, and \$176 million were disbursed in June 2019 before Senate approval in 2020. The final disbursements were made in December 2021. The Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) of 2007 stipulates all loans are subject to the approval of the National Assembly. One wonders why this one was

exempted. World Bank is yet to respond to our FOI request since August 2022, and we were told that the Senate would not have the records on the loan details.

If the state had followed the FRA law, they would have negotiated a better interest rate than the 3.7 per cent and 2.2 per cent for the loan tranches as rates dropped further in 2020 due to the pandemic. For example, the \$3.4b IMF loan to Nigeria was approved at one per cent.

On the loan agreement, World Bank stipulated that the state must spend 78 per cent of the loan to cover recurrent expenditures, while 22% can be spent on capital expenditures. On top of that, the capital expenditure is restricted to only soft investments, as against hard investments (like infrastructure). The agreement is against the FRA 2007. What were the Senators thinking when they approved the loan?

In retrospect, the agreement is a two-edged sword. If the loan was used as stipulated by World Bank, that means there is a breach of FRA (2007), and it is a high crime. If the loan was misapplied, as stated by El-Rufai, Kwari and Uba Sani, it is equally a high crime that should require the State Assembly to scrutinise further. Therefore, we posit that the government does not like discussing the \$350 million World Bank loan because it will open a can of worms.

The DMO records also show more loans have been taken. According to the latest records, Kaduna has N87 billion in domestic debt and \$587 million in external debt. Converting the loan at the official rate of N455, Kaduna has a debt of N354 billion, making it the most indebted state in the country after Lagos. On a macro level, and based on recent data, the economic outcome of these loans is not evident. It made me agree with President Buhari's assertion, albeit reluctantly, that state governors are to be blamed for people's poor living conditions. They are meant to provide certain aspects of healthcare, education, water, and housing, among many other basics.

The November multidimensional poverty index report shows Kaduna is leading in poverty with eight million multidimensionally poor people, including children who are out of school, only behind Kano with 10.5 million. These millions lack healthcare, nutrition, water, education, sanitation, housing, and many more. Unemployment is 44.3 per cent – so much for a \$350 million World Bank loan. The unbalanced tax system is taking so much from very few people who can pay to raise more internally generated revenue, which is unsustainable. The real problem will start when the loan moratorium ends.

Like Buhari, El-Rufai will be hoping to leave some people to continue this unfinished business as the hope of leaving a legacy is gone. Uba Sani is rewarded with the APC gubernatorial candidate, while Dattijo and Kwari aim for the senatorial seats. At the BBC Hausa debate, the media-shy Sani disappointed his followers as he could not communicate eloquently in his native tongue. Some think it was because he stood next to the articulated Isa Ashiru.

One thing for sure is that the next governor will need all the available help – and prayers too.

## EDITORIAL

No. 20 P.O.W. Mafemi Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way, Utako District, Abuja

## Revive the libraries

**L**ibraries all over the world play an integral part in the development of individuals and societies. They provide access to knowledge, learning and ideas, through books, periodicals and other publications, regardless of one's socioeconomic status.

Ben White, Head of Intellectual Property, British Library, says, "As gateways to knowledge and culture, libraries play a fundamental role in society. The resources and services they offer create opportunities for learning, support literacy and education, and help shape the new ideas and perspectives that are central to a creative and innovative society."

In Nigeria, however, libraries can be found within and outside academic institutions. Most often than not, unfortunately, libraries in the country have not been accorded the respect (attention) they deserve.

At the primary and secondary school levels, where pupils and students come into early contact with books, libraries are hardly ever provided for. Where they exist, they are mostly in dilapidated state with obsolete books and materials and most times manned by unqualified and nonprofessionals. Speaking recently, Mr Dominic Omokaro, the President and Chairman of Council, Nigerian Library Association (NLA) said, "The danger for us as a nation is that we are producing people that are half-baked. People are not reading anymore. They just go to the internet, get information, put it together and submit. There's a lot of plagiarism out there because people do not go to the library to do research anymore."

The situation is the same at the state level where many library buildings are given the least priority, with no reading chairs and tables, leaking roofs, vandalised doors and windows.

Libraries, in many Nigerian states, no longer play the role they are supposed to. They have been turned into hideaways by many because very few people visit them due to their poor and sorry state, lack of current books and periodicals.

A staff in one of the state-owned libraries said recently that "Instead of books, library staff mingle with reptiles, birds and ants that mostly get into the library through vandalised windows, especially during the rainy season. It is not uncommon to see bird nests in many library buildings."

At the national level, Nigeria is still without a befitting permanent structure housing its library. In the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja, the headquarters of government, the National Library building has been under construction since 2006.

The President Muhammadu Buhari administration had in 2021 announced the approval of the takeover and financing of the multi-billion naira national library edifice by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND), yet the project is moving at a very slow pace. This is certainly not the way to treat a national library project by a country with poor educational indices, ranging from poor reading culture to high number of out-of-school children, shortage of qualified manpower and obsolete materials.

As the National Librarian/Chief Executive Officer of the National Library of Nigeria, Prof. Chinwe Veronica Anunobi, observed recently, "The abandoned national library is a reflection of the place Nigeria has for education, teaching and research. It is not about facilities but the way teachers and learners are exposed to available resources."

She also lamented that all the states in Nigeria have prototype national libraries except Anambra, Kebbi, Delta and Zamfara.

It is important to find out how we got into this sorry state. We should not, at this time, be talking about lack of interest in the development of the libraries, lack of funding, non-recruitment of qualified staff, lack of training and retraining of staff, or hiring of non-professionals who are running some of these libraries out of existence. The government must start spending an appreciable amount on libraries for the important role they can play with regards to national wellbeing.

The private sector, through their corporate social responsibility and other forms of interventions, should also invest in this project so as to stimulate the return to positive reading culture, which will lead to the change in values and orientation. We should also see the promotion of library endowment initiatives by privileged individuals, among others.

Libraries should be well-funded and recruitment of qualified staff taken seriously considering the countless learning opportunities they offer, which in turn can fuel economic, social and cultural development, as experts have advised.

We, at *Daily Trust*, are calling for a collective change of attitude towards the library by all stakeholders. We cannot continue to treat libraries with levity if we are serious about developing as a people and as a country.

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**MAKING SENSE OF THE ECONOMY** 09059622071  
 VINCENT NWANMA vincentnwanma@dailytrust.com (Text only)

## Emefiele: Challenge to 'Cult Status'?

*"It almost doesn't matter who assumes the role of the chairman of the Fed; that person becomes the central focus of the cult. All seeing and all knowing, he can do no wrong."*

- David Smick, in *The World is Curved*

**T**hese are not the best of times for Mr Godwin Emefiele, the governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria. Both he and the institution he heads face stiff resistance from sections of the public. Some people have called for his removal; others have demanded his arrest. Even the banks they control seem to have shown some lethargy in complying with the latest plans of the regulator – at least that is the impression the public has been given.

A currency redesign ordered by the bank ends in six days' time, but there is so much confusion over it. This confusion emanated from an initial reluctance from the public and the banks. Long after the takeoff of the exchange programme, banks in the country showed little signs that they were part of it. Their ATMs continued to dispense the old notes, even as the central bank began to allege that the deposit money banks were not picking up the new currency notes. It has taken threats of sanctions from the CBN to get the banks to load the new currency notes into their ATMs.

**So, anyone appointed to that post brings his or her unique makeup and inclination to the seat of the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, our equivalent of the Chairman of the Federal Reserve in the US. Over time, this position of a central bank governor, according to David Smick, has been elevated to a "cult" status.**

This has cast doubts over the January 31, 2023 deadline for the currency exchange. Yesterday, in a certain area of Lagos, most of the banks' ATMs did not dispense cash, except one that, surprisingly, gave out the new notes.

This picture is the same in virtually all corners of the country. This explains the rising strident calls for the CBN to extend the deadline. The latest of these calls came yesterday from the two chambers of the National Assembly, and the Kulen Allah Cattle Rearers Association of Nigeria, which not only asked for an extension of the deadline to the end of the year but also asked President Muhammadu Buhari to sack the governor.

But the governor remains undaunted. "I don't have good news for those who want the deadline of the old naira to be changed because we will not move it. People are holding and vaulting the naira in their houses and they don't have the license to do that, because they use it to speculate on the naira," the governor said at the post-MPC meeting speech yesterday.

The position of a central bank governor is a unique one as he or she carries the burden of ensuring the soundness of an economic system. A single careless act could plunge the nation and the lives of millions into a

disaster.

Part of governor's powers derives also from the fact that a neophyte in the world of finance and economics is quite unlikely to be appointed to that position. So even before one gets there, he or she would already become a known figure, and once on the job, it is a matter of time before the guy settles down and begins to make an impact.

So, anyone appointed to that post brings his or her unique makeup and inclination to the seat of the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, our equivalent of the Chairman of the Federal Reserve in the US. Over time, this position of a central bank governor, according to David Smick, has been elevated to a "cult" status.

"It almost doesn't matter who assumes the role of the chairman of the Fed; that person becomes the central focus of the cult. All-seeing and all-knowing, he can do no wrong. It is questionable, however, whether this cult status is good for today's turbulent financial markets where it is increasingly impossible to see and know all," says Smick, who has had the privilege of working with several central bankers across the world.

While it is obvious that not everybody will accept this assertion, yet Smick was probably referring to the tenure of Alan Greenspan, of whom *Time Magazine* did say that he had "inspired an odd cult of personality" while he served as the Fed Chair.

A central bank governor's words must be few but weighty. In 2009, when *Time* magazine chose Bernanke as its Person of the Year, it described him as "shy," someone with "none of the look-at-me swagger or listen-to-me charisma so common among men with oversize Washington offices." The magazine went on to distinguish between Greenspan's "cult personality" and Bernanke's plan to "return the Fed to dull obscurity," but one effective enough to guide the American economy out of the global crisis.

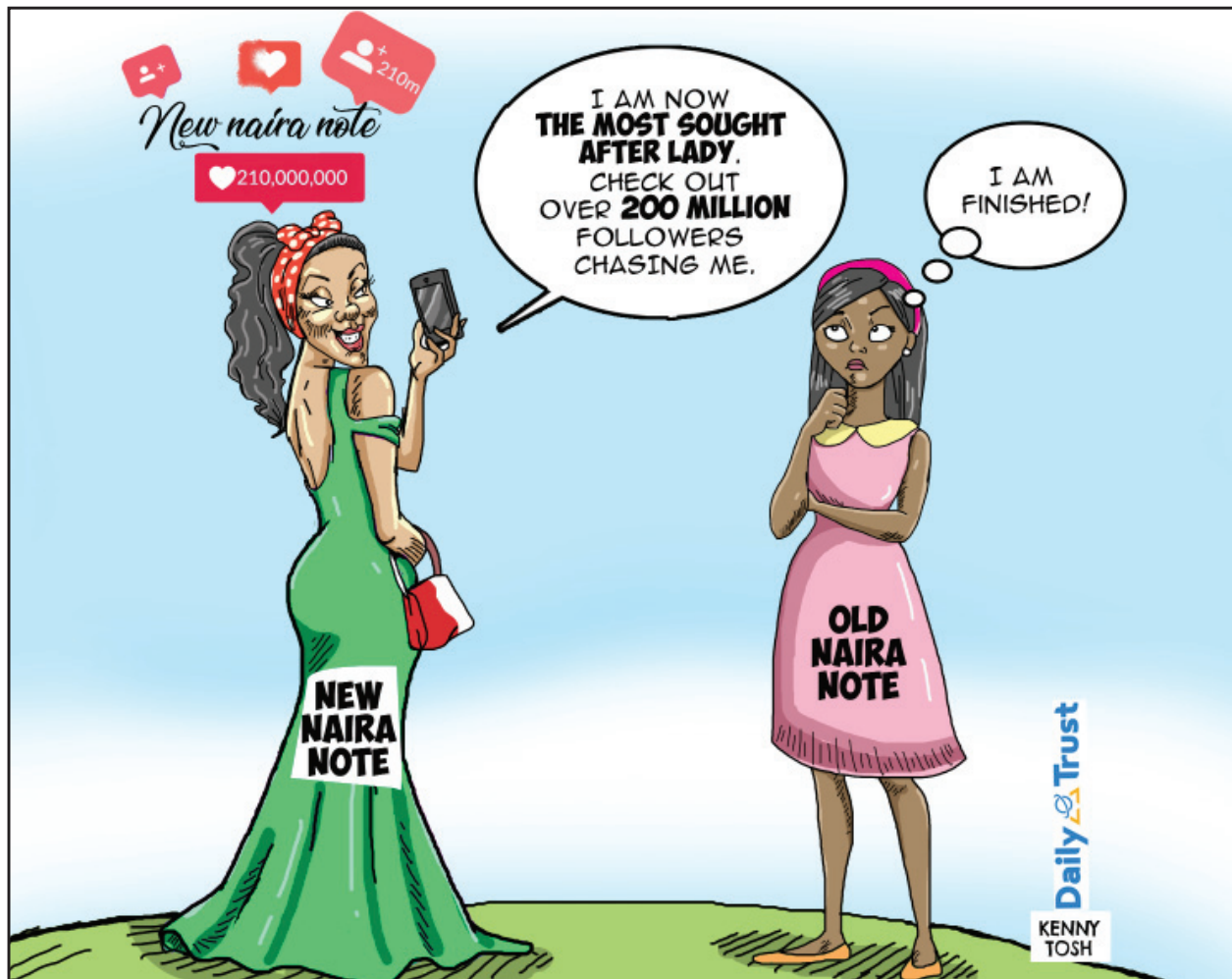
According to the magazine, Bernanke had "conjured up trillions of new dollars and blasted them into the economy; engineered massive public rescues of failing private companies; ratcheted down interest rates to zero; lent to mutual funds, hedge funds, foreign banks, investment banks, manufacturers, insurers and other borrowers who had never dreamed of receiving Fed cash; jump-started stalled credit markets in everything from car loans to corporate paper; revolutionised housing finance with a breathtaking shopping spree for mortgage bonds; blew up the Fed's balance sheet to three times its previous size; and generally transformed the staid arena of central banking into a stage for desperate improvisation."

Some of the above descriptions will feature in the story of Emefiele. He set out to implement a Development Central Banking programme. This he eloquently declared upon his assumption of office in June, 2014. Over these years, he has succeeded in channelling billions of naira into the real sector - in agriculture, power, and energy, among others, to stimulate the economy. The final verdict on this is yet to be made.

So, while every central bank governor gets to that seat with his plans and inclinations, it is the right of sections of the public to describe him the way they feel. This is part of what Emefiele is experiencing now.

# LETTERS to the Editor

CARTOON by Kehinde O. Omotosho



## Open letter to CBN governor

With respect and a deep sense of humility, I write to draw the attention of the governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Godwin Emefiele, to the old naira notes expiration deadline, which is on January 31, 2023.

Sir, many of the bank customers decry the scarcity of the new notes despite the announcement of sanction against any commercial bank hoarding them. But obviously, it seems like the warning is not effective.

Sir, I wish to remind you that the apex bank is giving N700 million weekly of the redesigned notes to branches nationally. This is a far cry from what they used to have.

How could you expect the redesigned notes to be circulating in the country with this improper decision? Or how could the commercial banks be giving new notes to their customers in spite of the less availability of the redesigned notes from the same CBN?

I would therefore like to urge the CBN governor to look into the possibility of extending the deadline with a more appropriate one or revising the volume of the redesigned notes loaded into the Automated Teller Machines of the commercial banks throughout the country.

A stitch in time saves nine!

Mallam Musbahu Magayaki, Sabon Fegi, Azare, Bauchi State

## Mental health awareness: An underrated conversation in Nigeria

According to the World Health Organisation statistics released in January 2022 over 20,000,000 Nigerians are currently suffering from various degrees of mental illness or disorder without psychiatric health care.

Many Nigerians today, especially the youths, suffer from one or two mental health issues that are either being mistaken as “clout” or termed “spiritual problems.” The most common of them are depression and anxiety.

Depression is characterised by loneliness, sadness, stress, hopelessness, feeling of emptiness and loss of interest in daily life activities that lasts more than a week at most.

A lot of youths these days suffer from mental health issues that they do not even talk about because they fear stigmatisation.

This happens too often and especially with some African parents that have little or no understanding of mental health.

Parents do not understand the gravity of what their children sometimes go through and this affects their relationship with their children- pushing them to the verge of loneliness, emptiness and even worse, committing suicide.

Anxiety also proves to be one of the prominent problems these days. A feeling of worry, nervousness or unease about something with an uncertain outcome, a certain fear about everyday situations. It makes one worry about what may not happen or is yet to happen. Anxiety often comes with fast heart rates, irregular and rapid breathing and sweating. It makes people fidget, second guessing what things are before they even start.

Nigerian parents see this as no big deal or worse, as a spiritual issue and they would rather take the child to a church to get deliverance than try to listen to what the child is going through.

Most times, when these victims speak up, people see them as attention seekers and tend to ignore them and their way. However, the same people weep, cry and wonder why they would do something as “drastic” as taking their own life instead of talking through the pain.

One of the ways to deal or live with anyone going through these mental health illness is to listen with an open mind without passing judgment or to continue to show care and support; to show that you believe what they are going through and not undermine what the situation is; to release positive energy around them and

not try to choke them with negativity.

I believe that a lot of Nigerian parents need orientation on mental health issues because each year, the suicide rate keeps adding up and most of them are young people with promising future and all they ever needed was a conversation and a little bit of faith and trust.

Most people in psychiatric hospitals did not end up there because of a spell that was cast upon them by their ‘village people’ or because they indulged in cannabis but because of severe mental health issues that might have been ignored.

Some have made efforts to spread awareness and I urge us to reach out and help.

Lawal Mariam can be reached via [mariamlawal16092003@gmail.com](mailto:mariamlawal16092003@gmail.com)

## Child labour as a social crime

The latest global estimates indicates that the number of children in child labour has increased to 160 million worldwide, with 8.4 million being recorded in the last four years. Sixty-three million girls and 97 million boys were in child labor globally at the beginning of 2020.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) defines child labour as work that deprives children of their childhood, potential and dignity. It is the exploitation of children through any form of work that interferes with their ability to attend regular school

and is mentally, physically, socially and morally harmful.

The earliest history of child labour involved families needing help to do chores would normally pass off work to the children. Child labour goes beyond children assisting their parents with chores or tasks.

Child labour could be dated back to the transatlantic slave trade - which lasted three centuries starting in 1562-. Civil war, Industrial Revolution (the transition from creating goods by hand to using machines) around 1750 in Europe and US also encouraged child labour. During the industrial

revolution, children were employed by industries and plantation owners and were often forced to crawl inside machines in order to proffer solutions in exchange for food, clothing and shelter, which were often far below par. There are several ways child labour is being committed- enslavement, sales and trafficking of children, forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflicts, abusing children for prostitution, using children for drug trafficking and other illicit activities, hazardous works that causes injury or moral corruption, domestic work, farming,

Unfortunately, victims of child labour usually suffer from depression and anxiety, pushing them to destructive habits like smoking, alcoholism, drug abuse. Children will be fatigued for school work and unable to recall learned experiences. Also, children who are forced into child labour are at greater risk for malnourishment and death.

In order to eliminate child labour, government should tackle the issue of poverty. Poverty is the major reason for child labour. The government should set up programmes that will substantially

reduce the poverty level in the country. Also, there's a need for formulation and implementation of strict laws.

Schooling may be expensive or less standard and some parents think sending their children to work is the best. However, the government can build and equip more schools, thereby making education easily accessible. Eliminating child labour does not mean children will attend school. Government should also sensitise parents on the purpose and importance of child education.

Aregbesola Oreoluwa Ololade wrote from Lagos

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EVERY WEDNESDAY

## Lekki Port, CMA CGM Group to jack up cargo, increase GDP

The Managing Director of Lekki Port LFTZ Enterprise Limited (LPLEL), promoter of the Lekki Deep Sea Port, Mr. Du Ruogang, on Monday said the coming into mainstream of the first deep seaport in Nigeria would increase the nation's cargo throughput, beyond what it was before.

Du Ruogang said aside from an increase in the volume of cargo, that it would also facilitate an increase in the Gross nation's Domestic Product (GDP).

According to him, these and many more would be part of the macro-economic benefits of the Port to the economy.

Ruogang stated this while addressing the media during the official commissioning of Lekki Port by President Muhammadu Buhari on Monday at the Lagos Free Zone, Ibeju Lekki, Lagos.

He noted that Lekki Port remains a game-changer that would redefine maritime activities in Nigeria and the entire West African sub-region and it is scheduled to commence operations by the end of Q1 2023.

He highlighted other benefits to include; improvement of external trade competitiveness through improved port efficiency, cost-effective port operations & services, and improved turnaround time for cargo handling and clearance, a reduction in delays in the supply of raw materials and equipment, as well as reduced costs of importations and charges such as demurrage, among others.

"With Lekki Port, Nigeria will witness a growth in maritime traffic and global trade and strengthen connectivity and capability to provide efficient and reliable services. Lekki Port, no doubt, will be a critical engine that will drive the Nigerian economy upon commencement of operations. I am equally confident that it would help to reinforce Nigeria's status as a regional maritime hub and enable many related industries to flourish," he said.

The CEO of Lekki Freeport Terminal, operated by CMA Terminals, a subsidiary of the CMA CGM Group, Mr. Denrick Moos, highlighted that in addition to its state-of-the-art infrastructures, Lekki Port will become a new generation container terminal, a game changing infrastructure in Nigeria and West Africa.

The Port is Nigeria's first deep sea port and is equipped with 13 quay cranes for a capacity of 2.5 million



■ Lekki Deep Seaport that was commissioned for commercial operations by President Muhammadu Buhari on Monday

TEUs (Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units) on a 1.2-kilometre quay with a depth of 16 meters, it will operate vessels with a capacity of up to 15,000 TEUs and become one of the largest in West Africa.

Through the new container terminal at Lekki Port, the CMA CGM Group will further develop its presence in Nigeria, the continent's largest economy and population, and the most important consumer market in West Africa and will consolidate its African global shipping and logistics network.

Committed to supporting its customers' supply chains in Nigeria and West Africa with a comprehensive range of shipping and logistics solutions, the CMA CGM Group also participates in strengthening the region's logistics and ports infrastructures through significant investments as a global port operator with its subsidiary CMA Terminals.

Speaking at the event, the Executive Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, noted that the project is a big testament to the commitment of the Lagos State Government to support the provision of necessary infrastructure that would improve the economic fortunes of Lagosians by providing thousands of jobs for the people and impacting their lives positively.

On his part, the Chairman of Lekki Port, Mr. Biodun Dabiri, expressed profound gratitude to the President and his team for giving all the necessary backing that ensured the project came to fruition.

He stressed that the Management of the Port is working round-the-clock to get the port operational soon.

"We owe a great deal of this success to the visionary leadership of President Buhari, who provided the much-needed support to make the project a reality. We are immensely grateful to President Buhari, Governor Sanwo-Olu, and all other stakeholders for their role in the actualization of the Port. For us, we would continue to be a willing partner in the quest to achieve significant economic growth by investing in Nigeria," Dabiri said.

Lekki Port LFTZ Enterprise Limited (LPLEL) is the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) that was awarded the Concession Agreement for the development and operations of the Lekki Deep Sea Port by the Nigerian Ports Authority. LPLEL is required to develop, build and operate a common user multipurpose port. LPLEL sub-concessed the container terminal operations to Lekki Freeport Terminal (LFT) operated by CMA Terminals, and a subsidiary of the CMA CGM Group, the world's third largest container shipping company.

LPLEL is a joint venture enterprise owned by foreign promoters, Lekki Port Investment Holdings Inc (comprising China Harbour Engineering Company Ltd. and Tolaram), the Lagos State Government, and the Federal Government of Nigeria through the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA).

LPLEL is incorporated under the Companies & Allied Matters Act

and licensed by the Nigerian Export Processing Zones Authority to operate within the Lagos Free Zone.

Lekki Port is a multipurpose deep-sea port at the heart of the Lagos Free Zone. Lekki Port is poised to be the most modern and deepest seaport in West Africa, offering critical support to burgeoning commercial operations in Lagos State, across Nigeria, and the entire West African region. The Port will operate in line with global standards and world-class facilities.

Phase 1 of the multipurpose Port covers an area of 50 hectares, with two container berths and a total capacity of 1.2 million TEUs annually. Upon completion of the final phase, the Port will have 3 container berths, 1 dry bulk berth, and 3 liquid berths.

The approach channel is about 11km long and 16.5m deep. The main breakwater is 1.9km long and will accommodate a corridor for liquid transport to and from the liquid berths. The three liquid berths will service ships up to 160,000 DWT.

The turning circle, which will have a diameter of approximately 600m, will be sufficient to handle 18,000 TEU vessels. Tug boats will assist in the moving of the various vessels. The Port is equipped with the latest super-post Panamax, ship-to-shore cranes, and RTG cranes, the layout will ensure that the Port will be a modern, efficient facility. Lekki Port is ideally positioned to service the gateway for Nigeria and the surrounding West African region.

## NPA, ICRC demands for more deep Seaports in Nigeria

Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Mr. Mohammed Bello-Koko has said that more deep seaports are set to emerge in Nigeria in the next few years.

The apex regulatory agency boss stated this via his verified Twitter handle.

According to him, there are several requests for the Deep Seaport that the agency in conjunction with the Infrastructure Concession and Regulatory

Commission (ICRC) are currently working on.

He maintained that the emergence of the deep seaports would be on a Public/Private Partnership basis.

He added that there is a positive outlook for the projects.

"Through PPP, additional deep-sea ports will come on board in the next few years. Several requests are being worked on by the Authority and @ICRCng.

"The outlook is positive and promising".

Bello-Koko also said that with the emergence of Lekki Deep Seaport which is the deepest in Nigeria, there will be improved traffic flow in the Apapa corridor.

He added that lower freight costs and ultimately lower trading costs will come up

He maintained that NPA will take advantage of the Lekki Deep Seaport

to recapture transshipment and transit cargoes that would typically call at neighbouring ports.

"Having the deepest port in Nig will improve traffic flow in the Apapa corridor, lower freight costs & ultimately lower trading costs.

"For us @NigerianPorts, we intend to take advantage of this to recapture transshipment & transit cargoes that would typically call at nearby ports"

# BUSINESS

## CBN EXCHANGE RATES

	US DOLLAR	Pound STERLING	EURO	YUAN/ RENMINBI	RIYAL	CFA
Buying	446.13	540.04	473.34	63.94	118.5	0.70
Central NGN	446.63	540.64	473.87	64.01	118.7	0.71
Selling NGN	447.13	541.25	473.40	65.08	118.8	0.72

## COMMODITIES PRICE (December 28, 2022)

CRUDE OIL BRENT	\$82.15/bbl
GOLD	\$1,799.07/ounce
SILVER	\$19.39/ounce
NATURAL GAS	\$4.63/MMBtu

## BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

	Dollar	Euro	Pound S.
BUYING	N733	N745	N915
SELLING	N743	N760	N930

By Sunday Michael Ogwu, Abdullateef Salau, Balarabe Alkassim (Abuja) & Salim Umar Ibrahim (Kano)

## New naira notes: National Assembly, Emefiele differ on deadline extension

- Says N1.5 trillion mopped so far, N2trn targeted
- Long queues as people rush for new naira notes in Kano, others

The National Assembly yesterday renewed its call on the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to extend the deadline for the withdrawal of the old notes from circulation from the current January 31st.

The Senate at its seating yesterday asked the CBN to immediately extend the deadline for the withdrawal of old naira notes from circulation to July 31, 2023.

Senators, during a debate on a motion by Sadiq Suleiman Umar (APC, Kwara) at Tuesday's plenary, said the new notes were not enough in circulation, warning that if the deadline was not extended, there would be chaos in many parts of the country.

The Red Chamber also urged the CBN to compel deposit money banks to open a naira exchange window for those without bank accounts.

Senate President Ahmad Lawan, assured that the National Assembly leadership would ensure that the resolution is implemented by the CBN.

Similarly, the House of Representatives has called on the CBN to review its policies on the newly redesigned



Emefiele

currency and withdrawal limit.

The call followed the adoption of a motion of urgent public importance moved by Sada Soli Jibia at the plenary on Tuesday.

Presenting the motion, the lawmaker said, the CBN should bring its policies closer to realities than assumptions.

He said, "In global best practices, currencies are phased out, not forced out.

Thus, adequate time is required for this policy to be successful.

"Due to inadequate sensitization and the rush in the implementation of the policy, the country is exposed to a situation whereby businesses are rejecting the old currency even in the face of unavailability of the redesigned new Naira notes.

**No going back on January 31 - Emefiele**

Emefiele has said the CBN will not extend the January 31st deadline for the old naira notes.

Emefiele reinstated the Apex bank's position at the post-Monetary Policy Committee briefing in Abuja on Tuesday.

He said: "I don't have good news for those who want the deadline of the old naira to be changed because we will not move it.

"People are holding and vaulting the naira in their houses and they don't have the license to do that, because they use it to speculate on the naira."

He said the Apex bank has so far mopped up about N1.5 trillion, hoping to achieve about N2 trillion before the deadline.

He said: "We have pleaded with the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC) not to harass anybody, and on my honor, they will not do that.

**Long queues as people rush for new naira notes in Kano**

Five days to the Central

Bank of Nigeria (CBN) deadline for collection of the old Naira notes, long queues have emerged across various ATM machines in the Kano metropolis and other parts of the country.

Daily Trust observed as many as 50 persons lining up at some ATM machines across various banks within Kano metropolis Tuesday morning in anticipation of getting the new Naira notes.

Our reporter who moved around major streets with banks from Maiduguri road to Bank road down to Murtala Muhammad way and around Sabon Gari axis in the metropolis observed that individuals are staying away from their work and business places just to get the new notes they can spend.

While some of the banks have as many as 10 ATM machines, it was further observed that only one or two machines were dispensing cash leaving people to spend more time in queues.

## CBN debunks N89tn Stamp Duty claim, says N370.686bn was collected by banks

By Sunday Michael Ogwu and Philip Shimnom Clement

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has debunked claims that it is holding on to N89 trillion stamp duty collection.

The CBN Governor, Godwin Emefiele, at post monetary policy press briefing yesterday said that the total revenue collected as stamp duty between 2016 and 2022 is N370.686 billion.

He said the money was not N89 trillion as claimed by Muhammed Kazaure, a member of the House of Representatives, in a petition to the president in 2022.

Emefiele said the clarification became necessary following an allegation that a humongous sum of N89 trillion collected as stamp duty had been stolen.

He explained that "Total assets of all banks is N71 trillion; total deposit in banks is N44 trillion. From 2016 till date, stamp duty collection has amounted to N370,686 billion. The Federal Inland Revenue Service has disbursed N226.451 billion of the money to the Federation Account Allocation Committee, while the balance of N144,235 is in the CBN.

"The highest collection of the stamp is N71 billion, collected by First Bank," Emefiele said. He added that the CBN had appointed four world-class audit firms to go into the books of banks to verify if there was

any un-remitted stamp duty. "If there is any uncollected stamp duty, the banks will pay to the last kobo," he assured.

**MPC increases MPR to 17.5% in January 2023 from 16.5%**

The monetary policy committee of the CBN also voted in its January 2023 meeting to raise its benchmark interest rate, otherwise called the monetary policy rate, to 17.5% from 16.5%.

This is the first interest rate hike in 2023 and it suggests that the apex bank is continuing with the hawkish rate policy started in 2022.

Recall that the CBN had raised interest rates by a cumulative 500 basis points last year in a bid to tame the rising inflation rate in the country.

**Hike despite moderating inflation**  
The decision to further tighten the monetary policy rate (MPR) was made despite the moderation of the headline inflation rate in December 2022 to 21.34% from 21.47% recorded in the previous month.

According to the CBN governor, a marginal decline in the inflation numbers printed in December is not enough to begin to celebrate, which influenced the decision in favour of raising as opposed to a hold or loosening decision.

**Highlights of the Committee's decision**  
The MPR was increased by 100 basis

points to 17.5%. The asymmetric corridor of +100/-700 basis points around the MPR was retained. Cash Reserve Ratio was retained at 32.5% and Liquidity Ratio was also kept at 30%

Note that the latest increase in the MPR represents the highest rate in over 21 years, since 2001 when the benchmark interest rate averaged 20.5%. Also, this represents the fifth consecutive increment in the monetary policy rate.

Emefiele said the CBN's aggressive hawkish stance shows its determination to stem high inflation by reducing access to credit and mopping up excess liquidity.

The latest raise helps to tighten the negative real returns in the fixed-income market, which had deterred foreign investments. With the benchmark interest rate at 17.5% and an inflation rate of 21.34%, it brings the real returns to a deficit of 3.84%.

**Hike in prices will compound small businesses woes - Expert**

A finance expert while reacting to the development said the hike in the interest rates to 17.5 per cent by the CBN will further compound the suffering of small businesses

"In view of the pause in inflationary pressure, declining GDP growth, on-going implementation of cash withdrawal limit which will ultimately reduce money supply, and the fact that supply-side factors are major inflation drivers in Nigeria, I had

expected the MPC to maintain status quo.

"Following this development, it is expected that the banks will reprise their loans which may further jeopardize their risk assets and worsen asset quality," he said.

Uwaleke further noted that it is obvious the CBN is heeding the advice of the IMF at the just concluded World Economic Forum where the Global financial body urged Central Banks not to pause their aggressive monetary stance.

He however cautioned that "While doing so helps Central Banks to pursue their primary mandate of price stability, it leaves global economies vulnerable to economic recession.

For Nigeria, it goes without saying that a high-interest rate environment is inimical to economic growth, job creation and the stock market," he added.

Also speaking on the development, the Founder, Centre for the Promotion of Private Enterprise, Dr Muda Yusuf said the hike in MPR will hurt investors in the real economy.

He said: "The implication is that lending rates will increase for investors that are indebted to the banks. This would further imply an increase in operating and production costs. The hike would ultimately impact adversely on economic growth. Challenges of Access and cost of credit by small businesses would be further elevated."

NEWS



■ From left: DashMe Team Member, Esther Jesuyemi; Founder DashMe and Former Minister for Finance, Kemi Adeosun; Singer, Songwriter & Alte Pioneer BOJ; Director of Impact at DashMe, Adeola Joseph and Head of Operations at DashMe, Tomisin Akinwunm during the donation of Foods stuff, Clothing, and other materials to Bales of Mercy Orphanage by DashMe Foundation in Lagos on Monday

## Lagos Light Rail kicks off as Buhari takes a ride

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

**P**resident Muhammadu Buhari yesterday took a ride on the 13 km Phase One of the Lagos Rail Mass Transit (Blue Line) signaling the commencement of operation on the light rail.

The President who rode the train from the Marina Station to National Theatre Station was also on ground to witness the contract signing of the second phase between the State Government and Messrs China Civil Engineering and Construction Corporation (CCECC), the contractor which handled the project.

The first phase of the

project, executed by the State Government, spans 13 kilometers, and has five stations - Mile 2, Suru-Alaba, Orile Iganmu, National Theatre and Marina.

The second phase would extend the track from Mile-2 to Okokomaiko.

The inauguration came a month after the project was test-run by the government following the completion of the civil work.

The President took a ride at around 12 p.m, and was joined by other dignitaries in attendance including the Chinese Ambassador to Nigeria, Cun Jianchun.

However, he did not give a speech before or after the ceremonial ride.

But the excited Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and the Deputy Governor, Dr.

Obafemi Hamzat, reiterated that the Lagos light rail is an important component of its Integrated Transportation Master Plan.

The governor who promised to bring the entire stretch of the line to completion with the contract signing said the project is people-focused and it would reduce travel time, improve the quality of life of the people, and boost the state's economy.

Sanwo-Olu stated that the Blue line which was achieved with the collaboration with the Nigerian Railway Corporation is a testament of the President's "bold, national vision towards various infrastructural transformations across the country.

He however hailed the

former governor of the state and APC Presidential candidate, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, for being the architect of the light rail system.

He said phase one of the Blue line has five stations - Marina, National Theatre (Iganmu), Alaba, Orile and Mile 2 Stations, which cuts the trip between Marina to Mile 2 to less than 15 minutes, what hitherto was done in two hours.

Giving the features of the new train system, Sanwo-Olu said the Blue line would be powered by end-to-end "high voltage electricity to be supplied by a dedicated independent power plant as a back up system which means the operation of the system would have zero carbon emission impact on the environment.

## Kano govt, emir commend Glo for Festival of Joy promo

By Faruk Umar

**L**eading telecommunications and digital services brand, Globacom, on Tuesday, January 24, received glowing commendations from several stakeholders in Kano including the state government and the Emir, Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero, on the ongoing customer-reward promo, Festival of Joy.

The traditional ruler represented by the Dan Amar of Kano, Alhaji Aliu Harazimi, presented the key of a brand new car to the latest car winner in the promo.

He commended Globacom and its Chairman, Dr Mike Adenuga, Jr, for the several empowerment initiatives the organization has rolled out since inception.

"It is worthy of note that Globacom has not forgotten to reward its loyal customers in Kano and across Nigeria. This

culture of empowerment is commendable and sets a good example for corporate Nigeria", the Emir said.

The car prize was won by Kano-based businessman, Anas Yusuf Adamu. "I first got a call in the evening from the Glo office that I had won a car. I almost did not believe it because my phone was switched off all day. When they however told me to come to the Gloworld office on Murtala Mohammed Way in Kano, it dawned on me it is real."

Kano State Commissioner for Finance, Alhaji Adamu Fanda, equally lauded the efforts of the telecommunications giant in giving out so many valuable prizes to its subscribers in Kano State.

"Globacom is setting a good example of what corporate citizenship should be. The company is indeed demonstrating its commitment to its operating environment. I encourage them to keep it up", he advised.

## Forum calls for revival of industries in northern Nigeria

By Faruk Shuaibu

The Arewa Economic Renewal Forum (AERF), a regional economic renewal movement, has called for a viable economic blueprint to revive the dying industries in northern Nigeria.

At a press briefing yesterday, the Chairman of AERF Ibrahim Shehu Yahaya said all aspirants gunning for the nation's top job need to provide a plan that entails a visible roadmap to "reviving comatose Northern industries, harnessing virgin resources and utilisation of demographic advantages for the empowerment of our people in terms of education and wealth creation."

Yahaya said the move is important because people in the region have determined that February 2023 is the time for the North to take her destiny into her hands and restore lost glories "by throwing our weight behind any candidate with a viable economic blueprint for the restoration of Arewa."

He said: "Over the years, Nigeria and especially the North have suffered an epileptic form of leadership borne out of a lackluster attitude of elected persons to engineer the much-desired

economic prosperity by exploiting regional assets, demographic potentials, geologic advantages and agricultural benefits for economic, infrastructural and human development. The resultant consequence for our region is poverty, substandard education, lack of access to credit financing and other negative underdevelopment indicators."

He added that despite the size and dimension of the population of the region with an arable landmass in Nigeria only about 23% of the landmass is fully utilized for agricultural purposes due to the inability of successive administrations to exploit resources in mainstreaming human development.

"In terms of Access to Finance and Credit for Investment and Development from the National Financial System, the Northern Region has consistently over the last 10 years been short-changed sometimes by the deliberate policy of the government and private financial institutions. The gross distribution of development and investment finance by government institutions and other financial institutions has always been skewed in favour of other regions, enterprises and institutions in Nigeria"

## DMO issues new N360bn bond

By Faruk Shuaibu

The Debt Management Office (DMO) has announced the issuance of four bonds of N90bn each.

In a statement yesterday, the office said there are offers for subscription by auction and that it is authorised to receive applications for "N90bn with 13.98%, with a 10-year reopening; N90bn with 12.50% FGN with a 15-year reopening, N90bn with 16.2499%, 20 years reopening and N90bn

with 14.80% and 30 years reopening."

It added that the auction date is January 30, 2023, while the settlement date is February 1, 2023, with a unit sale of 41,000 per unit subject to a minimum subscription of N50,001,000 and in multiples of N1,000 thereafter.

"For the re-openings of previously issued bonds, (where the coupon is already set), successful bidders will pay a price corresponding to the

yield-to-maturity bid that clears the volume being auctioned, plus any accrued interest on the instrument."

It added that the bond qualifies as securities in which trustees can invest under the Trustee Investment Act.

"It also qualifies as government securities within the meaning of the Company Income Tax Act (CITA) and Personal Income Tax Act (PITA) for Tax Exemption for Pension Funds amongst other investors as well as listed

on the Nigerian Exchange Limited and FMDQ OTC Securities Exchange."

It said all federal government bonds qualify as liquid assets for liquidity ratio calculation for banks.

"The bonds are backed by the full faith and credit of the Federal Government of Nigeria and are charged upon the general assets of Nigeria."

It said the interest payment is payable semi-annually and bullet repayment on the maturity date.

## Mafab telco launches 5G network in Abuja

By Zakariyya Adaramola

Nearly a year after it paid \$547.2m as licensing fee, the Mafab Telecommunication Company has formally launched the Fifth Generation (5G) network on Tuesday in Abuja.

The company which won the 5G license in the 3.5GHz spectrum auction conducted by the

Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC) on December 13, 2021, also unveiled a new logo.

The Chairman of Mafab, Dr Mushabu Bashir, said the launch is another chapter in its company's journey towards a brighter and stronger future filled with hope and prospects in the sector.

Bashir said that with the 5G, business outfits would expand their frontiers

with operational ease and speed, especially in the fields of education.

He listed other fields such as medical sciences, engineering, security, businesses like the banking sector, SMEs and smart cities, among others and that the 5G would not just benefit the urban areas but also meet long-term goals of ensuring that rural areas and villages enjoyed benefits of this amazing

technology.

"The rollout of Mafab 5G network is the beginning of immense opportunities for the country as it represents Nigeria's capabilities and infinite possibilities. The prospect of increased job opportunities as a consequence of the value-chain benefits the technology will generate and offer is the dream we have all gathered here to launch today.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO AN **EXEMPLARY LEADER**

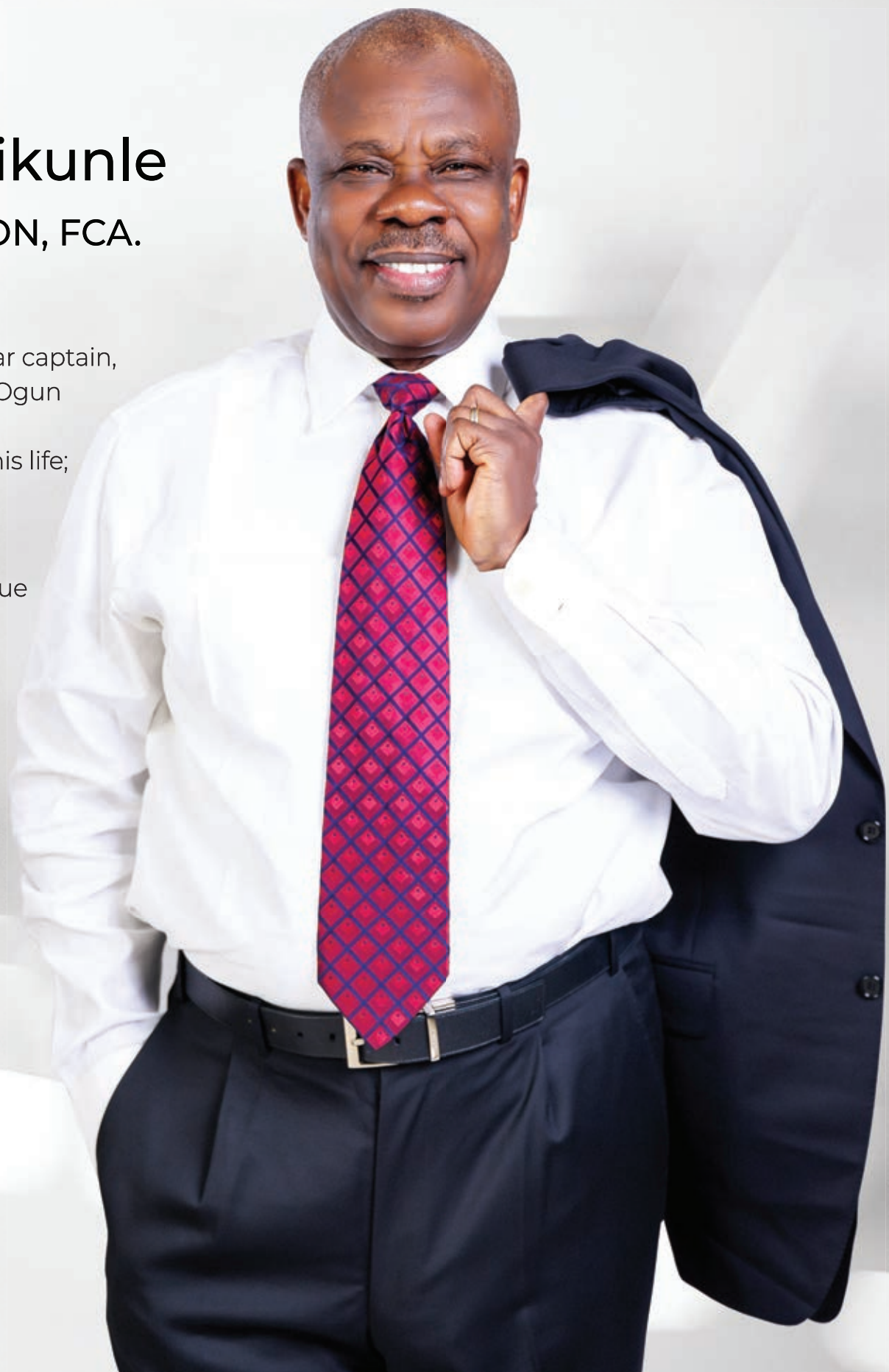
His Excellency,  
**Senator Ibikunle  
Amosun** CON, FCA.

We felicitate with our dear captain,  
the architect of modern Ogun  
State, as he celebrates a  
significant milestone in his life;

**65 years of God's grace.**

May the Almighty continue  
to bless the work of your  
hands and fulfill your  
heart's desire.

Many happy returns sir.



SIGNED:  
**OGUN STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**  
CLASS OF 2011-2019

# OUR MAN HITS

# 65



HIS EXCELLENCY SENATOR IBIKUNLE AMOSUN CON, FCA

Rejoicing with our fellow on his 65th birthday.

M A N Y H A P P Y R E T U R N S .

POWERED BY  
**IKRA**



**Senator Ibikunle Amosun** CON, FCA.

To an amiable leader and friend, a hearty congratulations on your 65th birthday. Your doggedness for the truth, your forthrightness and effusive love for humanity stands you out for celebration. Happy birthday and may Almighty God continue to bless you with good health.

**Adewale Ogunyomade**

## IT WORLD

# Why broadband penetration hit 46% in 2yrs

By Zakariyya Adaramola

Though the latest statistics from the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC)'s official website put broadband penetration currently at 46 per cent as at January 2023, the country still has to achieve 24 per cent penetration before 2025. Recall that a target of 70 per cent broadband penetration across the country by 2025 was set by the federal government in 2020.

The National Broadband Plan was designed to deliver data download speeds across Nigeria, a minimum of 25 megabits per second (Mbps) in urban areas, and 10Mbps in rural areas, with effective coverage available to at least 90 per cent of the population by 2025 at a price not more than N390 per 1 gigabyte of data (i.e. 2 per cent of median income or 1 per cent of minimum wage).

However, the penetration rose from 42.93 per cent in January 2022 to 46 per cent in January 2023, with the total number of mobile internet subscribers hitting over 152 million.

In 2020, when the broadband plan was launched, penetration stood at 38.49 per cent.

But increase in broadband penetration has been majorly responsible for the growth in cashless transactions in Nigeria. The cashless transactions increased to N277.61trillion in 2022, according to NCC. This is a 41.58 per cent increase from the N196.08tn reported in 2021.

According to the Executive Vice Chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission, Prof. Umar Garba Danbatta, increase in financial inclusion, which includes increase in the use of payments, was dependent on broadband. Danbatta said the steady growth in broadband penetration was positively impacting other sectors of the economy such as healthcare, education, agriculture, finance, transportation, commerce, governance, and other sectors.

"Also, within the period under review, broadband penetration increased from eight per cent to 46 per cent, indicating that over almost 200 million subscribers are on broadband networks of 3G, 4G and 5G," he said.

The NCC boss said broadband penetration was key to reviving the Nigerian economy. Quoting from the reports from the World Bank and the World Economic Forum, Pantami said 10 per cent of broadband penetration in any country would improve its GDP by at least 4.6 per cent.

The President of the National Association of Telecommunications Subscribers of Nigeria (NATCOMS), Chief Deolu Ogunbanjo, said the increase in broadband penetration had been a result of conscientious implementation of NBP by the NCC for the overall benefit of the economy to achieve a digital Nigeria.



■ NCC Executive Vice Chairman, Prof. Umar Garba Danbatta

**The NCC boss said broadband penetration was key to reviving the Nigerian economy. Quoting from the reports from the World Bank and the World Economic Forum, Pantami said 10 per cent of broadband penetration in any country would improve its GDP by at least 4.6 per cent**

Plan (2020-2025), along with the harmonisation of Right of Way charges across the states and protection of critical national infrastructure across the country, had a significant impact on the broadband penetration," Ogunbanjo said, adding that broadband was critical to sustainable economic growth.

He quoted the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Broadband Series as saying: "Broadband contributes to economic growth through more efficiency in business processes, acceleration of innovation and more efficient functional deployment of enterprises."

In some countries, he said broadband increases the GDP by over six per cent. "The increase in broadband penetration is leading to the growth of Nigeria's economy in a way that transcends the ICT sector," he

He said the regulatory fitnesses of the Executive Vice Chairman of NCC, Danbatta, has been one of the central factors propelling the accelerated growth in Nigeria's broadband penetration.

"When Danbatta assumed office in August 2015, broadband penetration was barely around 8 per cent and since then, his regulatory approach, which brought forth to the development of the first Strategic Vision Plan 2015-2020 under the leadership of Danbatta, has helped to accelerate the attainment and surpassing of the 30 per cent broadband penetration target in the initial NNBSP 2013-2018," Ogunbanjo said.

Since then, he said the commission had continued to churn out different regulatory frameworks, guidelines and regulations which have all helped in fast-tracking the implementation

of various digital economy policies, especially the National Digital Economy Policy & Strategy (NDEPS) 2020-2030. It also helped to significantly improve the contribution of the telecoms sector to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP), to the tune of 15 per cent as at the 3rd Quarter of 2022.

#### How we did it - NCC

In 2015, 217 access gap clusters were identified in the country affecting 40 million Nigerians without access to telecom services. Today, NCC said the commission had reduced the access gap clusters to 114 with 15m of the 40m digitally excluded Nigerians now having access to telecoms services. "In line with the commission's Strategic Vision Plan (2021-2025), we are committed to addressing the remaining access gap clusters, which are areas outside the frontier of economic viability to ensure the remaining 25 million Nigerians have access," Danbatta said.

Similarly, there were 47,000 kilometres of fibre optic cables laid across the country as of 2015. However, as a result of regulatory focus, there are now approximately 54,725 kilometres of fibre cables laid across the country through the efforts of some private companies in the sector.

In line with the federal government's target, additional 120,000 kilometres of fibre are being planned. In this regard, the commission is working on last-mile connectivity to different parts of the country through leveraging the 40 terabyte capacity of six submarine cables on the coastal shores of Nigeria as at April 2022.

The licensing of seven Infrastructure Companies (InfraCos) to deploy fibre infrastructure across the six-geo political zones has also helped to galvanise increased connectivity. This will also bring about a reduction in the cost of data with a broadband penetration target of 70 per cent to cover 90 per cent of the population by 2025 as contained in the new Nigerian National Broadband Plan (2020-2025).

Dambatta said the commission's regulatory priority areas for the next three years will include facilitating the attainment of 70% broadband penetration by 2025 and building very reliable and sustainable broadband infrastructure in Nigeria; consumer protection and empowerment; and consolidation of spectrum trading to ensure maximum and efficient usage of available frequencies.

Due to the importance of broadband infrastructure to national economic development and competitiveness, we have developed regulatory interventions and necessary partnerships to achieve the national broadband policy targets and objectives with maximum efficiency.

But analysts said there is a need to speed up the plan; otherwise, it would likely not be achieved.

# ENVIRONMENT

## How Kano scavengers, recyclers contribute to climate solutions

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano

As the climate change crisis worsens in Nigeria, scavengers, who are largely scorned by society; and recyclers, are doing their bit to contribute to climate solutions.

The scavengers, who are mostly teenagers, go round Kano city, scouring refuse dumps, gutters; and moving from house to house, among other places picking up plastics and other items.

They take the waste to middlemen who own collection spots where the waste is placed on scales and paid for based on the kilos it weighed. The middlemen then sell the selected waste to companies which recycle them.

*Daily Trust* gathered that among the items scavenged by the teenage boys are soft drink plastic bottles, sachet water nylon and disused cartons.

"I went round every morning to scavenge for sachet water nylon, soft drink plastics and cartons. I move from one refuse site to another. Sometimes I go to houses to collect their waste, from which I remove all the nylon and cartons before disposing.

"Every day, I get from 500 to 800 kilos, which gives me between N500 to N700," one of the teenage boys, Abduljabbar Jibrin, said.

Unlike before when only the almajiri boys were doing the business, nowadays, many other young boys who live with their parents are into it, going round dump places before or after school hours to get the waste to sell.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) estimated that 400 million tons of plastic waste are generated worldwide annually, exceeding the yearly production of plastic.



■ Scavengers working at a dumpsite in Kano

It also reported that in Nigeria, of the 32 million tons of waste generated annually, 2.5 million tons are plastic waste, making the country the largest in Africa and among the top 10 countries globally with the highest contributions to plastic pollution.

The rise in population, coupled with the poverty level, which causes people to buy commodities in pieces on a daily basis, has worsened the situation, leading to an increase in the number of nylon sachets, cartons and other packaging items.

The state government, through the Commissioner of Environment, Dr Kabiru Ibrahim Getso, said it has 52 legal dumping sites across the metropolis and it is evacuating refuse from the sites on a daily basis.

He said every day, the government had to evacuate 77 trips of refuse from the state's city area, which generates 4,000 tons of waste daily.

Despite these efforts of the

state government to evacuate waste, the scavengers and recyclers still pick up tons of waste and are making significant income from it.

Sama'ila Idris, who owns a collection spot along Katsina road, Bachirawa, said every day, he buys over 500 kilogrammes of used nylon sachets, plastic bottles and empty cartons, and takes them to recycling companies.

"We buy one kilo of big plastic bottles for N50, while the smaller ones go for N30; sachet water nylon kilo costs N20; and any nylon that is strong like that of soft drink is N70.

"Daily, I buy between 400 and 500 kilos of sachet water nylon; for plastic bottles, I buy 70-100 kilos daily.

"I sell in Sharada and Dakata industrial areas, and some, especially sachet water nylon, I take them to Viva company. When you collect a large quantity, that is when you will make reasonable gain.

"If you sell in small batches,

you won't make any reasonable gain. In fact, you can't even settle the transport if you aren't lucky."

According to him, scavenging for plastic gives him all the goodies life can offer: "In this business, I fend for my family, parents and even assist others.

"I married two wives and I have three children, all from this business. I own a house and a motorcycle all through this business."

From the part of the recyclers, they are using plastic-related materials from the scavengers to boost their businesses, leaving the city cleaner and the planet safer.

They often remove tons of waste that could have increased the vulnerability of the residents to pollution, flooding and diseases such as malaria and cholera, in addition to contributing to climate change solutions.

The owner of a recycling company in Sharada Industrial Area, Aminu Mukhtar, said for over seven years in the business,

the steady supply of plastic waste from the scavengers has sustained him.

He noted that scavengers supplied hundreds of kilos of plastics to his factory and that he recycled them into buckets, cups, kettles, plates among many others.

He said in Kano, there are many recycling companies like his, and most get their supply from scavengers.

"If we are to source the waste, it will take us a long time to do that. But for the scavengers, it is easier for them as they go round the nooks and crannies to get them. They sell to the dealers in kilos and we buy from them in tons," he said.

A lecturer with the Department of Environmental Management at the Bayero University, Kano, Dr Idris Garba, said the flood experience in Kano and the excessive heat and cold weather were a result of destruction of the ozone layer that moderates between greenhouse gases and solar radiation.

"The changes in the planet earth aided by climate change through many factors, including plastic wastes, will continue to give a warmer atmosphere which changes the climatic conditions.

"Plastics don't decompose easily and if they don't, it means people sometimes burn them, even on the farm and these emissions that come out are terribly dangerous," he said.

Dr Getso also said the state government is working towards encouraging waste recycling, as efforts are underway to revive two recycling companies owned by the state government.

He said if fully operational, the companies would convert large volumes of the waste to wealth, which in return will reduce the green carbon emission and address climate change effects.

## FG inaugurates programmes to curb generator, vehicle emissions

By Terkula Igidi

Federal government on Monday inaugurated new programmes to control air pollution caused by generator and vehicle emissions.

Minister of Environment, Mr Muhammed Abdullahi, who unveiled the National Emissions Control Programmes (NECP), Generator Emission Control Programme (NGECP) and Vehicular Emission Control Programme (NVECP) in Abuja, said the transport

sector contributes most to air pollution in the country.

The National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) will implement the programmes.

He said, "Unfortunately, despite significant advances in fuel efficiency and emission reduction, the transport sector remains one of the major sources of air pollution in Nigeria.

"Meanwhile, considering the magnitude of air pollution on the environment and

human health, NESREA cannot do the work alone, stakeholders' involvement is required for effective implementation of the programmes.

"The stakeholders are all key in the implementation process, therefore, we are calling on all of you including the general public to join hands with NESREA in ensuring a cleaner and healthier environment."

Abdullahi also decried the indiscriminate use of power generators for both

domestic and industrial purposes, saying the trend has contributed to the poor air quality in the environment.

He explained that NESREA will set national emission standards and will develop a reliable national database management system for all emissions data generated from the programmes.

"The implementation of the NGECP will be starting with power generating sets of capacity from 10 KVA and above.

"While for NVECP the

lowest limit will be Euro III emission standard as agreed at the ECOWAS regional level," the minister added.

The Director-General of the NESREA, Prof. Aliyu Jauro in his speech said his agency is determined to tackle environmental problems endangering the health and social wellbeing of Nigerians.

He reiterated that NESREA has recorded numerous milestones in ensuring a healthier and cleaner Nigeria in its decades of environmental governance.

45

EASY CROSSWORD >>



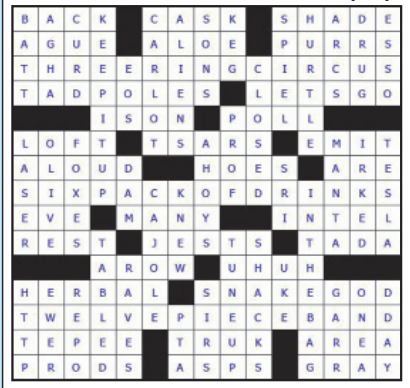
Across

- 1. Fall into place
- 5. Hobbyist's wood
- 10. Blue hue
- 14. Suit to \_\_\_
- 15. At full speed
- 16. Ballpark figures
- 17. Future doc's exam
- 18. Old-time actress Shearer
- 19. Lips service?
- 20. Hog-calling talent?
- 23. "To Kill a Mockingbird" author
- 24. Traffic sound
- 25. Criticize vociferously
- 27. European capital
- 30. Members of combos
- 32. Family emblem
- 33. Crams for exams
- 34. Offense on the rd.
- 35. Scoots
- 36. Northeastern league
- 39. Medicated drop
- 42. Contradict
- 44. Louses (up)
- 46. CPA's concern
- 47. Out to lunch, say
- 48. It can deliver a punch
- 49. Kitten's cry
- 50. Really tasty ribs?
- 56. Saharan
- 58. "Paper Moon" actress
- 59. "Topaz" author
- 60. Soft drink nut

Down

- 1. Impromptu jazz sessions
- 2. Engrave, in a way
- 3. Goneril's father
- 4. Beatles album co-produced by Phil Spector
- 5. Synthetic yarn
- 6. "It's \_\_\_ Unusual Day"
- 7. Symbol of happiness
- 8. California's \_\_\_ Valley
- 9. Philosophers' fortes
- 10. Early refuge
- 11. Bird's molt?
- 12. Vote out
- 13. They may be fixed on a balance sheet
- 21. Machine with a shuttle
- 22. More limited
- 26. "Charlie's Angels" actress Lucy
- 27. Inc., in Ipswich
- 28. Promising letters
- 29. Bad batch of moonshine?
- 30. Sci-fi humanoids
- 31. Poker stake
- 33. Cause of ruin
- 35. Corn sugar
- 37. By means of
- 38. Bow wood
- 40. Approval for the matador
- 41. Oomph
- 42. Huge party
- 43. Shape using a die
- 44. Capital of Mali
- 45. "Wuthering Heights" star Merle
- 46. Like a duke
- 48. Breakdown lane warning
- 51. Cuzco builder
- 52. Some July babies, astrologically
- 53. Heavy metal
- 54. Light melody
- 55. WWII Normandy arrivals
- 57. Doris or Dennis

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD (44)



SUDOKU >>

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

Good luck!

45

Solution to Sudoku 44

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

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

SNAPSHOT >>

Little girl flaunts long artificial nails at swimming pool, video sparks outrage



A viral video of a little Liberian girl with long fixed nails has sparked outrage on social media. The little Liberian girl was spotted rocking long artificial lemon-coloured nails while at a swimming pool with other children. Although the long nails were fixed on only her right fingernails, several netizens slammed her parents as they expressed their disappointment at 'new generation parents'. Although the little girl was swimming at a pool and having fun with her mates, she, however, attracted attention with the length of her nails. The woman who shared the video on TikTok wondered what was going on in Liberia. "What is happening in this country, Liberia?", the caption read. **Social media reactions** The video has stirred numerous reactions from netizens who think the act was inappropriate for her age. @MelMel said: "I want to believe it wasn't stick on with real glue." @cherryjinn\_ wrote: "I love my people." @jD added: "New generation parents." @SuperCoolLady99 reacted: "When one caught on something and bend backwards they know what pain they are putting this child through." @Gladys Koroma commented: "Really why she very young for nails." @Marvina Kesselly added: "In case this child is someone who likes suking fingers and the parents are looking for ways to stop it." @Fantasia Kamara replied: "This is really bad." Similarly, Legit.ng previously reported that a little girl made headlines over her appearance at her graduation party with her artificial eyelashes and long nails. This however didn't sit well with many netizens who took to the comments section to air their thoughts about the video. While some lambasted the parents of the little girl, others got emotional over the stress the little girl went through.

- Legit.ng

SIGN LANGUAGE >>

Funny Chinese sign



## Elections: NIS gets gadgets to monitor borders

By Joshua Odeyemi

The Nigeria Immigrations Service (NIS) has received equipment worth millions of naira to promote service delivery, especially as regards border security as the nation gears up for the general elections.

The equipment was yesterday donated to the NIS by the management of IHS Towers Nigeria, an international Telecoms infrastructure company.

While receiving the equipment, NIS Comptroller-General, Isah Jere Idris, said the donation came at the right time when the country was preparing for the general elections.

He said the Service had the responsibility to ensure the closure of the borders and integrity of the polls.

He said: "This indeed is a great support that will further enhance the capacity of the NIS to perform better in his mandate. In a nutshell, this modern communication equipment will entrench a more efficient and effective integration and interconnectivity between the service formations and the headquarters.

"This will enhance secured communication as part of our efforts towards emplacing border patrol operations and strategies to combat the growing trend of irregular migration.

"This support is also coming at a very important time, particularly as the Service is deploying integrated internal monitoring and controlling mechanisms ahead of the fast approaching 2023 elections."

The CG promised that the equipment which included 25 Motorola high-performance base stations, 155 Walky Talkies and other high-performance communication gadgets, would be put to the best use, especially during the general elections.

Earlier, the CEO of the company, Mohammad Darwish, said his organisation had been working closely with the telecom industry in Nigeria for the past 21 years and had provided employment to over 40,000 Nigerians directly and indirectly.

# No official register for missing Nigerians – FG

By Idowu Isamotu

The Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development, Sadiya Umar-Farouk, says there is no reliable national data on the number of missing persons in Nigeria because there is no official register.

She said this in Abuja yesterday at stakeholders' meeting organised her ministry in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

Represented by the ministry's permanent secretary, Nasir Sani Gwarzo, the minister

said currently, the country has no national structure or Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to address the humanitarian consequences of disappearances.

She said the Federal Government was very concerned about "this often-neglected and tragic humanitarian and

social issue."

She said irregular migration by many Nigerians, including children through cross borders, the Sahara Desert and the Mediterranean Sea in search of safety and a better life each year, often contribute to the great risk of disappearance.

She stated: "The latest

figures show that out of the 64,000 disappeared persons across Africa, Nigeria is recording over 25,000 missing persons including over 14,000 children."

Head, ICRC Nigeria Delegation, Yann Bonzon, said at least 13,000 families in Nigeria were looking for their missing loved ones.

 **Daily Trust Foundation**

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To qualify for the scholarship award, applicant must fulfil the following condition:

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- Female
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- Bachelor of Science (BSc Nursing)
- Must be in 200 level
- Must have passed 100 level examinations
- Must be student of:
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  2. University of Ilorin, Kwara State
  3. University of Maiduguri, Borno State

### METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested students who meet the above requirements are to collect application form from their University College Secretary's Office or Media Trust Office in their states or download the form online from [www.dailytrustfoundation.org](http://www.dailytrustfoundation.org). They are required to fill appropriately and attach passport, photocopies of Admission Letter, ID card, Certificate of Origin and Course Registration Form for current academic session.

### CLOSING DATE FOR THE APPLICATION

**Completed Application Forms should be submitted to:**

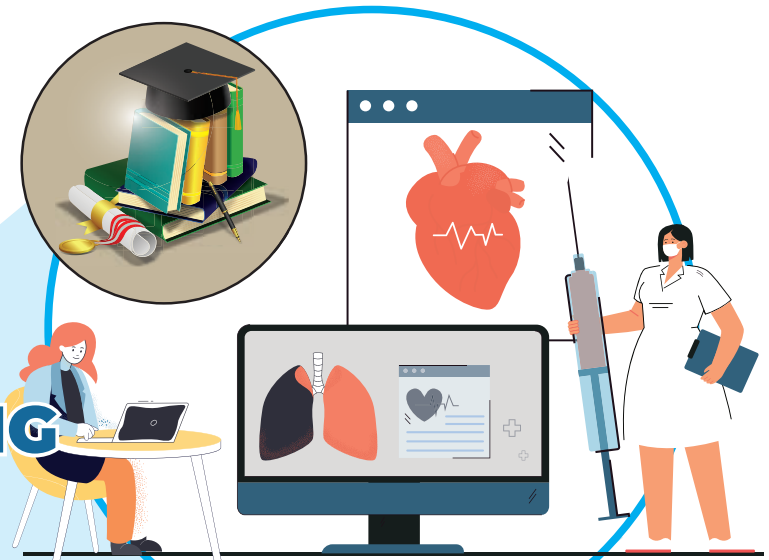
**The Program Officer,  
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No. 20, P.O.W. Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way,  
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**OR**

**Media Trust Office of the respective states  
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## PSC orders all retiring police officers to go

By Idowu Isamotu

The Police Service Commission (PSC) yesterday ordered all police officers due for retirement to proceed immediately, saying “there is an institutional succession plan in Nigeria Police”.

NPC spokesman, Ikechukwu Ani, told journalists that there can never be any leadership vacuum in the force if anybody retires.

The NPC, had in a statement on Monday, denied endorsing the tenure elongation of the Inspector-General of Police, who will attain the retirement age of 60 years in March.

Ani noted that NPC is the statutory government executive body with the constitutional mandate to recruit, promote, dismiss and exercise disciplinary control over persons holding offices in the force, except the Inspector-General of Police.

He said the NPC management met to

resolve the controversy over extension of the tenure of IGP Usman Baba.

He said the commission had watched with keen interest the conversation in the media on whether retiring senior police officers’ tenure should be elongated or not and whether such retirements would affect the 2023 election security.

“The ongoing campaign for the extension of the tenures of some Deputy-Inspectors General (DIGs), Assistant-Inspectors General (AIGs), Commissioners of Police (CPs) and other senior police officers was an unnecessary distraction and an affront on all the existing laws in the country guiding entry and exit in the public service.

“The commission took a decision that it will not extend the tenures of the retiring senior police officers, stressing that even when requested, it cannot do so as it is against all existing laws, Police Act, Police Service

Commission Act and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

“It noted that the police have capable men and women who should be encouraged to step into the vacancies that would be created by the exiting officers.

“It assured Nigerians that there is an institutional succession plan in the Nigeria Police Force especially with the current injection of 10,000 constables and several other thousands of cadet ASPs from the Police Academy every year.

“The commission assured Nigerians that there will be no vacuum in the hierarchy of the Police with the touted retirement of hundreds of senior Police Officers.

“It took a decision to rigidly uphold the provisions of the law which stipulates that a serving public officer, whether in the police or in any other government agency, must exit the service at the age of 60 or having served for a period of 35 years.

## Aisha Buhari sponsors open-heart surgeries

By Muideen Olaniyi

First Lady of Nigeria Aisha Muhammadu Buhari has organised a Future Assured Cardiac Mission to intervene in attenuating the rampant cases of heart disease, which have burdened many Nigerians.

The mission, which engaged some of the best cardiac surgeons from Italy, will involve Nigerian surgeons at the Federal Medical Centre, Jabi, Abuja.

Speaking during a welcome reception, Mrs. Buhari drew attention to the high rate of heart disease among Nigerians, a condition, she added, was too expensive for the average Nigerian to manage, leading to avoidable morbidity and mortality.

She expressed confidence that the partnership between the foreign and local surgeons will lead to a transfer of

expertise and the saving of many lives.

Hajiya Aisha, in a statement issued Tuesday by her spokesman, Suleiman Haruna, called on well-to-do Nigerians to provide funds for such and other costly treatments and surgeries for disadvantaged Nigerians.

Chief Medical Director, Federal Medical Centre, Jabi, Prof. Saad Ahmed, expressed happiness over the choice of his hospital for the surgeries, adding that as the best government hospital in the British Commonwealth, they have been recognized for conducting many such surgeries before now.

He commended the First Lady for providing a state-of-the-art Quantum Medtronic Heart Lung Machine with a diagnostic module, which is required for conducting surgeries of this nature.

This machine, he said, is the first of its specification in Sub-Saharan Africa.

He promised the First Lady a successful mission.

Prof. Oppido Guido, leader of the 13-man team, expressed happiness over the opportunity to visit Nigeria and share experiences with professional colleagues and touch the lives of children who are sick.

He said the First Lady showed magnanimity by sponsoring the surgeries completely and should be commended.

Haruna said the open-heart surgeries are targeted at children and will run for one week from 21st to 28th January 2023. Similar missions will be held at different hospitals across the country.



■ Aisha

# FACTCHECK

## Did Emefiele call out DSS DG for a fight?

By Philip Shimnom Clement

A video has been circulating on social media suggesting that the governor of the Central Bank, Mr Godwin Emefiele, has called out the Director General of the Department of State Services, Mr Yusuf Bichi, to a fight.

The video is mostly circulating on WhatsApp, Telegram and Tik Tok.

**Verdict: False and misleading Verification**

The 20-second video shows Mr Emefiele addressing a press conference on the outcome of the monetary policy committee, where he allegedly made the comment.

In the video seen by Daily Trust, Emefiele is heard saying, “And I hear that it is making news on social media, well I am not on social media, but let him come and meet in the central bank, let him show his face.

“Those who feel they want to support him to fight him, come out let’s fight.”

Daily Trust subjected the video to checks and verification using Invid to ascertain its authenticity. It was discovered that the video was manipulated.

Subsequently, Daily Trust obtained the original video of the



MPC press briefing in September 2021, where Mr Emefiele was answering questions on why it shut down AbokiFX, a website that collated the black market exchange rates of naira.

It was confirmed that the CBN governor was giving an update on why they had to shut down AbokiFX and not call Mr Bichi out for a fight as suggested by the title of the video.

Daily Trust recalls that in September 2021, when the video was recorded, CBN had accused AbokiFX, a website that collates

the black market exchange rates of naira, of carrying out an “illegal activity that undermines the economy”.

The apex bank governor, Godwin Emefiele, said the publisher of the platform, Oniwinde Adedotun, was involved in “illegal forex trading.”

The CBN, at the time, came under pressure after the value of the naira plummeted following the bank’s decision to stop the sale of dollars to Bureaux de Change operators a month earlier.

The value of the currency fell

to N570 a dollar on Friday from less than N520 a dollar it was traded before the ban. Most local newspapers relied on AbokiFX for the parallel market rates.

Addressing journalists on Friday after the Monetary Policy Committee meeting that began Thursday, Mr Emefiele said the apex bank had been studying the activities of abokiFX in the last two years.

“There was a time we asked our colleagues to call the abokiFX to ask how he conducts the rates,” he said.

Emefiele said the publisher of AbokiFX lived in England but published arbitrary rates, without contacting licensed bureau de change operators.

### Background

Although it has been established that there is a running battle between the Central Bank governor and the DSS over allegations of terrorism financing and other issues, the CBN governor has since resumed at his duty post.

The apex bank, in a statement on January 16, said the governor was back to work with renewed vigour.

“The governor, Central Bank of Nigeria, Mr Godwin Emefiele, has resumed duty after his annual vacation abroad.

“Mr Emefiele, who proceeded on leave in December 2022, resumed work today, Monday, January 16, 2023.

“The governor resumed with renewed vigour to perform his duty ahead of the first Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting of the year scheduled for January 23–24, 2023.

“Mr Emefiele remains committed to performing the task before him in line with his oath of office and the policy direction of President Muhammadu Buhari.

“While thanking the public for keeping faith with the bank, we urge Nigerians to continue to support the policies of the bank aimed at ensuring a stable financial system and the Nigerian economy in general,” the statement, signed by Osita Nwanisobi, Director, Corporate Communications, CBN, said.

### Conclusion

Following verification by Daily Trust, it has been established that the video in circulation is False and Misleading as the CBN governor did not at any point in time call the DSS DG out for a fight.

This Fact Check is produced in partnership with the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD)

# Insecurity: N/East emirs want traditional institutions strengthened

By Joshua Odeyemi

The Emir of Fika, Alhaji Muhammadu Abali Ibn Mohammed Idrissa, has called for strengthening of traditional institutions to tackle insecurity in the country.

He said their roles in peacebuilding cannot be over-emphasized.

He spoke in Abuja at the Managing Conflict in Nigeria Programme tagged 'Practice Dissemination Workshop on Initiatives to Strengthen Traditional Justice System', funded by the European Union and the British Council.

Idrissa, who is also the chairman of the Yobe State Council of Traditional

Rulers, said traditional rulers are critical to peacebuilding.

He said the peaceful community development initiative strategy, formulated and funded by the British Council and EU, needed to be sustained to ensure lasting peace in the North East.

Similarly, the Emir of Bade, Yobe State, Alhaji Abubakar Umar Suleiman, said: "The British Council deemed it fit and transferred the custodian of conflict resolution back to the traditional rulers because it is more accessible to the common man at no cost."

The Emir of Mubi, Adamawa State, Dr Abubakar Isa Ahmadu, asked

traditional rulers to make themselves trustworthy so that the people could trust them with their complaints and needs.

The Gangwari Ganye, Adamawa State, Umaru Adamu Sanda, urged traditional rulers to understand the basics of conflict resolution to enable them to perform better as rulers.

In his welcome remarks, National Programme Manager, MCN, Prof. Mohammed Tabu, said the programme focused on managing conflict in the North East and had been implemented in the past six years to enhance the capacity of traditional rulers on peace and conflict resolution.

# Gombe gov'ship: Court dismisses suit seeking to disqualify Gov Yahaya

By John Chuks Azu

A Federal High Court in Abuja yesterday dismissed an application seeking to nullify the nomination of Governor Mohammed Inuwa Yahaya as the All Progressives Congress (APC) candidate for Gombe State in this year's governorship election.

Justice Binta Nyako, while ruling on the preliminary objection, dismissed allegations that the governor submitted false information to the Independent National Electoral Commission for lack of competence.

The suit, marked FHC/ABJ/CS/1301/2022, was brought before the court by the opposition Peoples Democratic Party and two of its chieftains in the state, Muhammed Jibrin Barde and Timothy Danlele.

Those cited as 1st to 3rd defendants in the matter were the INEC, the APC and Governor Yahaya respectively.

Specifically, Barde and Danlele had, through their lawyer, Johnson Usman, alleged that the governor lied on oath in documents he presented before the INEC.

They said the governor was inconsistent in the depositions he made on oath and therefore ought to be disqualified from participating in the governorship election billed for March 11.

Meanwhile, the APC and the governor, through their lawyer, Marshall Abubakar, filed a preliminary objection challenging the competence of the suit, even as they persuaded the court to dismiss it for want of jurisdiction.

The defendants said the PDP chiefs failed to establish any reasonable cause of action, stressing that the suit had become statute barred since it was not filed within 14 days after INEC published governor Yahaya's name as a candidate for the election.



■ From left: Ooni of Ife, Oba Adeyeye Ogunwusi; Gov. Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State; President Muhammadu Buhari; Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Muhammed and other stakeholders, during the official inauguration of the John Randle Centre for Yoruba Culture and History in Lagos on Tuesday. PHOTO: NAN

# Tinubu condoles Emirs of Kano, Bichi over family matriarch's death

By Saawua Terzungwe

The presidential candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Bola Ahmed Tinubu, has condoled with the Emir of Kano, Aminu Ado Bayero and the Emir of Bichi, Nasiru Ado Bayero, the government and people of Kano State over the recent demise of the family's matriarch, Fulani Hasiya Bayero (Nanin Daura).

Hajiya Fulani Hasiya died on January 17.

A statement by Abdulaziz Abdulaziz from Tinubu Media Office said Fulani Hasiya was

a pious and affectionate woman who played critical roles in maintaining and sustaining the royal family ties.

The statement quoted the APC candidate as saying the deceased would be greatly missed not only by family members and her relations, but all who encountered her.

"She will particularly be remembered for her infectious smile and extreme kindness to all. Fulani Hasiya was a sister to the late Emir of Kano, Alhaji Ado Bayero and is survived by six children and grandchildren."

# Buhari appoints ex-IGP Arase as police commission chair

By Abdullateef Salau

President Muhammadu Buhari has appointed a former Inspector-General of Police, Solomon Arase, as chairman of the Police Service Commission (PSC).

The president, in a letter to the Senate President Ahmad Lawan and read at plenary yesterday, asked the Red Chamber to confirm the appointment.

Buhari said the appointment was

in accordance with the provision of section 154 (1) of the 1999 Constitution as amended.

In another development, President Buhari also asked the Senate to confirm Dr Mahmuda Isah (Kebbi) and Dr Mann Omobayi Alli (Ondo) as Resident Electoral Commissioners of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Buhari also appointed five members of the Code of Conduct

Bureau and sought the Senate confirmation.

They are: Murtala A. Kankia from Katsina to represent North West; Zephaniah Ishaku Bulus from Nasarawa to represent North Central and Farouq Umar from Yobe state to represent North East.

Others are: Abdulsalam Taofiq Olawale from Ondo to represent South West and Prof. Juwayriya Badamasiuy from Kogi to represent North Central.

# Vigilantes best to serve as state police – Captain Bakori

By Dalhatu Liman

Commandant-General, Vigilance Group of Nigeria (VGN), Navy Captain Umar Bakori (rtd), has called on the 36 state governors and the FCT to help strengthen the group, saying it is the best alternative to state police.

Bakori, at a press conference in

Abuja yesterday, said: "We don't need state police. Our men's job is community policing, community services and maintenance of law and order."

"We serve in our localities; we don't transfer people from one state to the other or from one local government to the other."

"And we have our members in every state, every local government and every ward. We're ready to assist the governors to protect the people by working closely with the army, police, civil defence and others."

"We have the advantage of being local, we know the nooks and crannies, and we know the terrain."

# Expect more floods, dry spell in 2023 – NiMet

By Chris Agabi

The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) yesterday asked Nigerians, especially those in the cities and riverine areas, to expect more floods.

Director-General, NiMet, Prof.

Mansur Bako Matazu, stated this in Abuja at the sidelines of the public release of the 2023 Seasonal Climate Prediction (SCP).

"Flood is a natural event and with the increase in climate change activities there will be more floods. This is because climate change is

due to increasing temperatures. With increased temperature, the atmosphere will be more pregnant with more water vapour.

"That means more rain. This rain will come in high intensity, but short duration. So, the length of the season has been reducing but the

intensity and the amount of rain have been increasing. That gives more volume of water in limited time and that is what causes flash floods in cities and riverine areas due to overflowing of water.

On rainfall, he said this year, the rain will "be a little normal but

pockets of extreme weather events.

"For states in the North, we're experiencing dry spell in June and July for a between two to three weeks. The growing season will be normally with pockets of anomalies in parts of Yobe, Solomon, Katsina and some North Central states."

# Classifieds

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Kano Office: Plot 56, Behind Kano International Trade Fair Complex, Off Zoo Road, Kano  
Kaduna Office: Abdussalam Ziza House, A9 Mogadishu City Center, Kaduna

**4 Costing:**  
Change of Name - **N3,000**  
Loss of Documents - **N9,450**  
Registration of Trustees - **N15,500**

**LOSS OF DOCUMENTS**

**COMPANY REGISTRATION**

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

ITORO: I formerly known and addressed as ANTHONY ITORO, now wish to be known and addressed as DUFF ITORO ANTHONY. All other documents remain valid, all public should please take note.

APURUGH: I, formerly known as APURUGH FERDINAND IORAVR, now wish to be known and addressed as APURUGH FERDINAND. My date of birth was wrongly captured as 16/06/1985 instead of 12/06/1985. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

GIMBA: I, formerly known as MESHAK ZACHARIA DAOR, now wish to be known and addressed as GIMBA ZACHARIAH MESHAK. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

LUCKY: I, formerly known as ASEKOMHE LUCKY IKHAMOH, now wish to be known and addressed as ASEKOMHE LUCKY. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

COMFORT: I formerly known as WIKO COMFORT GODSON, now wish to be known and addressed as JOSEPH COMFORT HENRY. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AMINDE: I formerly known as ANITA KUMAWUESE ATULE now wish to be known and addressed as ANITA KUMAWUESE AMINDE. All other documents remain valid. Access Bank PIs and the general public should take note.

MUHAMMED: I formerly known as MOHAMMED SULEIMAN, now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMED SULEIMAN. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MODUPE: I formerly known as MUSA DUPE BUKKY, now wish to be known and addressed as MODUPE BUKOLA ABEJIDE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as MUHAMMAD UWAIS ABUBAKAR now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMAD UWAIS and my date of birth is 26/10/2000. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known as YAKUBU HAFSAT, now wish to be known and addressed as ADAM HAFSAT and my date of birth is 01/12/1991 not 06/05/1992. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known and called as YUNUSA ENGINEER MUHAMMED. Now wish to be known and called as YUNUSA BALOGUN. DOB: 27/5/1995 NOT 3/5/1991. All former documents remain valid. First bank PLC and General public should please take note

This is to inform the General public that I' IHEZUO CHIDERA BLESSING AMANDA was Born on the 12/06/1995, NOT 12/06/1983. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note

FREEMAN: I formerly known as UGBEDE FRIDAY AUDU, now wish to be known and addressed as UGBEDE FEEMAN AUDU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

SANI: I was formerly known as NAMADI ALIYU, now wish to be known and addressed as SANI DANTORO, All documents remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as AMINU ABDULAZEEZ GADA, now wish to be known and addressed as AMINU ABDULAZEEZ and my date of birth is 27/11/1997 not 27/11/1996.. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ADAMU: I formerly known as HUSSAINI IDRIS, now wish to be known and addressed as ADAMU IDRIS. All former documents remain valid. Banks and the General public should please take note.

OBADIAH BULUS is one and the same person as OBADIAH BULUS KELESU. All documents bearing the above names remain valid. The general public and authority concerned should please take note.

CYNTHIA: I formerly known as CYNTHIA OZIOFU OGBODO, now wish to be known and addressed as CYNTHIA OZIOFU OJEIKHOA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I was formerly known and addressed as ISAH MUHAMMAD LADAN. Now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMAD ISAH. My date of birth was also wrongly registered and captured on my BVN as 11/12/1970, instead 16/11/1970 that being correct. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

KARIMATU: I formerly known and addressed as KARIMATU ISA ABBA but now wish to be known and addressed as KARIMATU ISA SHAFIYU. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

SUZANA: I formerly known and addressed as SUZANA EZEKIEL but now wish to be known and addressed as SUZANA BULUS All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

LAWAL: I formerly known and addressed as TANIMU LAWAL but now wish to be known and addressed as TANIMU IBRAHIM All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

BILKISU: I formerly known and addressed as BILKISU ZAKAR but now wish to be known and addressed as BILKISU ABUBAKAR ZAKAR All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

HWANDE: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS TERWASE DANIEL NATER NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS HWANDE DANIEL NATER AND MY CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS 7th JULY 2004 NOT 5th JUNE 2000 AS CAPTURED ON MY NIN. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

I was formerly known as SANDA TASIU UMAR now wish to be known and called as TASIU UMAR GANO. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as ABDULLAHI NURU ABUBAKAR Now wish to be known and address as NURA ABUBAKAR All my document remain valid General public to take not.

IKILIMA: I formerly known as ABBAKAR IKLIMA Now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR IKILIMA ADAMU All my documents remain valid General public should take note.

I formerly known as FATSUMA ABUBAKAR LADAN, now wish to be called FATSUMA ABUBAKAR SADIQ. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME: That my name was wrongly written as SANI SAIFUDDIN KAMFUT. My correct name is Surname: SANI First name: SAIFIDDIN Middle name: K. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.

MARY: I formerly known as Mary Danlami, now wish to be known as Mary Samson. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.

YA'U: I formerly known as Surname: Ashiru Other name: Anees, now wish to be known as Surname: Ya'u Other Name : Anees Ashiru. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.

FAIZA: I formerly known and addressed as FAIZA IBRAHIM but now wish to be known and addressed as FAIZA IBRAHIM ADAMU All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

AISHATU: I formerly known and addressed as AISHATU HAKURI but now wish to be known and addressed as HUSSAINA AISHATU SALIHU All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

AISHATU: I formerly known and addressed as AISHATU HAKURI but now wish to be known and addressed as HUSSAINA AISHATU SALIHU All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

ZEMER: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED ZEMER TERFA JACOB NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS ZEMER JACOB. MY CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS 20th DECEMBER, 1979 AND NOT 28th DECEMBER 1979 CAPTURED ONLY ACCOUNT, AND 29th DECEMBER 1979 CAPTURED ON MY BVN. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

MARYAM: I formerly known and addressed as YUSUF MARYAM JUMAI but now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULLAHI MARYAM JUMAI All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.

MBAASEMA: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS TERHEMBA AKAAYAR NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS MBAASEMA ISAJAH AKAYAR. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

TYOKUMBA: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS TYOKUMBA JEREMIAH NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS TYOKUMBA JEREMIAH SOONEN. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

UGESE: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS UGESE REGINA NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS UGESE MBALAMEN REGINA. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

This is to inform the General public that I' ALIYU MUHAMMED was Born on the 20/10/1995 NOT 20/10/1990. General public, Kaduna Polytechnic, NYSC and Authorities concerned should please take note.

ENYIGWE: I FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS Jacob Elizabeth Alami. NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS Enyigwe Elizabeth Jacob. ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. ALL RELEVANT AUTHORITIES CONCERNED AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE NOTE

SADIYA: I formerly known as SADIYA KOLOMI USMAN now wish to be known and addressed as SADIYA KOLOMI ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as MARYAM SULEIMAN now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS MARYAM SULEIMAN ZAHARADDEEN, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

NDOMA: I formerly known as MARIAGORETTI CHINASA MBAH, now wish to be known and addressed as SWEETNESS MAYOR NDOMA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as MISS RABIATU HAMISU TAFASHIYA now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS RABI'ATU YUSUF TAFASHIYA, all former documents remain valid. All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as MISS ZULAIHAT HAMISU TAFASHIYA now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS ZULAIHAT MOHAMMED TAFASHIYA TAFASHIYA, all former documents remain valid. All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as ASMA'U IBRAHIM KHALID, now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS ASMA'U SALIM KHALID, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

HAFSAT: I formerly known as HAFSAT LAWAL ISMAIL now wish to be known and addressed as MRS HAFSAT LAWAL BABANGIDA. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

MANNIR: I formerly known as USMAN MUNTARI now wish to be known and addressed as MANNIR ABBA MASANAWA. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

USMAN: I formerly known as USMAN FATIMA now wish to be known and addressed as USMAN FATIMA BINTU. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

AMINU: I formerly known as AMINU UMAR now wish to be known and addressed as AMINU UMAR DARMA. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

RUKAYYA: I formerly known as RUKAYYAT IDRIS AWAL now wish to be known and addressed as RUKAYYA IDRIS BAKO. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

I, formerly known and addressed as KINGLEY EUNICE now wish to be known and addressed as GEORGE EUNICE NKALOR. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I was formerly known and addressed as JONATHAN WISDOM EMMANUE. I now want to be known and addressed as JONATHAN WISDOM EFE my D.O.B is 27-05-2003. All former documents bearing my name remain valid .The Management of Union Bank PLC and the general public should take note of this deposition.

ABRAHAM: I was formerly known and called JEREMIAH YISA ABRAHAM but now wants to be known and called ABRAHAM JEREMIAH. All former documents remain valid. All banks and the general public should please take note.

OLAYEMI: I formerly known and addressed as BABALOLA TAWAKALITU TOYIN. Now wish to be known and addressed as, TIJANI TAWAKALITU OLAYEMI. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as ADEREMI OLUWANIFEMI DANIEL now wish to be known and addressed as ADEREMI OLUWANIFEMI DANIEL ADEWALE. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as SHITTU TAOFEEK, now wish to add AFOLABI to my name, now wish to be known and addressed as SHITTU TAOFEEK AFOLABI. All former documents remain valid. Bank and general public should take note.

IKHEGBE: This is to notified the general public that, MOHAMMED IKHEGBE ABDULLAHI, IKHEGBE MOHAMMED ABDULLAHI and ABDULLAHI MUHAMMED I. Belong to me and same person. Now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULLAHI MUHAMMED IKHEGBE. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general to take note.

FAITH: I, formerly known, called and addressed as Miss OLANREWAIJU OLAJUMOKE FAITH now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS ALIU OLAJUMOKE FAITH. All former documents remain valid, concern authorities and the general public should please take note.

AUGUSTINE: I formerly known and addressed as OHAKHOME AUGUSTINE. Now wish to be known and addressed as OKHAKUMEN AIEHOR AUGUSTINE. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

JUDE: I formerly known and addressed as ODIGHI CLETUS. Now wish to be known and addressed as PALMER CLETUS JUDE. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

EMMANUEL: I formerly known and addressed as JAMES EMMANUEL. Now wish to be known and addressed as IGAH MOSES EMMANUEL. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

YUSUF: This is to notified the general public that: YUSUF TUNDE, YESUFU TUNDE and YESUFU GBADAMASI. Belong to me and same person. Now wish to be known as, YUSUF BADAMASI TUNDE. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as ODAH JAMES ODAH & ODAH JAMES ADODE now wish to be known and addressed as ODAH ODEH JAMES. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

SARAH: I formerly known and addressed as MISS IROBOUDU SARAH OSHIOKOMHO. Now wish to be known and addressed as, MRS RAYMOND SARAH OSHIOKOMHO. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

STELLA: I formerly known and addressed as, MISS EYOGWE STELLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as, MRS MOMOH GABRIEL STELLA. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

SHAIBU: I formerly known and addressed as, DAVID ODIOR JOSEPH. Now wish to be known and addressed as, SHAIBU DAVID. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

BRAIMAH: I formerly known and addressed as, MISS HASSAN MUTIAT DASOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as MRS BRAIMAH YEKINI MUTIYAT. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as ANAS TANKO now wish to be known and addressed as ANAS ABDULLAHI TANKO. All former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as BALKISU KANKUBALA SALISU now wish to be known and addressed as BALKISU AYUBA KANKUBALA. All former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

VICTORIA: I formerly known and addressed as. OMOAYENA VICTORIA. Now wish to be known and addressed as. OSHIOGWEMHO AGBAMOMO VICTORIA. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

JOY: I formerly known and addressed as. MISS YAKUBU JOY. Now wish to be known and addressed as. MRS MICHAEL JOY. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note

I, formerly known and addressed as NNADI REGINA CHINENYE now wish to be known and addressed as OPARAOCHA REGINA CHINENYE. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as ODOFIN BAMIWO VICTORIA now wish to be known and addressed as ODOFIN RAMOTU VICTORIA. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I, formerly known as HUSSAINI MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as HUSSAINI MUHAMMAD SIFAWA. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

ZAINAB : I formerly known as ZAINAB YAHAYA now wish to be known and addressed as ZAINAB MOHAMMED. All former documents remain valid authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as ALIMA ISMAIL JUBRIL now wish to be known and addressed as HALIMA MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. Ja'iz Bank and General public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as SALE BUBA ABDULKADIR now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR ABDULKADIR NAFADA with my phone no. from 07035380094 to 09166851060 former document remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as HAUWA BABAYO now wish to be known and addressed as HAUWA MOHAMMED YAYA D.O.B 25/MAY/1967 All former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as NAOMI YAKUBU now wish to be known and addressed as NAOMI YAHAYA former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as HAJARA DAUDA now wish to be known and addressed as HAJARA BUBA former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as ANAS TANKO now wish to be known and addressed as ANAS ABDULLAHI TANKO. All former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as HAUWA UMAR now wish to be known and addressed as HAUWA KULU UMAR DOB 12-1-1972 not 9-6-1972. All former documents remain valid authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

**Bank Details**

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Send your payment mandate to our email addresses

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**Sort Code: 221081552**

**Bank: First Bank Plc**  
**Account No: 2002911690**  
**Sort Code: 011084060**

**Bank: UBA Plc**  
**Account No: 1007117397**  
**Sort Code: 033080013**

**Bank: GTBank Plc**  
**Account No: 0024570856**  
**Sort Code: 058083231**

**Requirement for Change of Name**  
**Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit**

Classifieds made easy

PUBLIC NOTICE Page 2

HASSANA: I formerly known as WANNAH ADO HASSANA now wish to be known and addressed as HASSANA WANNAH ADO All former document remain valid authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as SALAMA YUSUF, now wish to be known and address as SALAMATU YUSUF. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and General public should please take note

I, formerly known as MUSA USMAN now wish to be known and addressed as MUSA USMAN MASHI all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as HARUNA ADAMU HAMZA now wish to be known as HAMZA HARUNA All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

ADNAN, I formerly known as ADNAN ABDULLAHI ALIYU now wish to be called and addressed as ADNAN WADA ZAKIRAI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MERCY: I formerly known as MERCY DANIEL TAGAN now wish to be called and address as MERCY DANIEL TAGAN MRS AYANYEMI, All former documents remain valid, Authority concern and general public should please take note

I, formerly known and addressed as VASTY IDANI SHEHU now wish to be known and addressed as VASTY SIMON HASSAN. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

LUKA: I formerly known and addressed as LUKA RAHAP, but now wish to be called and address as LUKA RAHAB. All former documents remain valid. First Bank Nigeria PLC and the General Public Should Please Take Note

I, formerly known as ALIYU SANUSI now wish to be known and addressed as SANUSI ALIYU All former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as RABI AHMAD IDRIS now wish to be known as RABI AHMAD MAHMOUD All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

AMINA, I formerly known as AMINA TIJJANI YUSUF now wish to be called and addressed as AMINA SAIDU ABUBAKAR All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

AMINA: I was formally known as HAUWA SULEMAN now wish to be called and address as AMINA ABUBAKAR ALIYU all former documents remain valid general public, all authority concern should take note please.

I formerly known as ACHENATU IDRISU now wish to be known and addressed as AISHA IDRIS. All former documents remain valid. General public please note.

I formerly known as JOSEPH DESTINY KATBAM now wish to be known as ELISHA KATBAM JOSEPH. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as ABDULMALIK GABIRU now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULMALIK HARUNA All former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

ABACHA: I formerly known as ABACHA YUSUF YAKUBU now wish to be known and addressed as ABACHA YAKUBU. All former documents remain valid. General Public Should please take note.

NUSAIBA, I formerly known as NUSAIBA HARUNA now wish to be called and addressed as NUSAIBA HARUNA ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

DELUWA: I Formerly known as DELUWA MAGAJI MUSA Now wish to be called and addressed as DELUWA MUHAMMED All Former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

I, formerly known and addressed as AMINA MUHAMMAD MAKINTA now wish to be known and addressed as MRS AMINA MUHAMMAD MAMMAN. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

NATALIE: I formerly known as UNGYORONG NATALIE BENJAMIN, now wish to be known as MACHIEF NATALIE BENJAMIN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as ABDULLAHI IBRAHIM now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULLAHI TURARE IBRAHIM my correct DOB is 29-07-1993 not 02-02-1980 all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as KASIM MOHD MOHD now wish to be called and addresses KASHIM MUHAMMED KASHIM all former document remain valid authority concern and general public should take to note,

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

MUSA: I Formerly known as BAWA MUSA MALAM Now wish to be called and addressed as MUSA BAWA All Former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

I, formerly known and addressed as SALAMATU MUSA MABU now wish to be known and addressed as MRS SALAMATU MUSA IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

DORCAS: I formerly known as NUHU DORCAS IGEH, now wish to be known as NUHU DORCAS TAWA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

I, formerly known as ABBA IBRAHIM now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM IBRAHIM and my correct DOB is 01-03-1996 not 25-09-1996 all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

ONABANJO: I formerly known and called OYEWOLE ONABANJO now wish to be known and addressed as OYEWOLE ENOCH ONABANJO. All former documents remain valid. Concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.

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

SALOME: I Formerly known as SALOME BITRUS Now wish to be called and addressed as SALOME BITRUS MAKAMA All Former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

I formerly known as AMINU ABBA but now wish to be known and addresses as AMINU MUSA and that my correct date of birth is 7th MAY, 1996 not 01-01-1990, all my former documents to remain valid general public and all authorities concern should please take note.

DORCAS: I formerly known as BULLUS DORCAS RIGIE, now wish to be known as HARUNA DORCAS SAMBO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as MUNIRA MANNIR now wish to be known and addressed as MUNIRA MANNIR YAR'ADUA all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as HABIBA MUHAMMAD DAHIRU now wish to be known as HABIBA MUHAMMAD SANI All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

SAGIRU. I formerly known as SAGIRU A SHEHU, now wish to be known and addressed as SAGIRU SHEHU. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

SAMUEL: I Formerly known as SAMUEL ONYEKACHUKWU UDEH Now wish to be called and addressed as SAMUEL EDWIN My correct D.O.B is 17/02/1975 and not 16/03/1975. All Former documents remain valid ZENITH BANK PLC Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

I, HINDIYATU M. SANUSI of No 17 Waziri Street, Karewa Extension, Jimeta Yola now wants to be addressed as HINDIYATU ABUBAKAR. All documents remained valid. General public to take note please.

SANI: I formerly known as BALA ABUBAKAR, now wish to be known as BALA SANI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as ABUBAKAR YUSUF now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR YUSUF AHMAD and my correct DOB is 25-12-2002 not 01-06-2001 or 25-12-2000 all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as HAMZA ADO now wish to be known as HAMZA ADAMU BABALELE All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

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

HOPE: I Formerly known as ANAYO HOPE IBEABUCHI Mrs Now wish to be called and addressed as HOPE ANAYO All Former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

SAFIYA: I formally known as UMAR SAFIYA MOHAMMED, now wish to be called and known as ARDO SAFIYA MOHAMMED UMAR. All documents remained valid. General public to take note please.

I formerly known as ANNAH JOHN now wish to be known as ANNAH JOHN WUBIYA former document remain remain valid general public note

I formerly known as ABBA KABIRU 01/01/1991 now wish to be called and addressed as SHUAIB KABIRU. DOB: 01/01/1990. All former document remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known as TIJJANI SHEHU IDRIS now wish to be known as AMBASSADOR TIJJANI SHEHU IDRIS All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

I formerly known as FATIMA MAHMOUD AHMAD now wish to be called and addresses FATIMA ZAHRADEEN AHMAD all former document remain valid authority concern and general public should take to note the

ISUWA: I Formerly known as BEGE JACOB Now wish to be called and addressed as ISUWA JACOB All Former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

SHEMAU: I formally known as MISS SHEMAU BASHIR ABUHURAIRAH, now wish to be called and addressed as MRS SHEMAU AMINU ADO BASHIR. All former documents remained valid. NYSC and the general public should take note please.

EMMANUEL: I formally known as ZAKARIA EMMANUEL TARFA now wish to be known and addressed as ZAKARIA EMMANUEL All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

I formerly known as ZUWAI RA MOHAMMED now wish to be called and addressed as ZUWAI RA MOHAMMED LAWAN. All former document remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known as Miss HALIMA GARBA IDRIS now wish to be known as Mrs HALIMA ABUBAKAR IDRIS All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

I formerly known as SABITU MUHD 02-08-1966 now wish to be called and addresses SABITU LURAN MUHAMMAD 18-07-1963 all former document remain valid authority concern and general public should take to note

ONWUAJUESE: I, formerly known as ONWUAJUESE ONYEAMAKA LYDIA, Old DOB: 1/1/1940, now wish to be known and addressed as ONWUAJUESE LYDIA ONYEAMAKA, Old DOB: 7/7/1969 All former document remain valid authority concern and any authority concerned to please take note.

MUDASIR: I, formerly known as MUDASIRU BELLO A, now wish to be known and addressed as MUDASIR BELLO ALHAJI. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.

I formally known as SULAIMA ABBA, now wish to be known and addressed as SULEIMAN ABBA DOLE. D.O.B., 04-05-1995. All former documents remain valid general public take note.

I formerly known as David Aloyede now wish to be called and addressed as DAVID TOPE OLOYEDE. All former document remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known as HAJIYA HAUWA ABUBAKAR now wish to be HAJIYA HAUWA ABBA All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

I formerly known as MARYAM SALIHU now wish to be called and addresses MARYAM SALE ALMUSTAPHA all former document remain valid authority concern and general public should take to note

KHADIJAT: I, formerly known and addressed as ADIJAT AJOKE OYEYINKA. Now wish to be known and addressed as KHADIJAT AJOKE TIAMIYU OLAIYA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

RABIU: I formerly known as RABIU IBRAHIM, now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMAD RABIU IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formally known as UGWU EMMANUEL UCHE now wish to be known and addressed as UGWU EMMANUEL ONUORAH. All former documents remain valid general public take note.

I formerly known as MURTALA ABDULLAHI now wish to be called and addressed as MURTALA ABDULLAHI MUHAMMAD All former document remain valid Authority concern and general public to note. DOB 16/02/1982

I formerly known as HASSANA TIJJANI now wish to be known as HASSANA TIJJANI AHMAD All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

AKAAZUA: I, formerly called and addressed as UGONDO MNGUSONUN MERCY wrongly born 3/12/1979 now wish to be addressed as AKAAZUA MNGUSONUN MERCY correctly born 12/12/1979. All former documents remain valid. NIMC, BANKS and general public should take note

PHILLIP: I, formerly known and addressed as MICHAEL ESTHER. Now wish to be known and addressed as PHILLIP ESTHER ANIEKEME. My correct date of birth is 19th day of February, 1989. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public should take note.

SODIQ: I formerly known as OYEBAMIJI SODIQ BALA, now wish to be known and addressed as OYEBAMIJI SODIQ ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

VASTY: I formerly known and addressed as YOHANA VASTY, but now wish to be called and address as YOHANNA VASTY, also my date of birth was mistakenly captured as 26/12/1988 instead of 08/08/1991. All former document remain valid, First Bank Nigeria PLC and the General Public Should Please Take Note.

I formerly known as HUSSENA OYIZA SULEIMAN now wish to be called and addressed as HUSSENA SULEIMAN ONOKO. All former document remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known as AISHA MUHAMMAD BELLO now wish to be known as AISHA MUHAMMAD AUWAL All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

AHMED: I formerly known as ABDULHAMID AHMED now wish to be called as AHMED MIKAIL ABDULHAMID all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

DORIS: I, formerly known and addressed as DORIS, NONYELUM EGBUNOW. Now wish to be known and addressed as DORIS, NONYELUM OKAFOR. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ROLAND: This is to affirm that ELACHI FAITH PERPETUAL and ELACHI FAITH ERIANA refers to one and same person and now wishes to be known and addressed as FAITH PERPETUAL ROLAND. All other documents remain valid. Keystone Bank, Union Bank, UBA and the general public should take note

I formerly known as SANI YAU, now wish to be known and address as SANI JIBRIN YAU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and General public should please take note

I formerly known as SAFIRATU DAHIRU UMAR now wish to be called and addressed as SAFIRATU SOLOMON NOEL. All former document remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known as FATIMA ALIYU AFFA now wish to be known as, FATIMA ALIYU DAUDA All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

AUDU: I, formerly known as DR. AUDU RASAQ ALAYANDE NUHU, now wish to be known and addressed as AUDU RASAQ ALAYANDE. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

OYESIJI: I formerly known and addressed as MISS OYESIJI OYEBOLA VICTORIA, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS JOLAJOYE OYEBOLA OYESIJI. Due to change in marital status. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

ANGELA: I, formerly known as OSSAI ANGELA, now wish to be known and addressed as NZIWU ANGELA NDI DI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as AMINA ABDULLAHI now wish to be known and addressed as AMINA NASIRU ABDULLAHI all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as MISS ASIYA NURA ISA now wish to be called and addressed as MRS ASIYA NURA NAJEEB. All former document remain valid, NYSC Authority concern and general public to note

BEDENLEY: I formerly known as BEDENLEY BEDAN now wish to be known and addressed as BEDENLEY JUDAH. All former documents remain valid. NIMC And General Public Should please take note.

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

BAMIGBADE: I, formerly known and addressed as ADEYEMI ABOSEDE RAMOTALAH. Now wish to be known and addressed as BAMIGBADE ABIODUN ABOSEDE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

CHINOYE: I, formerly known as UGWU CHINOYE JOAN, now wish to be known and addressed as MBAH CHINOYE JOAN. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

TALATU: I formerly known as ASIYA SANI LABARAN, now wish to be called and addressed as TALATU SANI LABARAN. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

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

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

AONDOVER: I, formerly called and addressed as JOHN AONDOVER AGUNE wrongly born 2/1/2000 now wish to be addressed as JOHN AONDOVER correctly born 6/9/2001. All former documents remain valid. Authorities Concerned and general public should take note

OJO: I, formerly known and addressed as AWAYETI KEHINDE ABOSEDE. Now wish to be known and addressed as OJO KEHINDE ABOSEDE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public should take note.

HABILA: I formally know JOSEPH HABILA SHEMGWAN, now wish to be known and addressed as JOSEPH SHEMGWAN HABILA All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as IMAM SANI, now wish to be called and addressed as AUWAL IMAM SANI. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as AISHATU IBRAHIM GALI now wish to be known as AISHATU IBRAHIM UMAR All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public should please take note

MARYAM: I formerly known as MARYAM FRANCIS IJEOMA now wish to be known and addressed as MARYAM BABA FRANCIS. All former documents remain valid. NIMC And General Public Should please take note.

SALISU: I, formerly known as ADEYEMI JOSEPHINE TITILAYO, now wish to be known and called SALISU JOSEPHINE TITILAYO. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

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

UMAR: I formally know UMAR MUHAMMAD GANAH, now wish to be known and addressed as SABIU ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as HARUNA Ibrahim 03-07-1982, now wish to be called and addressed as IBRAHIM Haruna Adamu 22-04-1980. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as MAIJIDDA IBRAHIM FARUK now wish to be known as MAIJIDDA KABIRU IBRAHIM All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

ABRAHAM: I formerly known as ABRAHAM BUNDI now wish to be known and addressed as ABRAHAM BANDAWA. All former documents remain valid. NIMC And General Public Should please take note.

HULDAH: I formerly known as HULDAH BABA now wish to be called and addressed as HULDAH HARUNA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

OGUNWANDE: I, formerly known and addressed as PETER TIMOTHY OLUWADAMILARE. Now wish to be known and addressed as OGUNWANDE TIMOTHY OLUWADAMILARE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

I formally know DUVURUM BULUS, now wish to be known and addressed as DUVURUM BULUS BUKATA. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as BINTA LAWAL now wish to be known and addressed as BINTA SAADU all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as SAGIR ISMAIL ABUBAKAR now wish to be known as KABIRU ISMAIL ABUBAKAR SUBEB KANO All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

MUSA: I formerly known as MUSA M. MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as MUSA MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. NIMC, UNION BANK And General Public Should please take note.

AMINA: I formerly known as AMINA MOHAMMED GAMBO now wish to be called and address as AMINA MOHAMMED MRS KABIRU, All former documents remain valid, Authority concern and general public should please take note

I FORMERLY KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS TAIWO RIANAT TEMITOPE. NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS TAIWO RIANAT. ALSO MY CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER 1979. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINS VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE NOTE.

Classifieds made easy

PUBLIC NOTICE Page 3

**CHANGE OF NAME** That during my BVN enrollment, my name was registered in this order - KINGSLEY ANSELM CHIMALUZOR. That henceforth, my correct name is CHIMALUZOR KINGSLEY AMAMUJIKWU. That the reason for the change of name is due to marriage. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

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

**YUNUSA** I formerly known as YUNUSA SULAIMAN now wish to be known and addressed as YUNUSA ABDULHAMEED SULAIMAN D.OB 01/02/1986 All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

**CHALE** I formerly known as ISHAKU DANJUMA LAITU CHALE now wish to be known and addressed as DANJUMA LAITU CHALE CAHLA All former document remain valid general public and any authority concern should please take note.

**HABIB:** I formerly known as MODU HABIB BINTUMI, now wish to be known as HABIB MUHAMMAD BUKAR. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

**GBENEGBARA:** I, formerly known as BARI-TOGESI KENNETH POROMAA, now wish to be known and addressed as GBENEGBARA KENNETH POROMAA BARTORGESIA. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public please take note of my new name

**SEGUN-ADEKOLA:** I, formerly known as MISS ALABI MARY RAMOTU, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. SEGUN-ADEKOLA MARY TEJUOLA. All former documents remain valid. Nigeria Immigration Service and general public take note.

**BABALOLA:** I formerly known as BABALOLA AMINAT TIWALADE. Now wish to be called and addressed as BABALOLA ARIYIKE TIWALADE. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

**APENDA:** I formerly known as TERFA STEPHANIE AYATOR, now wish to be known and addressed as APENDA STEPHANIE AYATOR. All former document remain valid. NYSC and General public should please take note

**PAMELA:** I formerly known as PAMELA PHILIP BALAMI, now wish to be known and addressed as PAMELA JUNIAS JOSEPH. All former document remain valid. General public should please take

**HALIMATU** I, formerly known as HALIMATU HARUNA now wish to be known and addressed as HALIMATU DANMALIKI. All former documents remains valid. General public should take note.

**MONDAY:** I, formerly known and addressed as MONDAY HAPPINESS PATRICK, now wish to be known and addressed as MONDAY INEMESIT PATRICK. All former documents remain valid. General public and all banks should take note.

**ADEDOLAPO:** I, formerly known and addressed as ADETAYO ESTHER ADEDOLAPO. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEDOLAPO HADASSAH NICHOLE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

That I was formerly known, called and addressed as AMODU QUEEN OJOSHI DE. That I now wish to be known, called and addressed as ATOGALA-AMODU QUEEN OJOSHI DE. That all my documents my former names should remain valid. General public take note.

**JOSEPHINE:** I formerly known as JOSEPHINE PATRICK, now wish to be known and addressed as JOSEPHINE ACHAAIKWIN PATRICK. All former document remain valid. General public should please take note

**DEBORAH:** I, formerly known as FEHINTOLA DEBORAH SUNDAY now wish to be known and addressed as DEBORAH SUNDAY. All former documents remains valid. General public should take note.

I formerly known as LUCIA NNENNA AKAEZE, now wish to be known and addressed as LUCIA NNADI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known And Addressed As MISS AZUIKE MERCY ADA, Now Wish To Be Known And Addressed As MRS NWOBU MERCY ADA. All Documents Bearing my former name still Remain Valid, General Public please take Note.

**ALABI:** I, formerly known as MISS OLUWATOSIN OLABISI AKINTOLA, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. ALABI OLUWATOSIN OLABISI. All former documents remain valid. Banks and general public take note.

**NATHANIEL:** I, formerly known and addressed as UDOH NATHANIEL SUNDAY. Now wish to be known and addressed as NATHANIEL SUNDAY. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

**HAJJA:** I formerly known as HAJJA BINTU, now wish to be known and addressed as HAJJA BINTU ABBA, All former document remain valid. General public should please take note

**BABA:** I, formerly known as DAN BABA now wish to be known and addressed as DAN ASABE BABA. All former documents remains valid. General public should please take note.

**MARI:** I formerly known as MARI JEREMIAH MAICHIBI, now wish to be known and addressed as MAICHIBI JEREMIAH MARI. All former documents remain valid. FIRST BANK PLC And authorities concerned and general public should take note.

**REUBEN:** I, formerly known and addressed as BLESSING BAGOWU, now wish to be known and addressed as BLESSING REUBEN. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note

**ADEYEYE:** I, formerly known as Miss Adeyeye Adeola Rachael, now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. Adeyeye Adeola Rachael. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

**ZAINAB** formally known as ZAINAB MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and Addressed as ZAINAB MUHAMMAD ABDULAZIZ. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

**Babagana:** I formerly known and address as MODU MUKTAR now wishes to be known and addressed as MODU MUKTAR BABAGANA. All former documents remained valid, general public should take note please.

I formerly known as JEMILU MOHAMMED now wish to be known and addressed as JAMILU MOHAMMED All former documents remain valid authorities concerned and general public should take note.

**IBRAHIM:** I formerly known as MUHAMMED FABRIGAS IBRAHIM, now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM MOHAMMED. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

**KAIZER:** That my name was mistakenly captured in my BVN as COMFORT ETIM KAIZER instead of COMFORT JOHN UKPONG. That henceforth, I wish to be known, called and addressed as COMFORT JOHN UKPONG. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. First Bank and the general public should please take note.

**CHANGE OF NAME ON BANK ACCOUNT** I formerly known and addressed as SOLOMON KEHINDE HANNAH, now wish to be known and addressed as USMAN-AFOLAYAN KEHINDE YEMI. All former documents remain valid. The general public take note.

I formerly known as Cecilia Onyeché Christopher now wish to be called and addressed as Cecilia Onyeché Ebuté. All former document remain valid. Authority concern and general public to take note.

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

**MAIMUNA:** I, formerly known as MAIMUNA HASSAN USMAN now wish to be known and addressed as MAIMUNA HASSAN. All former documents remains valid. General public should take note.

**MANTI:** I formerly known as MANTI MAIGARI, now wish to be known and addressed as MANTI APAGU MAIGARI. All former document remain valid. General public should please take note

**BASSEY:** I, formerly known as IDORENYIN ETOK BASSEY now wish to be known, called and addressed as IDORENYIN BASSEY ETOK. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

**CHANGE OF NAME** I formerly known and addressed as OGUNDIPE DEBORAH OLUFUNKE, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS EWUOLA DEBORAH OLUFUNKE All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

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

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

**AMINA:** I, formerly known as AMINA MOHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as AMINA SULAIMAN. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

**KAKA:** I formerly known as BUKAR MOHAMMED, now wish to be known and addressed as KAKA BUKAR MODU All former document remain valid. General public should please take note

I, formerly known as MUSTAPHA AMINU now wish to be known and addressed as ALMUSTAPHA AMINU. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as DAMILOLA ELIZABETH OREKOYA. Now wish to be known and addressed as DAMILOLA ELIZABETH OLARENWAJU. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

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

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

**JULIANA:** I, formerly known as JULIANA JACOB now wish to be known and addressed as JULIANA TITUS. All former documents remains valid. General public should take note.

**SAMSON:** I formerly known as MUSA MALQWI, now wish to be known and addressed as SAMSON A. DIWA. All former document remain valid. General public should please take note

I, formerly known as AUWALU ISMAILA now wish to be known and addressed as AUWALU ILA with D.O.B 30-12-1976. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

That I was formerly called, known and addressed as HUSSAINI SANI ABBA. That I now wish to be called, known and addressed as ALHASSAN SAGIRU RIKADAWA. That my correct date of birth is 12th day of December, 1981 and not 11th day of October, 1995. That all my former documents remain valid. General public take note.

**MUSTAPHA:** I formerly known as MUSTAPHA MODU, now wish to be known and addressed as ALHAJI MUSTAPHA MODU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

**HAMZA** I formerly known and addressed as HAMZA AUDU now wish to be known and addressed as HAMZA AUDU ABUBAKAR All former documents remain valid DOB 01/07/1995 to 01/07/2000 All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**ADAMA** I, formerly known as ADAMA AHMED JAJERE now wish to be known and called ADAMA UMAR BABAGANA KYARI (MRS). All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

**ALHAJI** I formerly known and addressed as MUHAMMAD UMAR MODU, now wish to be known and addressed as ALHAJI MODU UMAR. All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as AHMED HARUNA now wish to be known and addressed as AHMAD HARUNA ADIYA. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

That I was formerly called, known and addressed as ODEWALE FADIAT OLABISI. That I now wish to be ADEWUYI FADIAT OLABISI due to marriage. That all my former documents remain valid. General public take note.

**ADAM:** I formerly known as FUGGU MOHAMMED, now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD ADAM. All former documents remain valid. With correct DOB 01/01/1997 NOT 01/01/1996. General public should please take note.

**AHMAD** I formerly known and addressed as AHMAD MUKTAR now wish to be known and addressed as AHMAD MUKTAR ALMUHARIBI All former documents remain valid DOB 05/05/1995 to 25/05/1995 All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**HAJARA:** I Formerly known as Hajara Daniel Umar Now wish to be known and addressed as Hajara Daniel Linus All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

**CORRECTION OF NAME** = My name was wrongly written as OBAFEMI OLUWATOYIN CHRISTIANH instead of OBAFEMI OLUWATOYIN CHRISTIANA. My correct name is OBAFEMI OLUWATOYIN CHRISTIANA. All former documents remain valid. General public, banks and concerned authorities should take note

I, formerly known as BELLO SOKOTO MUSTAPHA now wish to be known and addressed as MUSTAPHA BELLO. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

**BASIRU:** I, formerly known and addressed as AMUSATI YUNSI BASIRU. Now wish to be known and addressed as BASIRU YINUSA. That I was born on 8th day of January, 1988 not 27th day of April, 1988. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

**GRACE:** I formerly known as GRACE BITRUS, now wish to be known and addressed as GRACE BITRUS TADA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

**ALIYU** I formerly known as ABDULSALAH ALIYU now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULSALAM ALIYU All former document remain valid general public and any authority concern should please take note.

**KHADJIA** I formerly known and addressed as MISS KHADJIA IBRAHIM MAMMAN now wish to be known and addressed as MRS KHADJIA IBRAHIM MOHAMMED All former documents remain valid NYSC All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**MRS. KINGSLEY:** I, formerly known and addressed as MISS CHIOMA NANCY ODO, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS CHIOMA NANCY KINGSLEY. All former documents remain valid. General public take note

I, formerly known as GANDARA ALTINE JABO with D.O.B 15-09-1989 now wish to be known and addressed as GANDARA ALTINE with D.O.B: 01-01-1958. All former documents remain valid. First Bank, general public and authorities concerned should please take note.

**CORRECT ORDER OF NAME**  
I, **Maryam Annabel Audu**, hereby affirm that my Certificate of Birth bears my name in the correct order as follows: **Maryam Annabel Audu**. I hereby therefore request all relevant authorities, including the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) and the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) to note and adjust my name in the data base for issuance of National Identity Card and International Passport, respectively; which should both reflect my full name in the correct order as follows: **Maryam Annabel Audu**. This publication is being made to satisfy the precondition by the National Identity Management System (NIMC). Please note that all of my other former documents remain valid.  
**Maryam Annabel Audu**  
APPLICANT

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
This is to notify the general public about four (4) female lost cows which were found along Guzamala, Monguno and Kukawa axis, and reported to the office of Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria, Maiduguri, Borno State Chapter. Any body/groups who are in search of their missing cows as mentioned above, should come forward to the above association office located at No. 100, Bama Road, Maiduguri, Borno State, or contact the Secretary of the Association in person of Alhaji Musa Mamman on telephone no. 08067323534 or 09121131342.

**\*REMOVAL OF NAME\*** I, formerly known as "IHUNWO GOLD", as appeared on my BVN. Now wish to remove "IHUNWO" from my name to be known called and addressed as "ODIKE GOLD SAMUEL BROWN". All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.  
**REQUIREMENT FOR CHANGE OF NAME Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit**

**LOSS OF DOCUMENT**  
This is to inform the general public of the Loss of Letter of Allocation of House No. 324 Bafarawa Estate, which **ABDULLAHI IBRAHIM** bought from **MOHAMMED GATAWA** in July 2019 and got missing August 2022. All effort made to trace the said document proved abortive. If found, kindly return to the nearest police station. All authorities concerned should please take note.

**SABOLI CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**  
This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) Abuja for Registration under part C of the company and allied matter act 2020.  
**Name of Trustees:**  
1. RABIU ABDULLAHI (Chairman)  
2. MURTALA INUSA (Secretary)  
3. ZAINAB IBRAHIM  
4. SAMINU ALHASSAN USMAN  
**Aims and objectives:**  
1. To support Orphan Children and underprivileged in need of care, protection and food stuffs.  
2. To undertake relief of those affected by natural calamities and emergencies.  
3. To help poor and the needy in achieving self reliance, carryout charitable development and relief work in cooperation with government and non-governmental organization.  
4. To received fund from international and national donors, individuals, corporate and government for carryout the main aims of rehabilitation and social integration of children/underprivileged.  
5. To promote and provide formal and informal education to the children and vocational training to the youth.  
6. To prevent/relief poverty among children, women and underprivileged.  
7. To provide any other Humanitarian services.  
Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (days) from the date of publication.

**LOSS OF DOCUMENT**  
The General Public is hereby notified of the Loss of the Original land document in favour of JUSTICE AYUBA G. KWAJAJFFA, 'M' of Auno Street Old GRA Maiduguri Borno State, in respect of Original Copy of Grant Right of Occupancy On No. BO/75805. The said Document got lost on the 13/01/2023. All efforts made to trace the original document proved abortive. If found kindly return to nearest police station, general public should please take note

**LOSS OF DOCUMENTS**  
This is to inform the general public of the loss of the Original Letter of Grant and Certificate of Occupancy Plot No. 2538 File No. RES/82/285, situated at Kofar Waika Quarters TP/UDB/192, bearing the name of **GAMBO MAMMAN** No. 400 Lokon Makera, Kano City. All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found please return to the nearest police station.

# SPORT



■ Nasarawa United players fight for the ball with Akwa United players in the week 2 fixtures at the New Jos Stadium, Jos

## Nasarawa Utd management, technical crew face sack over poor results

By Jide Olusola

The hammer of the Nasarawa State government is dangling over the management and technical crew of the state owned Nigeria Premier Football League (NPFL) side, Nasarawa United, over poor performance in the ongoing 2023 abridged league season.

To halt the steady decline in the fortunes of the club, the Nasarawa State government through the Ministry of Youth and Sports Development has issued a three-match ultimatum to the management and technical crew of the club.

The state Commissioner for

Youth and Sports Development, Lucky Isaac Yargwa, during an emergency meeting between the Ministry and management of Nasarawa United FC stated that the government and its citizens are disheartened by the poor run of the club despite the government's huge commitment and support.

"We have been following up with the activities of our darling club in the league this season, and I must say that neither the government nor the state is happy with our position on the table, which is both strange to us and the countless die-hard supporters.

"The governor and number one financier of the club, His Excellency, Engr. Abdullahi Sule,

is not happy with the performance of the team this season and he didn't hide his feelings as he vented his displeasure shortly after the 0-3 loss to Akwa United on Sunday.

"Consequently, we are placing the management and coaching staff of the club on a three-match requisition, beginning from the club's next match away to Gombe United FC, on Sunday, 29th January.

"The other two matches are against Plateau United on Wednesday, 1st February, at home, and Shooting Stars on Sunday, 5th February, 2023, in Ibadan, Oyo State.

"We hope that this prompt

measure by the government will help to return our team to their glorious status in the league this campaign, failure of which may leave the government with the option of taking further drastic measures.

Reacting to the position of the government, club Chairman, Barrister Isaac Danladi, apologised to the governor of Nasarawa State, the ministry and other critical stakeholders of the club for the not-too-impressive performance of the team in the ongoing NPFL season, but assured that they would not rest in their quest to return the team to its winning ways.

The 'Solid miners' have lost three out of three matches played so far, 1-2 at home to Enyimba, 2-1 away at El-Kanemi Warriors before Sunday's 3-0 thumping by visiting Akwa United.

## Newly retired Bale to play in PGA Tour event

Former Wales captain, Gareth Bale has announced he will play in a PGA Tour event just weeks after retiring from professional football.

Bale said he will compete in February's AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am in California.

The 33-year-old retired earlier this month as Wales' most-capped male player and record men's goalscorer.

The tournament takes place between February 2 and 5. In addition to other amateurs, Bill Murray, Jason Bateman, and Macklemore will compete at a California event with a \$9 million (£7 million) prize pool.

Bale will be attempting to draw attention after switching from football clubs to golf clubs. The former full-back and winger, who amassed 111 caps for Wales, earlier declared that football was his favourite sport.

"Delighted to announce I will be playing in the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am at the start of next month! Let's go," he posted on social media on Monday.

A five-time Champions League winner with Real Madrid, Bale's relationship with the Spanish giants suffered when he was pictured with a banner that read 'Wales. Golf. Madrid. In that order' while on international duty with his country in 2019.

There will be 156 amateurs participating at Pebble Beach and the same number of professionals, including US Open champion, Matt Fitzpatrick, world number five Patrick Cantlay and three-time major winner Jordan Spieth.

## Duru's stunning free-kick earns Rivers Utd win over Tornadoes

By Jide Olusola

Defending champions, Rivers United have maintained their winning streak as they defeated visiting Niger Tornadoes 2-1 in the Match Day 3 fixture of the 2022/23 Nigeria Professional Football League season.

The hosts got off to a perfect start in the 7th minute after Kazie Enyinnaya headed home from a corner kick well executed by Chiamaka Madu.

However, in the 15th minute, there was a mild drama after the referee adjudged a goal scored by Niger Tornadoes' Charles Okafor from a freekick as offside.

Fourteen minutes later, the visitors were awarded a penalty kick after David Okoromi was pushed down inside the area leading the centre referee, Faro Abdulrahman pointing to the spot.

Waheed Adebayo stepped up to take the penalty and expertly sent the goalkeeper, Seidu Mutawakilu the wrong way to make the scoreline 1-1.

In the half hour, Super Eagles defender,



Ebube Duru scored from a well executed free kick to restore the lead as the first half ended 2-1.

At the restart of the second half, both teams pushed forward but in the 77th minute, the champions had the chance to increase the lead when Maurice Chukwu took a dangerous freekick, which brought

out the best from the goalkeeper, Lucky Abdullahi who punched the ball away to safety.

In the 82nd minute, Tornadoes equally had their chance to get a point from the game when David Okoromi was one-on-one with the goalkeeper but fluffed the chance. They however continued to pile pressure on their hosts in search for a leveller but it amounted to nothing as the game ended 2-1.

Meanwhile, Rivers United will play their home matches of the CAF Confederation Cup at the Godswill Akpabio International Stadium, Uyo after CAF said the Adokiye Amiesimaka Stadium didn't meet up with CAF requirements for hosting of games.

## Nigerian born Okorafor joins Louisville Cardinals

By Jide Olusola

College men basketball team, Louisville Cardinal have announced the addition of forward/center Emmanuel Okorafor to the roster for the current 2022-23 season.

Okorafor, a 6-foot-9 prospect from Lagos, Nigeria, will join the team this week and be eligible to compete immediately as a freshman.

"We're fortunate to have one of the premier players coming out of NBA Africa to be a part of what we're doing here at the University of Louisville.

"Emmanuel is one of the bright stars coming out of NBA Africa. He's versatile, strong, a great rebounder and excellent running the floor. We're blessed to have him.

"The global impact of what NBA Africa is doing - to go out and target the young, bright stars of the continent of Africa and bring them into their facility - is vital not only to the continent, but to the world. It's great



for our program to be connected to the work they're doing,"

UofL head coach Kenny Payne said in a statement made available to Daily Trust.

Okorafor joined NBA Academy Africa in May 2021 and enrolled full-time in March 2022. NBA Academy

Africa - one of four NBA academies around the world - is an elite basketball training center in Saly, Senegal, for the top high-school age prospects from across Africa.

It will be noted that last year, Okorafor was one of 12 NBA Academy prospects chosen to participate in the Basketball Africa League's Elevate program.

The BAL, a professional league launched by FIBA and the NBA, aims to provide an opportunity for the next generation of African prospects to showcase their talent on a global stage.

Okorafor's first official game on the roster with the Cardinals will come next week.

## SPORT REPORT

### Neuer urged to retire from Germany duty



Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer has been urged by predecessor Toni Schumacher to retire from internationals for the good of his Bayern Munich club career.

Neuer has been the focus of attention in Germany since breaking his leg while skiing following the Qatar World Cup in December.

He is out for the season and has apologised to the club for his decision to ski.

Bayern Munich were forced to buy Yann Sommer from Borussia Mönchengladbach to fill the gap.

Neuer, a World Cup winner in 2014, was helpless as Germany crashed out in the group stage in Qatar in December for a second straight edition.

### Don't treat us as villains, Azarenka begs fans



Australian Open semi-finalist Victoria Azarenka says she feels sympathy for Novak Djokovic and pleaded for players not to be treated as "villains".

Belarus' Azarenka, 33, is in her first Melbourne semi-final since 2013 - when the legitimacy of her medical time-out against Sloane Stephens was questioned.

Serbia's Djokovic has been accused of dramatising the extent of a hamstring injury during the Australian Open.

"We are regular human beings that go through many, many things," she said.

"There is sometimes, I don't know, an incredible desire for a villain and a hero story that has to be written.

"But we're not villains and we're not heroes."

## BEYOND THE SURFACE

with **Gimba Kakanda**  
misterkakanda@yahoo.com

### The pilgrimage to power: Nigeria's presence at Chatham House

In a recent conversation with some associates, the topic of Africa's excessive reliance on the West emerged and a sentiment expressed by one left us instantly polarised. He extolled the leadership styles of former Libyan leader, Muammar Gaddafi and Nigeria's General Sani Abacha as models for any African leader seeking to emancipate their nation from the influence of Western powers. This perspective, which is a mainstream position even among Nigerian intellectuals, is borne out of a prolonged inclination towards optimism and an inflated perception of Africa's capacity to assert itself against its former colonisers and the Western nations determined to maintain the established global order.

Such references to these former leaders, known for their antagonism towards Western influence, often minimise the price of their tyrannical rule. Both were heavily sanctioned by the West and barred from participating in various international gatherings and opportunities. However, the impact of their leadership extended far beyond these measures. General Abacha's pursuit of allies in the East left a lasting negative impression on his country, and he died in office still grappling with the pushback from the West. Similarly, Gaddafi's oppressive actions ultimately sparked a rebellion that prompted Western powers, which he had vehemently denounced, to intervene and ultimately remove him from power, resulting in his death.

Abacha and Gaddafi were not simply casualties of the misguided notion that Africa had achieved maturity, their notions of autonomy from Western influence were not rooted in a realistic understanding of the continent's ongoing dependency on Western technology and markets. Whether in the pursuit of advanced weaponry to ensure domestic stability or in advancing their agendas within the international political economy, which is heavily influenced by Western interests, these leaders failed to comprehend the limitations imposed upon them in a Euro-centric global order.

The current debate surrounding the frequent engagement of Nigeria's presidential candidates with Britain's Royal Institute of International Affairs in the build-up to the 2023 general elections highlights a growing sentiment among nationalist circles that African leaders should reject subservience to the West. While this sentiment is admirable, it is rooted in a lack of comprehension of

the power dynamics between Africa and the West, as well as the realities of the international system.

As Nigeria's aspiring leaders seek to navigate the complex and competitive international arena, they must be viewed as individuals seeking out markets for their country. In this context, institutions like Chatham House serve as valuable resources, providing access to the intellectual capital and connections necessary to survive in a world characterised by both cooperation and conflict. The currency of international politics, both in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, is interest, and it is this self-interest that has prevented the West from attempting to recolonise Africa, despite their military capabilities to do so.

**Nigeria's engagement with institutions like Chatham House may appear unbecoming, but it is an undeniable reflection of the country's economic and political standing. The power Nigeria seeks to reclaim or enhance its self-esteem is an attempt to achieve internal balancing, making the country a materially secure and industrially productive nation that can survive even if other countries choose to halt arms sales to its government.**

The desire for Africa to break free from Western hegemony is a foreign policy objective that has been pursued by Nigerian leaders in the past. General Yakubu Gowon, for example, devised and implemented indigenisation policies in the early 1970s, which involved transferring ownership of foreign-owned enterprises to local business leaders. Similarly, General Murtala Muhammad publicly declared at the Organisation of African Unity that the continent had reached maturity and would no longer submit to Western imperial interests.

However, these efforts did not yield the desired outcome.

Chatham House is not an arbitrary institution, it serves a purpose that is to recognise the interests that hold the international system together and provides a platform for leaders and representatives of other nations to present their ideas and assess decisions that may have a significant impact on their respective nations or regions. The institution also offers visiting leaders an opportunity to participate in discussions and events that are relevant to their country, such as those on economic development, governance, and security. It also provides a forum for leaders to share their country's unique perspective and to advocate for their nation's interests and priorities on the global stage.

Critics who denounce Nigeria's leaders for engaging with institutions like Chatham House often overlook the country's historical challenges, including poor governance, when attempting to demonstrate their own patriotic credentials. However, a candid examination of Nigeria's developmental challenges as a nation, for which loans, grants, and technical assistance have been sought from Washington and Beijing, highlights the need for political engagement with destinations that recognise and support the country's interests.

During the era of Goodluck Jonathan, Nigeria experienced the consequences of its weakness in the international arena, when the US government invoked the Leahy Law, which prohibits military assistance to foreign military units accused of human rights violations, to halt arms sales to Nigeria. As a result, the Jonathan government had to resort to procuring arms from black markets to counter terrorism. These unstable relations with the West, whether driven by sentiment or hidden agendas, illustrate that arms supplies for addressing internal security crises cannot be taken for granted until shared interests are pursued.

The patronage of Western institutions by Nigerian leaders serves as a reminder of the basic principle of foreign policy decision-making, that one can only pursue their objective effectively if one possesses the necessary capabilities. Nigerian leaders are engaging with both the West and the East from a position of weakness, and attempts to disengage from beneficial countries and institutions without the ability to independently manage domestic affairs have consistently proven to be detrimental.

Nigeria's engagement with institutions like Chatham House may appear unbecoming, but it is an undeniable reflection of the country's economic and political standing. The power Nigeria seeks to reclaim or enhance its self-esteem is an attempt to achieve internal balancing, making the country a materially secure and industrially productive nation that can survive even if other countries choose to halt arms sales to its government.