



**HEAD OFFICE**  
General Shehu Musa Yar' Adua House,  
7/9 Bank Road, PMB 2180, Kaduna.  
Tel: 062-245140-9  
Website: <http://www.habibnigeriabank.com>  
E-mail: [info@habib-bank.com.nig](mailto:info@habib-bank.com.nig)  
51 branches across the country.  
*... the bank with a difference*

R.C. 50758  
Habib Nigeria Bank Ltd.  
An Affiliate of  
Habib Bank Ltd., Pakistan

## NEWS FOCUS

### Kano: The Killings on Quds Day

Page 5



## SUJUD FOUNDATION

### HIV/AIDS THERAPY

ADDRESS:  
#18 Dr Bala Mohammed Road,  
Off State Road or Off Sokoto Road,  
P.O. BOX 12383, KANO  
E-mail: [sujudfoundation@yahoo.com](mailto:sujudfoundation@yahoo.com)

☎: 090-803322  
064-647118

Complete therapy will not cost more than N50,000  
We will soon earn your confidence (Insha Allah)

## IGE'S DEATH

# Afenifere offers N10m reward

Afenifere, the Pan Yoruba cultural group yesterday announced a N10 million reward for anyone who gives useful information that can lead to the arrest of the killers of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, Chief Bola Ige, who was murdered last week in Ibadan.



Pa Adesanya, Afenifere Chieftain

Rising from a five-hour

## ... IBB expresses sorrow

Former Military President, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida (rtd), has lamented the assassination of Chief Bola Ige, describing the act as unfortunate.

However, he said, no nation in the world is crime free but that most importantly government is doing everything it could to ensure security.

"No nation in the world is free from all these, no

From Abdul Laro, in Ilorin

nation can guarantee one hundred percent security," General Babangida stated this in Offa where he was attending a wedding ceremony in the household of the Nigerian Ambassador to South Africa, Dr. Tunji Olagunju. Asked about his retirement, IBB queried, "don't you see it from me?" in apparent reaction to his radiant and fresh look.

From Olumide Bajulaiye, in Abeokuta

emergency meeting that was held at Pa Abraham Adesanya's residence in Ijebu-Igbo, Ogun State, the group also condemned the brutal killing of Hon. Olagbaju and Lawrence Elayimola, a member of the Osun House of Assembly and AD Chairman, Ife East constituency respectively.

Addressing newsmen after the meeting, the group's

Meanwhile, the Association of Nigerian Authors (ANA), has said Chief Ige "more than any politician and nationalist in this country, exemplified in words, deeds and actions the inseparable link between literature and politics as well as culture and humanity.

"His closeness to ANA and to great literary minds and great literature was unsurpassed among the

Contd. on Pg 2

National Secretary, Chief Ayo Opadokun said Afenifere will no longer fold its arms at indiscipline by any member.

His words: "Afenifere resolved to add additional N10 million to the N5 million earlier promised as reward for anyone who can provide

information leading to the arrest and prosecution of those who killed Ige.

"The assassination of

Contd. on Pg 2



Vice-President, Atiku Abubakar, gave out his daughter, Halima for marriage to Ibrahim Yakubu at the weekend. R-L: VP Atiku Abubakar, father of the bride; wife of the President, Chief (Mrs.) Stella Obasanjo; Information Minister, Professor Jerry Gana and FCT Minister, Engr. Mohammed Abba-Gana at a reception organised for the couple at the International Conference Centre, Abuja... yesterday.

## Review hajj fares, traditional rulers urge FG

Worried by the hike in hajj fares, the traditional rulers of the 19 Northern states have held an emergency meeting in Kaduna, over the weekend with a call to the Federal Government to review the fares.

According to a British Broadcasting Corporation

By Mustapha Isah Kwaru

(BBC), Hausa service programme monitored in Abuja yesterday, the meeting was headed by the

Sultan of Sokoto, his eminence Alhaji Muhammadu Maccido.

Briefing newsmen

Contd. on Pg 2

## Abacha wished me dead - Obasanjo

In what looked like a reminiscence of the past, President Olusegun Obasanjo, on Sunday recalled his ordeal in the hands of late General Sani Abacha, and submitted that the late head of state wished him

dead.

Speaking during a special end of year thanksgiving service, at Owu Baptist Church, Totoro, Abeokuta, Obasanjo said that he had cause to thank God at all

Contd. on Pg 2

## LG TENURE State AGs sue NASS

State Attorneys-General are set to drag the National Assembly and the President to court over the controversial Electoral Act, despite the political somersault by the Senate over the Act last Friday.

The State Attorneys-General at a meeting held at

By Tashikalmah Hallah

the Benue/Edo banquet hall of the NICON Hilton Hotel, Abuja over the weekend resolved to challenge the constitutional right of the National Assembly to extend the tenure of local government chairmen, contained in the Electoral Act.

Daily Trust learnt that the meeting which was secretly convened also resolved to meet again early January to make good its threat.

One of those attending the conference, an Attorney-General of one of the Northern states, who spoke to Daily Trust on the condition of anonymity explained that they have decided to seek legal solution to the controversy as the

National Assembly lacked the *locus standi* to interfere with the administration of local government councils in the country.

According to him, the president's hasty assent to

Contd. on Pg 2

## Pakistan prepares for war

President Pervez Musharraf said yesterday, that Pakistan wanted to ease mounting tensions with India, but is nevertheless prepared to stand up to any attack with its full might.

He told reporters after a meeting with politicians to discuss mounting tensions over Kashmir between the two nuclear rivals that Pakistan wanted to have peace with India and de-

By Musa Aliyu with Agency Reports

escalate the situation.

"I stand here addressing the people of India now through you that Pakistan stands for peace," he said. "Pakistan wants peace, Pakistan wants to reduce tensions, Pakistan wants to de-escalate. Let the relationship between Pakistan and India move towards peace and

Contd. on Pg 2



Senate President, Anyim



**GIDAUNIYA INVESTMENT & SECURITIES LTD.**  
(MEMBER OF THE NIGERIAN STOCK EXCHANGE)  
REGISTERED AS BROKER/DEALER BY THE SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
*Stock Transactions Simplified*

990 FLOOR, KANO FOUNDATION BUILDING  
15, B.U.K. ROAD, P.O. BOX 14427, KANO  
TELEPHONE: 090-489756  
FAX: 090-489756

150 WIND, 51, EDUWA PLAZA  
1 COMMERCIAL AVENUE, ABERE  
P.O. BOX 807 ABUJA, LAGOS  
TELE: 090-489756

## NEWS

## 2 lovers found glued to each other

A teenager and a middle-aged woman, suspected to be involved in an illicit love affair, have been found glued to each other, at Maisare street of Hayin Banki village near Kawo, in Kaduna metropolis.

An eye witness told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the two lovebirds were discovered in the woman's matrimonial home, when people in the compound, heard persistent cries coming out of the room at about 5.30 a.m. on Friday.

"We thought the people were being robbed, only to discover the boy who lives in the next house on top of the woman, with his penis glued to her private part.

"Her husband, who is a night watchman in one of the textile companies at Kakuri, is believed to be the one who

planted something to catch his wife, whom, he had been accusing of adulterous relationships with unknown people," the source said.

According to the source, the woman and her husband, who were married for 11 years, have not been blessed with any issue. "That situation is believed to be her source of worry because it has been a reference point each time she quarrels with her co-tenants," the source added.

When NAN visited the house where the incidence took place, the two lovers, who were wrapped with a bed-sheet and apparently writhing in pain, were being conveyed in a pick-up van, to the house of a herbalist for medical attention.

NAN reports that the woman's husband, who

arrived at the scene to meet a mammoth crowd in front of his house, broke down and wept profusely on hearing and later seeing the shameful sight of his spouse and her lover.

The man who intermittently cursed the wife while sobbing, vowed not to take the woman back as his wife.

"There is no need to take her to any court, she has put herself and her two brothers that are living with us in shame, the people who witnessed this unfortunate incident would live to remember that episode as the height of treachery.

"In our tradition, it is an abomination to marry a profane woman", the aggrieved husband who refused to identify either himself or where he hailed from, angrily told NAN.

times for miraculously saving his life, a situation he described as been contrary to Abacha's wish.

It will be recalled that, President Obasanjo, with other top military brass, including his erstwhile deputy, late General Shehu Musa Yar'Adua and four journalists were in 1995 implicated in a coup plot by the Abacha administration.

His words: "As for me, I will always thank God for his blessings. I was one of those who ought to have died, according to the wishes of Abacha, but God miraculously spared me till this day."

The Major General Patrick Aziza Special Military Tribunal sentenced Obasanjo to death, but had his sentence reduced to 25 years in prison, as a result of

## Abacha *Contd from Pg 1*

the pressure from international bodies.

Upon the death of Abacha in June 8, 1998, the former Head of State, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, released Obasanjo from prison and granted him state pardon.

While speaking further, Obasanjo, urged Nigerians irrespective of their condition or status in life to always be thankful to God, even as he tasked them on the need to be hardworking and prayerful.

His words: "If we take stock of how this year has been, it is only unbelievers that would not give thanks to God. For several reasons, as family members, community, and as a nation, we have every cause to thank God."

He, therefore, solicited

for cooperation, unity and togetherness of purpose, which he said could only see to the development of our community and nation at large.

"President Obasanjo, cannot do it alone, in seeing to the development of the community and the nation, we must all play our part to achieve the common goal of development," he added.



President Obasanjo

## Afenifere *Contd from Pg 1*

Chief Bola Ige has come to Afenifere as the greatest assault and injustice that evil forces have inflicted on the Yoruba nation," he added.

"The Afenifere views the assassination of Ige as the greatest and unprecedented crime on our people by agents, who are bent on undermining the Yoruba nation by eliminating its leading light," Chief Opadokun asserted.

The group, however, warned any deputy governor that is still having irreconcilable crisis with his governor,

to resign from office.

It added that Afenifere will no longer fold its hands and watch indiscipline permeating their ranks.

Afenifere also dissociated itself completely from the utterances and press interviews already granted by Osun State Deputy Governor, Otunba Iyiola Omisore as it relates to the group and late Chief Ige.

Omisore, was the most notable absentee at the meeting, where all the five AD governors and their deputies were present.

harmony."

"But having said that, Pakistan has taken all counter-measures," he added. "If any war is thrust on Pakistan. Pakistan's armed forces and 140 million people of Pakistan are fully prepared to face all consequences with all their might."

Meanwhile, Indian Prime

## Pakistan *Contd from Pg 1*

Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, having won backing from his party for the government's actions in the current stand off with Pakistan, met with leaders of major parties yesterday, to muster broader political support.

This is the first time the government is holding such a meeting after a series of

diplomatic steps against Islamabad since a December 13 attack on India's parliament.

Tension between the two countries has increased sharply since the attack. India and Pakistan have amassed troops and weapons at their pint border, the biggest of such build-up in almost 15 years. Both nations have

slapped tit-for-tat air and diplomatic sanctions on each other.

Yesterday's meeting was important for Vajpayee as opposition parties had criticised the government for not consulting them before imposing diplomatic sanction on Pakistan.

Pakistan's military government had also contacted former Primer Minister, Benazir Bhutto, in exile in Dubai, for the first time yesterday, to discuss tension's with India, her party said.

A Pakistan People's Party (PPP) statement said Pakistan's consul-general in Dubai, Amanullah Larik, met Bhutto yesterday morning, and delivered a message from President Pervez Musharraf's government.

"This was the first contact between the military regime and the Pakistan People's Party chief," it said of the message sent by Musharraf through the army general headquarters.

The message invited PPP to attend, "in the national interest," a meeting with politicians set for yesterday.

The statement quoted party Vice-Chairman, Makhdoom Amin Fahim, as saying the party decided to attend, but he could not make it to Islamabad because there was no flight available from Karachi.

The PPP statement quoted Bhutto as telling Larik in Dubai that her party "appreciated the initiative taken by General Musharraf to contact it on party basis" and that "national reconciliation was important to the internal stability of the country."

## Review hajj *Contd from Pg 1*

shortly after the meeting, the Emir of Dutse, Alhaji Muhammadu Nuhu Sanusi, disclosed that an effort to ensure that the fares would be affordable for the Muslim Ummah was made.

Daily Trust gathered from a reliable source that no fewer than 100 pilgrims in Sokoto State have withdrawn the money they had already deposited with the state pilgrims board because they cannot complete the amount.

Meanwhile, a member of the federal hajj committee in charge of public affairs department, Alhaji Bello Isah Bayero, has defended the Federal Government over the hajj fares.

He declared that the Federal Government has not increased the fares compared to the amount paid for last year's hajj, it was unfortunate that the hajj fares have been hiked compared to the amount paid by the pilgrims last year.

He stated that hajj, which is one of the five pillars of Islam, should be given as much attention by the Federal Government, adding that Muslims in the country are

disturbed by the increase.

The royal father maintained that the hajj fares announced by the Federal Government would definitely hinder most of the intending pilgrims from performing their religious obligations.

Alhaji Sanusi, therefore, called on the federal government to take all necessary measures in moderating the cost of the operation.

According to Alhaji Bello, this year, the federal government has suspended its subsidies on hajj, that is why the pilgrims are complaining that the fares have been hiked.

He said that Federal Government couldn't benefit anything from the amount it announced. His words: "The hajj fares announced by the Federal Government is for the pilgrims benefit, it includes the payment for the trip, accommodation, uniform, passport, among others. So, the Federal Government did not impose the fares irrationally."

## State AGs *Contd from Pg 1*

the Electoral bill, suggested a conspiracy aimed at preventing both the state governors and the Houses of Assembly from performing their constitutional duties.

The source, explained that the AGs were not entirely against the Act, provided the present local government executives who were elected for a three-year tenure, were excluded from its provisions.

The source also explained that the meeting could not reach an agreement on whether or not to proceed with the legal action, saying "some of our colleagues support the Act," thus necessitating a rescheduling of the meeting.

On the political somersault by the Senate last

**IBB** *Contd from Pg 1* leaders of this nation," a statement by its National President, Professor Olu Obafemi and General Secretary, Nduka Otiono, said.

ANA then, alerted the Federal Government to the fact that there exists in the country a national security emergency, which must be confronted with every instrument at government's disposal.

Friday, deleting section 80 of the Act, the source said; "the bill is an Act now. It is an Act. Therefore, they cannot delete or add anything to it, unless they repeat it, before any amendment would be made."

"The Senate has respected lawyers. Some of them are professors of law, they ought to have considered the legal implication, if their action was sought before they would pass any resolution."

He added that Section 80 was not the most controversial section of the Act, but the section dealing with the extension of local government tenure adding that the polity needs laws to regulate the registration of new political parties.

Meanwhile, Governor Adamu Aliero of Kebbi State has reiterated his determination to abide by the constitution on the tenure of council chairmen.

Speaking exclusively to Daily Trust in Sokoto recently, Governor Aliero said "the National Assembly is encroaching on the powers of the State Houses of Assembly," adding that "section (7) of the 1999 constitution is very clear on this."

Alhaji Aliero explained

NEWS

# Obasanjo, IBB, Anyim attend Atiku's daughter's wedding

President Olusegun Obasanjo, former President General Ibrahim Babangida, ex-head of Interim Government, Chief Ernest Shonekan, Chief Anyim Pius Anyim and Alhaji Ghali Umar Na'Abba were among the top dignitaries that graced the wedding ceremony of Vice-President Atiku Abubakar's daughter in Yola, the Adamawa State Capital, at the weekend.

Governors, ambassadors, head of federal parastatals, former inspector-general and other top government functionaries jostled for seats at the venue of the wedding Fatiha, the palace of Lamido Adamawa, Dr. Aliyu Mustapha.

With the offer of brideprice of N50,000 (Fifty thousand naira), the bridegroom, Ibrahim Yakubu, took the Vice President's daughter, 24-year-old Halima (Dubu), as wife in a marriage ceremony described by many as unprecedented in the history of the state.

Presidential aspirant, Alhaji Abubakar Rimi, who had also married from Yola, stole a brief show at Lamido's palace when his arrival was greeted with shouts of "chanji! chanji!" by a group of his admirers.

Traditional rulers from across Nigeria and neighbouring Cameroon Republic and their retinue of aides as well as singers, drummers and dances of various classes added colour to the occasion.

The wife of the President, Mrs. Stella Obasanjo, led the pack of governors' wives, ministers, senators and other top politicians and government officials at the female side of the ceremony in the reception held at the Presidential Lodge in Yola.

At the newly upgraded

From Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, in Yola

Yola International Airport, about two-dozen planes and



Vice President Atiku Abubakar

their numerous crews were waiting on Friday afternoon, for some important personalities to finish the wedding fatiha and to take them back home.

Speaking at the reception, President Obasanjo said his government was not only interested in providing water and electricity to the people, but it was also keen on encouraging people to get married and strengthen the foundation of the society.

Earlier, Governor Boni Haruna of Adamawa State had said that the marriage ceremony had confirmed the state's capacity to host the whole nation for any said gathering.

## Arewa community passes no confidence vote on police

The Arewa Community in Edo State has passed a vote of no confidence on the Edo State Police Command and may likely drag the police to court following what it called the careless attitude with which the police handled an accident case involving two northerners now lying in hospital in Benin City.

The duo were allegedly knocked down by a lorry at Ikpoba slope when they were walking beside the expressway.

In a two-page petition to the Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Zone 5, Benin, Mr. Rayimi Odofin, and signed by the Chairman and Acting Secretary of the Arewa Community in the State, Alhaji Buba Abubakar Kumo and Mr. John Mandung respectively, the AIG was urged to take over the investigation of the accident case from the command under its commissioner, Mr. Yekini Jimoh, who the northerners accuse of unfairness in all matters affecting them.

The petition, a copy of which was made available to Daily Trust states that a lorry

From Shehu Abubakar, in Benin city

alleged to have had brake failure ran into two northerners walking by the road at Ikpoba slope as a result of which they sustained first degree injuries.

The victims, Alhaji Auwal Shehu, a Computer Maintenance Engineer with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Kaduna Refinery, who was in the state for a three-day computer technical committee meeting of the NNPC had five of his ribs broken and a fracture on his right arm while his companion, Alhaji Abubakar Ahmed, the secretary of Edo State Cattle Dealers Association also had multiples fractures on his right leg.

When Daily Trust visited the accident victims at Ajayi Memorial Hospital, GRA Benin City yesterday, Alhaji Auwal Shehu said 19 days after the accident, neither the driver of the lorry, nor the owner visited them even once to see how they were coping.

"I was told a policeman came here and obtained a statement from Abubakar on the day of the

No fewer than five people lost their lives while two others seriously got injured when fighting erupted between farmers and fulanimen in Zurmi local government area of Zamfara State.

Confirming the incident to newsmen, the Zurmi local government Chairman, Alhaji Sa'adu Abubakar, explained that the Fulani cattle rearers, suspected to have come from the Republic of Niger, entered the farmlands of the people of the villages of Dunburum and Barkeji and destroyed the whole of their farm produce which caused the owners to react.

The farmers initially reported the case to the village head of Dunburum but before the intervention of the village head, the Fulanimen took the law into their hands on hearing that the case was taken to the authority.

According to the chair-

## Fulani-farmers clash claim 7 in Zamfara

By Salisu Zakari Maradun, in Gusau

man, they started shooting their arrows and fired many shots with their den guns which resulted in the death of four persons while another person was hit with an arrow but managed to remove it, he is now receiving medical treatment at B/Magaji general hospital.

Commenting further, the council chairman said several appeals have been made to the state government and the police command to ensure that adequate security

measures are put in place so as to avoid the occurrence of the clash but nothing tangible has been done.

The chairman, however, explained that it is the duty of the state government to ensure the maintenance of security of its people, "but you know we can't go beyond our limit," he added.

He blamed the state government and the state police command for their I-don't-care attitude toward preventing the crisis in Zurmi and other areas where there was a similar problem.

## Oodua gov's condemn Ige's assassination

Oodua State governors on Saturday night in Abeokuta condemned the assassination of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, Chief Bola Ige, describing it as a deliberate act to set the Yoruba race on fire and to destabilise the Nigerian nation.

Rising from its emergency meeting which was held in Abeokuta, to review the political situation in the South-West and the country at large, the Oodua State governors comprising of: Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Ekiti and Ondo States, appealed to the Federal Government to do all that is possible to fish out the killers of Bola Ige.

In a communiqué read by the host governor, Chief Olusegun Osoba, the governors promised their readiness to give full backing at any time to assist the Federal Government in fishing out the killers.

His words: "After an exhaustive review of the dastardly act of the assassination of Bola Ige (SAN). The governors took this decision. "That the killing was randomly condemned by the governors. We see it as a

From Olumide Bajulaiye, in Abeokuta

move by the evil mind who deliberately set out to set Yoruba race on fire and in particular to destabilise the Nigerian nation."

"We appeal to the Federal Government and the Police to do all that is possible and we are ready to support them, we are ready to cooperate at any time to assist the Federal Government to fish out the killers of Chief Ige.

"He is not just any individual, until his death he was the Chief law officer of the federation, who is in charge of law and order and has just been given an international appointment. So we are appealing to the federal government and police to do all that is possible to fish out the killers."

The communiqué further thanked the people of Osun and Oyo States for remaining calm "inspite of this deliberate action which is set to create reaction from the people."

"Insipite of this intimidation by people who want to cause a reaction from our people, our people have decided to be peaceful."

## National ID card project faces hitches

Issuance of the National Identity Card to eligible Nigerians scheduled for early next year may be facing problems as arrangement to recruit about 600,000 ad-hoc workers for the exercise is yet to commence, the News Agency of Nigeria NAN reports.

Similarly, the installation of the multi-billion naira equipment as well as other facilities for the effective implementation of the project is also being delayed by lack of funds.

NAN learnt that the delay in the release of funds to the Department of National Civic Registration (DNCR), the agency handling the programme, had continued to hamper the smooth take-off of "vital aspects" of the project.

In November, the Senate

direct the Federal Ministry of Finance to release funds to the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the immediate execution of the project.

A competent source at the Federal Ministry of International Affairs said that the inability of the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to remit necessary funds to DNCR had also delayed the rehabilitation of some of its dilapidated offices nationwide and its computer centres in some states of the federation.

"We are now in a critical period of the exercise, we need money to enable us adequately prepare and also renovate offices where computers and other equipment are to be installed and open new offices in parts of the country for the

## Zairean-born Nigerians demand compensation

Children of expelled Nigerians from former Republic of Congo (now Zaire) have appealed to the federal government to assist them in retrieving properties left behind in Kinshasa by their parents during the mass expulsion of Nigerians by the Congolese government in 1971.

One of the affected families led by Mallam Maikudi Musa Mai Karatu, who visited Daily Trust office in Kano said his father, Alhaji Musa Mai Karatu was among many Nigerians deported that year despite his over 30 years stay in the then

From Musa Umar Kazaure, in Kano

house located at No. 88 Rue Da Bomu, Commune de Kinshasa was left in the custody of the Nigerian High Commission for which a receipt was issued by the embassy.

Brandishing a copy of the receipt dated September 27<sup>th</sup>, 1971 and signed by officials of Nigerian Embassy in Kinshasa, Malam Maikudi, said his father, before his death in 1995, had made strenuous efforts to obtain visa to travel to Kinshasa to recover his property but to no avail.

in Nigeria could only prove the existence of such commitment by the High Commission in Kinshasa but nothing more. Part of the receipt issued



Chief Sunday Afolabi

The source further blamed the delay in the commencement of the project to the non-compliance to a presidential directive by the internal affairs ministry to upgrade DNCR into a full-fledged parastatals to enable it "effectively and effi-

## NEWS

# Nas faults calls for Gusau's removal

A former minister in the late General Sani Abacha's administration, Alhaji Wada Nas, has described as uncalled for and baseless the suggestion by some officials of the Alliance for Democracy, AD, that the National Security Adviser, General Aliyu Mohammed Gusau, be removed over the death of Chief Bola Ige.



Wada Nas

Alhaji Nas said the call was premeditated and it forms part of an agenda by the Obasanjo administration to undermine the North and portray its distinguished sons

From Sani Umar, in Sokoto

and daughters as incapable of holding any sensitive position.

He specifically faulted the statement of AD Assistant Secretary, Malam Umar Farouk, who called for the sack of General Aliyu Gusau, noting that the AD chieftain did not reflect enough to appreciate that the late justice minister was only the latest in the series of loss of innocent lives through violence, assassination, murder and genocide.

The former minister said "Chief Ige was a distinguished Nigerian no doubt, but the call for the sack of someone over his death would create an impression if listened to, as though the government has no consideration for little mortals who lost their own lives through similar gruesome circumstances."

Alhaji Nas wondered why Gusau, and not the minister of police affairs or the Inspector-General or the Director-General of SSS or the President should be removed over Ige's assassination.

This, he observed, is nothing more than trying to fly the ethnic kite in order to further the agenda of making Northerners irrelevant in the present dispensation.

The death of Chief Ige, the former minister noted, had only exposed the nakedness of our security, particularly the police, which is grossly underfunded that each time an eruption of violence occurs, the army had to be called.

Alhaji Nas also picked holes in the subtle preaching of violence by some leaders

such as Faseun who raised an alarm that some 43 prominent Yorubas had been earmarked for elimination by Northerners.

The minister warned that violence has no boundary as it consumes innocent lives, including its promoters and stressed that those who ignite it should tarry a while and reflect seriously.

Alhaji Nas said "as we mourn deeply the death of Chief Ige, we should know that the violence which ended his life was the result of political intolerance, which have become the tradition among certain people, especially the Yorubas who use it to show their abhorrence for injustice and unfairness as postulated at one time by a retired general."

## Lawmaker decries absence of FG projects in Kebbi

A member of the House of Representatives, Honourable Bello Bagudu, has called on the Federal Government to give due consideration to Kebbi State in the allocation of federal projects.

"Actually we have been marginalised compared to some other states in terms of federal projects, therefore, I appeal to the Federal Government to site some meaningful projects in Kebbi State," he said.

From Kabiru Dogon-Daji, in Birnin Kebbi

of this routes cannot be over-emphasised considering the economic viabilities and security they provide to the three nations," he noted.



Governor Aliero of Kebbi State.

Alhaji Bello Bagudu further lamented that the state is blessed with manpower in terms of education and is presently been rated as one of the educationally advantaged northern states, "but it is disheartening to note that there is no federal government institution in the state," he said.

He maintained that the state is eligible for the establishment of a federal polytechnic or university considering its educational background.

Honourable Bagudu who spoke to *Daily Trust* in Birnin Kebbi, further appealed to the Federal Government to rehabilitate its federal highways in the state that links the country and the neighbouring Niger and Benin Republics.

"You see, the importance

## Supermarket loses N3.8m to robbers

Armed robbers, numbering over 10, at the weekend, broke into a supermarket in Port Harcourt and made away with N3.8 million cash.

Confirming the incident to *Daily Trust* in Port Harcourt, the Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), Dr. Uche Mike Chikwuma, said two guards who were on duty when the incident took place have been arrested.

According to him, "the suspects have made very



Musiliu Smith.

From Wisdom Patrick, in Port Harcourt

useful statements to the police and we shall take off from there."

He said the gangsters broke into the supermarket at about 4.30 a.m. and carted away the cash and two open cheques with undisclosed amount on them.

*Daily Trust* gathered that initially the night watchmen had denied knowledge of the crime, alleging that they were tied by the robbers and locked up in a toilet throughout the duration of the operation.

However, revealed that investigations, the guards were the insiders who gave information about cash movement in the company to the robbers and when they should strike.

The police spokesman said the duo later led the police to the robbers hide-out, disclosing that their casefiles have been forwarded to the state Directorate of Public Prosecution (DPP).

## Gaius-Obaseki directs depot managers to ensure adequate fuel supply

The Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Mr. Jackson Gaius-Obaseki, has directed depot managers nationwide to supply adequate petroleum products to marketers to eliminate fuel scarcity.

Gaius-Obaseki's directive is not unconnected with reports of fuel scarcity in some parts of the country.

In a press statement made available to *Daily Trust* at the weekend, the group managing director appealed to all marketers to

By Emmanuel Ande

ensure that there is no scarcity of the products anywhere in the country as, according to him, "the unrestricted supply will allow the marketers to maintain the stock they require for their anticipated windfall."

He noted further that "no price is too much to pay for the comfort of high demand."

The NNPC boss said the Petroleum Pipeline Marketing Company (PPMC) has been mandated to suspend for a minimum of three months, sale of the product to any marketer found subjecting Nigerians to untold hardships through hoarding of the products thus creating artificial scarcity.

Gaius-Obaseki assured Nigerians that the corporation has enough stock of products in its depots across the country, pointing out that his management "will continue to do its best to ensure that a few selfish and unpatriotic individuals do not drag the nation back to the dark days of products scarcity.



Gaius-Obaseki, NNPC GMD.

THE FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC,  
BAUCHI  
P.M.B. 0231, BAUCHI,  
BAUCHI STATE.

POSTPONEMENT OF RESUMPTION  
DATE (2001/2002) ACADEMIC  
SESSION

This is to inform all returning students of the Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi that the resumption date earlier scheduled for 5th January, 2002 has been postponed indefinitely. A new date will be announced in due course.

Signed:

L. LABARAN  
For: REGISTRAR

# News Focus

## Kano: The killings on Quds Day

The fragile peace that seems to have returned to Kano after Sallah day's bloody clash between rival gangs of 'yandaba has again been shattered by another violence. This time it was a clash between the police and the brotherhood of shi'ah who were celebrating their annual Quds Day, a day set aside by the Shi'ah world to show solidarity with Palestinians in their struggle against Israeli oppression.

The celebration which usually takes the form of procession of men, women and children and speeches however turned bloody in Kano last Friday, resulting in the death of six shi'aite and one policeman, while 15 people were injured, some of them critically, from gunshots according to Kano shi'ah spokesman, Mallam Kabiru Kabara, who showed this reporter the body of one of the victims on the way to his burial.

He gave the names of the dead as Isa Ashiru R/Lemu, Abubakar Farinruwa, Sa'adu Usman from Zaria, Mallam Mu'azu R/Lemu, Isa Zakari from Birnin Kudu and one unidentified person from Kaduna. The shi'ah spokesman said all the deceased were felled by police bullets at Kasuwar Kurna area where the procession terminated, adding that the police shot into the peaceful procession with live bullets with intent to kill. He displayed one of the bullets which has, as its number, AF.7.62 - 86 and said it was found at the scene of the police shooting.

The police in Kano, however, confirmed five deaths on the part of the shi'aite and a police sergeant, Sylvester Udele. Seven people were also confirmed injured by the police in the three-hour fracas.

Kano State Police Commissioner, Bello Yakubu Uba, told *Daily Trust* in a telephone interview that the shi'aite were armed with bows and arrows and guns which, he claimed, were used to kill the police sergeant and wound an assistant commissioner of police.

He said that the shi'aite started shooting at the police after looting shops along Kofar Wambai area, adding that the police had no option but to return fire and in

From Musa Kazaure, Yusha'u Adams, in Kano the process killed a number of them. Alhaji Yakubu Uba said the police had earlier banned all processions, rallies and demonstrations.

The annual Quds Day celebration in Kano, *Daily*



Mallam Kabiru Kabara, spokesman for Kano Shi'ah Movement

police to sheath its sword in the interest of peace.

By Friday, therefore, Kano town was tense, with armed policemen deployed to strategic locations, especially the known route followed by the shi'aite in the past years. Despite the po-



Kano State Governor, Musa Kwankwaso

Nura, who resides somewhere at Kurmi market, said he saw the procession of men, women and children at the bus stop junction praying. As they dispersed, he said, a truckload of armed policemen arrived and started shooting in the



Musiliu Smith, IG of Police

any shop nor were they involved in any act capable of causing a breach of public peace, blaming the police for being unnecessarily trigger-happy on the whole incident. "These people were only saying the Takbir and marching along the streets when police started teargassing them and shooting them. It is unfortunate because all our houses were full of teargas," he said.

However, the deputy commissioner of police, Mr. Ernest who spoke in the absence of the commissioner who was still going round to assess the situation, said the shi'ah movement should not have embarked on the demonstration in the first place because they were aware of the ban on such processions since the last crisis in October, 2001. He argued that if the demonstrators were not armed they could not have killed a policeman during the fracas.

The leader of the shi'ah movement in Nigeria, Mallam Ibrahim Zakzaky, in a telephone interview said there were two issues involved in the Kano incident. The first, he said, was a peaceful procession by members of his movement to sympathise with their Muslim brothers in Palestine who are under the yoke of Israeli aggression. The procession, he explained, ended

you say you are trying to prevent them but when people are on their way home peacefully, it calls for serious concern," Zakzaky stated.

He refuted allegations that his members were armed during the demonstration, saying that they have recorded video of the entire event including the shooting by police which will prove the fallacy in that claim. The shi'ah leader also defended his members' outing despite police ban on processions, saying the solidarity rally is equivalent to daily prayers, naming ceremony or burial of the dead (*Jana'izza*) which are inseparable from Muslims' daily activities. Sheikh Zakzaky said his movement will decide on its next line of action over those killed by the police after the mourning period is over.

*Daily Trust* investigations in Kano revealed that the number of casualties from the police/shi'aite class may rise by today as a result of lack of proper medical attention. Reliable sources hinted *Daily Trust* that all the wounded are being attended to at homes by selected medical personnel for fear of police arrest when taken to public hospitals. They cited example of a 13-year-old boy caught in the stampede who was helped to a government hospital by a good samaritan,



From L-R: Sa'adu Usman Zaria, Isa Ashiru Rijiyar Lemu and Abubakar Farinruwa killed in the police/shi'aite clash in Kano...Friday.

*Trust* gathered, has always been peaceful until this year. The Kano group had earlier in the week made announcements that this year's solidarity procession will take place as scheduled on Friday but it was countered by the police announcement which stated that all processions have been banned until further notice.

The police statement also described as "thugs" organisers of the procession which it claimed was aimed at looting and disturbing public peace.

But a counter statement by the shi'ah group in Kano accused the police of planning to disrupt their procession using hired thugs to loot shops to give their procession a bad name. The statement, signed by Yusuf Abdullahi, said the solidarity rally has been an annual event for the shi'ah movement in Kano for the past 18 years with no incident of violence and called on the

police presence, the group emerged from the Fagge Jumu'at mosque, their traditional starting point, and diverted into Fagge area instead of the traditional Murtala Mohammed Way now cordoned off by the police.

The shi'aite's spokesman, Mallam Kabiru Kabara, said they intentionally diverted from their traditional route to avoid clashing with the police. He explained that they took shortcuts and ended their procession at the Kurmi market where prayers were conducted.

"It was while we were dispersing that we heard gunshots and teargas, and people started running for their lives including innocent bystanders and traders in the market. The police shot indiscriminately and in the process killed six of our brothers who were protecting the women and children in the procession," he narrated to *Daily Trust*.

An eyewitness, Mallam



Isa Zakari Birnin Kudu died after a bullet penetrated his stomach.

crowd. He said he saw as many as eight people on the ground but could not say whether they were dead or alive, but confirmed that they were not armed with any weapon.

Another witness, Mallam Awwalu at Kofar Wambai market, said the demonstrators did not loot

peacefully and prayers were held.

"The second issue is that policemen armed with rifles opened fire on defenceless people after the peaceful procession. Is there any law that says you should shoot at people after a rally? If you shoot them before or during the rally,

only to be arrested by the police at the hospital as a perpetrator of disturbances.

The Kano State government was yet to issue a statement on the incident at the time of going to press but the Kano State Police Commissioner promised to brief the press on the development.

## Opinion

## The festering brouhaha among preachers: Is Christ divided?

By Joseph Aiyejoto

For some couple of weeks now, the media world has been awash with the war of words from men who are supposed to be custodian of the mores of Christian sanctity. The manner and matter of their tirade against one another on the pages of newspapers and magazines left no one in the dark as to the sincerity of their understanding of what they profess.

To me, they seem to be destitute of the knowledge of the living God and lacking in the wisdom of this end time. However, the fervour of the festering brouhaha among them could only be seen as a pointer to the fact that the word of God in the Holy writ cannot be broken. They are part of the end time preachers and believers, among whom the Holy writ categorically state there would be those that would choose pretence and falsity as their mechanism to curry not only favour with unsuspecting people but also their sympathy and empathy.

*Newswatch* magazine have done a great deal of expose of the crisis from November to date. In its November 19 edition, under the title: "Re: war of the preachers; discord in the house of God," T.B. Joshua, Chris Okotie and Chris Oyakhilome spoke to *Newswatch* in separate interviews. They severally pointed accusing fingers at one another. Allegedly referring to the relationship between Chris Oyakhilome and T.B. Joshua, Okotie was quoted as saying: "Our kingdom is being threatened by a traitor who has left our kingdom to go and fraternise with the kingdom of Satan. He is giving people impression that that evil man is part of us." On his part, Oyakhilome accused Chris Okotie of getting his "teachings... from occult books. It is not right to judge yourself with one standard and judge others with another standard," he said. Okotie further referred to Oyakhilome as a traitor who is fraternising with a satanic person. Apparently referring to T.B. Joshua. However, Joshua would not condemn any of his accusers neither will he commend them, because he believes that: "It is not what people say about a man that really matters. What matters is what we know about ourselves... I know myself more than all those people throwing accusations here and there." He concluded that if he is not of God, his ministry will certainly not stand the test of time.

The crisis assumed another dimension penultimate week, as the Lagos State Police Command stepped into the matter following a petition Okotie wrote to the Inspector-General of Police, Mr. Musiliu Smith, alleging that: "Joshua has deployed a lot of resources to actualise a diabolical plan to sabotage my public image, run down my ministry and possibly eliminate me in an organised assassination that would look like an armed robbery attack." Other allegations followed: ranging from sex scandal, against the person of Okotie by Joshua.

This orgy of accusations and counter accusations has left many things to be desired of the sincerity of these "men of God" as to their relationship with the Living God. The million-dollar question is: Is Christ divided?

No is the answer: The trio are only divided as a result of their self interest, egocentric nature and their pursuit of mundane gain at the expense of heavenly benefits. Indeed, their earthly pursuits and possessions have denied them of their forthright and good senses that could have enabled them to reasonably consider the promotion of the kingdom of God instead of bringing it to disrepute.

Nevertheless, they should be reminded that only their names are at stake. As such, whether they wash their dirtiest linen on the street for people to see or not, the greatest judge of all will surely not spare their imperfections. The Christian community should not allow themselves to be smeared by the ineptitude of some spiritually blind individuals. Mike Okonkwo of TREM and President of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN) should also be reminded that he should not take side in this matter. He should rather work towards a peaceful resolution by praying for the intervention of God. "Ostracising" an individual from the Christian community is unChrist-like. Criticisms and inflammatory statements and/or outright condemnation will only aggravate rather than soothe the tension already generated. The trio should also be bold to own up to their weakness and make amend.

They should not forget that whether in pretence or in truth, Christ is being preached, an individual will give account not to men but unto God. Why should we allow the heathen to mediate in our affairs, oh sons of Abraham! Christ is not divided.

Aiyejoto is a staff of Daily Trust, Abuja

## Yayale and the challenges of the civil service

By Yusuf Aliyu Addy

December 18 2001 was a day of honour and recognition for the Nigerian civil service at the International Conference Centre Abuja where President Olusegun Obasanjo decorated over 200 recipients who bagged prestigious national honours awards.

For Alhaji Mahmud Yayale Ahmed it was another in the series of awards and honours pouring from the civil, academic, professional and traditional quarters in his one-year stint as the Head of Civil Service of the Federation. He was appointed on December 18 2000.

The honour, a Commander of the Federal Republic (CFR) is interpreted within civil service circles as a general endorsement of the unique contributions of the Nigerian civil service to the general growth and development of the nation.

A distinguished product of the service, Yayale has been identified with the truest essence of what a developing nation's civil service should be: active, dynamic, proactive and developmental.

The development and sustenance of an enduring democracy and good governance is built on a vibrant, responsive and service-oriented civil service which should be constituted of a committed workforce motivated by an intelligent and visionary leadership.

Good governance is a fundamental recipe of an enduring democracy. The civil service, an institution charged with executing policies of the government, holds the key to good governance.

The Obasanjo Administration has not compromised its desire to produce a civil service devoid of corruptible tendencies, inefficiency and inertia.

Alhaji Yayale, leading a crop of dedicated and energetic bureaucrats has, since his assumption of office a year ago evolved strategies capable of ensuring a realisation of the Administration's plan and programmes for the service.

Some of such strategies were the various training packages for all cadres to update the civil servant and put him or her in a better position to respond to today's modernised world, apart from creating a conducive atmosphere for greater productivity for them was also a task that had to be tackled. This brought about the comprehensive plans to computerise activities of public servants. These initial stages began with the partial computerisation of pension services and housing service delivery.

A continuous implementation of the pooling system had to commence to check "sit-tightism" and to a great extent lend a hand to President Obasanjo's anti-corruption campaign. These are some of the issues that occupied our attention during the period. The office of the Head of Civil Service is still forging ahead with efforts at putting personal records straight, through a comprehensive verification of public servants presently going on to bring to proper picture of not only the strength of the workforce but its quality. In a response recently to a reporter's question on how he has fared so far, Yayale said: "Achievements are not for me to recount, but for you the journalists to take a cursory look at the system. Have there been changes? What we have tried to do; include working with government in the anti-corruption exercise through the creation of anonymous anti-corruption committees, training of civil servants has increased as all cadres benefited from some form of training either by seminars and workshops within and outside the country".

On general staff welfare a well-furnished staff canteen was opened to cater for staff, especially those at the Phase II of the federal secretariat.

On certain constraints, which he tackled on assumption, Yayale said: "Our efforts at improving the lot of the service have expectedly been constrained by factors ranging from the difficult to change a set of people from a given pattern of behaviour, so it has been a huge task re-orientating civil servants from habits which they had formed in carrying out legitimate official duties.

We have, as a first measure taken a closer look at the Public Service Rules with a view to ensuring that the contents of the document conform to modern requirements. But let me, at this juncture, express the appreciation of civil servants for the keen interest which the present political leadership has shown towards the growth and development of the service.

"We immediately embarked on schemes aimed at fashioning out critical areas of the service which had not received due attention. One of such areas was the pensions administration system. Our pensioners had

been receiving derogatory treatment. Our resolve to revolutionise this area has fortunately received the solid backing of the president-in-council".

Consequently, a comprehensive action plan on pensions was evolved and on which implementation has gone very far. About N100 billion has been committed into paying arrears of pensions and gratuities of retired federal workers. For example, retirement benefits are now being paid as at when due since February this year. A backlog of over 3,000 files has been cleared as at August this year. In fact, the office has conducted a verification of all existing federal and state pensioners with federal share for the purpose of paying the pensioners directly from the Office of the Head of Service. It should also be noted that we have duly implemented the recent increase in pension rates in the ratio of 150 percent, 30 percent and 142 percent to federal and state pensioners with federal share. In the realisation of the urgent need to computerise pensions administration operations, concrete arrangements have been made for the computerisation of all the processes and payment of pensions in the entire federal civil service.

In this regard, about 46,000 files out of over 300,000 files have already been computerized while other arrangements are underway to codify and computerise the records of all federal staff as a way of enhancing easy monitoring of staff records and eliminate the ghost worker syndrome. On a broader scope, we have also decided to create an office of establishments and pensions in every ministry and extra-ministerial department to ease the processing of related matters.

Another critical area in the housing of civil servants in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) which is likened to a situation whereby there is a disproportionate rise in the number of workers vis-à-vis the rise in the number of houses made available by government.

The fact is much as the federal government has been doing its best to provide quarters to house its workers, other competitive needs and limited resources have constituted major obstacles to government's noble objectives in this regard.

The situation is further compounded by a lack of understanding on the part of many desperate civil servants who are known to have devised unacceptable means of procuring accommodation for themselves. Here lies the basis of possible corruption in the housing administration system of the service. For this and other objectives the Office of the Head of Civil Service has commenced the computerisation of housing services.

The need to train and retrain staff in the various segments of the service formed one of the cardinal areas of maximum attention. This is to be translated into the need to re-invigorate the public service as a unique customer-oriented institution.

This brought about the re-orientation workshop for directorate level officers in the federal civil service in which 20 editions were held and had Professor Adebayo Adedeji, a renowned scholar, as co-ordinator. Each edition lasted for two weeks, during which, participants covered series of study sessions, proactive, efficient and virile public service; re-energised to adapt to the requirements of modern day administration.

Each edition of the programme ended with participants issuing a group communiqué through which they offered their views of the service and made suggestions on how to bring about the ideal Nigerian civil service. At the end of the twenty editions on 28th September, 2001, a total of 1,902 officers consisting of directors, deputy directors and assistant directors in the federal civil service.

The re-orientation workshop has already yielded fruits with the appointment of some participants at the director's component of the workshop as Permanent Secretaries. Also participants have been able to bring to bear on their respective schedules what they picked up during the programme.

Similarly, a lot has been done in training the staff of the office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation. Four hundred and forty one staff have benefited from local and overseas courses. Two hundred and six junior staff have benefited from local courses, while senior staff, 235 in number have attended courses in the last one

year. Currently 89 staff made up of senior and junior staff are attending a secretarial course in Federal Training Centres across the country.

A preparatory course for civil service examinations was held for 35 staff, while new employees attended an induction course

introducing them to the norms of the civil service. A workshop for officers on grade level 13 to grade level 08 who work in the registry was organised. A monitoring exercise had its findings that the participants now enclose documents in files promptly; records are now properly documented and files are easily retrieved on demand since they have been taught various methods of handling and retrieving files. Hitherto, records were falsified but that has since become a thing of the past as there is awareness of the implication of such fraudulent practices. Staff now appreciate the need to go about their jobs dutifully as it is obvious that diligence is being rewarded and it is no longer business as usual. Through the granting of examination leave, staff are encouraged to improve themselves academically.

A total of N18,359,541 has been spent on training internally in the office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation.

Certainly, a new civil service is fast emerging where discipline and dedication is the watchword.

The period under review has also introduced significant growth in the administration of all Federal Training Centres nationwide with a comprehensive review of their curriculum carried out for the first time in 40 years. Students and staff of the centres are unanimous in their conclusion that the efforts of the head of service in redressing their situation would inevitably turn the institutions into centres of excellence.

The review was significant as the scope of academic work had now been tremendously improved. For example the academic year has been replaced by the semester system instead of the three-monthly programme. Computer studies have been introduced and is compulsory for all students.

In addition, names of certificate are to be change to educational titles. The Federal Training Centres will now award national Diploma and Higher Diploma certificates. Consequently, students will now matriculate and graduate as well.

Since consultants were involved in the curriculum review, there is a proposal in the pipeline to grant autonomy to Federal Training Centres to run consultancy programmes and also enable private students to pay and benefit from the programmes of the Federal Training Centres. There has also been a white-paper recommendation for Federal Training Centres to undertake orientation programmes for all new employees into the federal civil service.

Furthermore, conversion courses are now being held for clerical officers who after passing prescribed examinations after spending one year in the Federal Training Centre, can be converted to Assistant Executive Officers (AEOs). It is a major achievement as clerical officers who hitherto terminated their services at grade level 06 can convert and terminate their services at grade level 14.

In terms of welfare, a lot has been done to motivate staff and students in the six Federal Training Centres located in Lagos, Kaduna, Calabar, Enugu, Ilorin and Maiduguri. Four vehicles each are being purchased for each centre and 140 manual typewriters have been replaced with electric typewriters. Students' hostels have been renovated and facilities to make their stay comfortable have been provided. Generating sets with the capacity of 500 KVA have also been purchased to enhance power supply in all the centres.

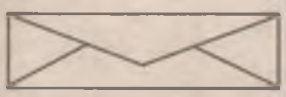
In order to beef-up the staff strength, more teachers are to be recruited and staff stagnation as far back as 10 years and above is being looked into to redress the situation.

As part of efforts by the present administration to reduce un-employment in the country, the federal government resolved, to absorb about 2,275 staff of parastatals and agencies which were either scrapped or merged. The staff figure and the respective agencies are 1,657 (NALDA), 287 (PTF), 297 (FEAP) and 33 (FSTF).

The office of the Head of Civil Service has concluded the posting of all the officers, a deliberate policy to ensure that rather than send them into the job market, they should be utilised for the development of the federal civil service.

In the estimation of many observers, Yayale's quiet revolution in the service of over 200,000 civil servants is a personality to watch in the next years, as he appears poised to turn the service into an institution of envy and admiration of all.

Addy is the Chief Press Secretary to the Head of Civil Service of the Federation.



**YOUR LETTERS**

**Five caps for Marwa in 2001**

It is an outstanding and overwhelming fact that one of our best past military officers could still be above board like Brigadier General Mohammed Buba Marwa (rtd) who can keep their records clean and image unsoiled at this time. Why not, while in 2001, he was appointed chairman Defence Industries Corporation of Nigeria (DIC) by the purposeful well-

directed administration of Chief Olusegun Obasanjo with a promise for revitalisation and manufacturing indigenous weapons. He set up a functioning Albarka Airlines that is currently flying international routes with little or no hitches on domestic routes and making waves at subsidised rates and continuous additional fleet of Boeings. Brigadier-General

Mohammed Buba Marwa (rtd) was turbaned as Atunlese Ikorodu in the passing year. In Enugu State recently he was bestowed a chieftaincy title in for philanthropic gesture and support to non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Last month, he was selected and chosen by the National Association of Nigerians Students (NANS) and

forwarded his name as a patron to the All Africa Students Union (AASU) in Accra, Ghana, where he was honoured and delivered a speech in person.

He was given this cap for his inclination towards youth organisations and transparent undoubted guidance and counselling. Who says others cannot triumph where some fail? Not all sons of Nigeria born of women are bad. Kudos to a gentleman, hard worker and lover of our nation who is as vibrant as ever.

Brigadier-General Mohammed Buba Marwa (rtd), to freshen your memories, is a governor and military administrator of Borno and Lagos States respectively, an author of two professional military books in strategic studies and a patriot to say the least. Only the rare can perform such multiple feats. Emmanuel Y. Kwache, 30 Gambia Crescent, Bekaji Estate, Jimeta-Yola, Adamawa State.

**Re: Well done Kwankwaso**

Kindly allow me a space in your widely read newspaper, to advice brother Mohammad Bashir Isah Dakata on his write-up titled "Well done, Kwankwaso but..." in *Daily Trust* of 18th April, 2001. He said "The Kano State government has achieved a lot since its inception in terms of development." He went ahead to mention areas such as employment, health, education, electrification and roads. To be sincere, it is unbecoming of a true Muslim to be carried away by roads, electrification etc and forget about the issue of Sharia which Kano people desperately need. These roads, employment etc are mere window dressing compared to the burning issue of Sharia which is a darling of all true Muslims. Assuming the present government plays its role in seeing the operation of Sharia in its totality, peace will reign and we will not have 'Yandaba slaughtering people in daylight like rams.

carried away by the provision of these temporary mushroom schools, hospitals etc, Sharia first and it should be operated in its totality in Sha Allah.

Furthermore I want use this opportunity and draw the attention of His Excellency Dr. Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso to remember that you did not attain the office of governor due to inability of the past governments to fashion Kano City roads or roundabouts neither did you attain the office due to inability of the past governments to provide social amenities.

But you attained this excellent office through the votes of Kano people. You also remember that you took an oath on 29 May, 1999 in the presence of thousands of people that you will work for the people of Kano State and not for Obasanjo or the Western world.

Your Excellency remember that you are vicegerent of Allah on earth and He has given you power to implement Sharia in its totality because He appointed you as last authority here in Kano. If you do that Allah will help and protect you and if you deliberately refuse He will destroy you as He did to the past nations. Remember the history of Pharaoh and Moses (A.S).

Abdurrahmani Saleh Marayar Naira, Tagarji Quarters, Tudun Murtala, Nassarawa LGA, Kano State.

**Re: The bloody revenge in Tiv land**

I refer to a story captioned "The bloody revenge in Tiv land" published in the *Newswatch* magazine of November 12, 2001, and, wish to seek your kind permission to use your widely read newspaper to ask of the whereabouts of our human rights activists. People like Professor Wole, Mr. Gani and others.

Are these human rights activists still in Nigeria? I am asking because what I read in the story, by whatever standard one views it, is a violation of the fundamental rights of the innocent villagers in Tiv land.

One expects to see that these people to have reacted to the killings of the innocent villagers but to my dismay they all kept mute.

Haba! Gani. Haba! Professor Wole, were you actually fighting for

peoples' rights or you were only fighting for your political tribal right?

It appears to many Nigerians that you have been sleeping since the inception of this administration, which to the shock of many people grants armed robbers bail but denies others the right

of bail because they are not Yoruba.

Please wake up because we are not yet in democracy. Adebajo, Esq. acknowledges this in his testimony at the Oputa panel in Abuja. Abba Abdullah, H 5, Kumashi Road, Kaduna.

**Bravo Honourable Bello Suleiman**

Kindly allow me a little space in your nationally improved newspaper to congratulate Honourable Bello Suleiman on his appointment as new commissioner, Ministry of Works and Housing, Gombe State.

It is right to commend His Excellency, the governor of Gombe State, Alhaji Abubakar Habu Hashidu, and the state's House of Assembly for being able to make the right decision of choosing Alhaji Bello Suleiman and the new

commissioner. As a young state under a young democracy, capable new breed of unquestionable integrity and dedication such as Hon Bello Suleiman should be the ones to work with.

Already, Hon. Bello Suleiman has been able to demonstrate his patriotic tendencies and has also been championing the cause of the youths through assistance in areas pertaining to employment which in the process has reduced economic predicaments.

Apart from this, Hon. Bello Suleiman will remain a good source of inspiration to the younger generation for meaningful initiatives geared towards the maintenance of peace, unity and progress of Gombe State. Gombe needs more people like Hon. Bello Suleiman. Auwalu Ladan Jekadafari, Layi Mai Unguwar Doma, Gombe, Gombe State.



**...for letting  
us serve you.**

Dear Customers, you are the reason for our business leadership in this industry. From January through December, your patronage and understanding have been overwhelming. This is why we dial this call to say **THANK YOU** for letting us serve you with a promise to make telecommunications bigger fun in the New Year.



**NIGERIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED**  
 ●LAND LINE●MOBILE●TRUNK SERVICES PROVIDER  
 CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS  
 2 Bissau Street, (Off Herbert Macaulay Way), Wuse Zone 6, Abuja - Nigeria  
 Tel: 234-9-5233031, 5234554. E-mail: md@nigtel.com

# TRUST INTERNATIONAL

## AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST

### Zambian opposition wants inauguration blocked

Zambian opposition parties met the Chief Justice, yesterday to demand that he blocks the swearing-in of a new president while he probes opposition charges that the ruling party rigged last week's elections.

The 10 parties want Chief Justice, Matthew Ngulube to investigate reports that in some areas the number of declared votes exceeded that of registered voters and in others, extra ballot boxes appeared long after counting in the southern African state had been completed.

"We do not want the chief justice to swear in a new president before those allegations of massive vote-rigging are thoroughly investigated," Reverend Newers Mumbe, speaking on behalf of the 10 parties, told Reuters.

Final results in the closest-fought presidential and parliamentary elections since landlocked Zambia's independence from Britain in 1964 are due to be announced tomorrow, and the swearing-in of the new president has been scheduled for Wednesday.

The opposition received a major boost yesterday, when former Nigerian military ruler, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, who is heading observers from the US Carter

### ... opposition leader declares self winner

Zambian opposition leader, Anderson Mazoka, has declared himself the winner of Thursday's presidential election, and alleged the government was trying to rig the election.

The wealthy businessman said European Union observers monitoring the election had given him 36% of the vote in contrast to his main rival ruling party candidate Levy Mwanawasa's 23%.

He also warned of "chaos in this country" if the Electoral Commission failed to confirm the result.

Commission Chairman, Bobby Bwalya, rejected charges of vote rigging, telling Reuters news agency: "It is not possible to rig this election. This is a figment of their fertile imagination."

Government spokesman, Vernon Mwaanga, said it was "inconceivable" that anyone should claim victory at this stage.

Latest results from the Electoral Commission for 74

Centre, supported some reports of intimidation of voters.

"We are here to lodge our protest to the chief justice. The election is not free and fair," opposition leader Anderson Mazoka, who holds a narrow lead in the polls, told Reuters.

"We are here to state that the (ruling) MMD party has rigged the elections extensively. Should the MMD candidate be declared the winner, we shall not accept the results," Mazoka added.

The allegations have raised tensions to the copper-



President Frederick Chiluba mining state, where outgoing President Frederick Chiluba and the MMD have been widely blamed for graft, economic mismanagement and reviving divisive tribalism.

of 150 constituencies gave Mr. Mazoka, of the United Party for National Development (UPND), 274,380 votes against 265,919 votes for ruling party candidate, Levy Mwanawasa.

Mr. Mwanawasa is current President Frederick Chiluba's chosen heir.

Of the other presidential candidates, Christon Tembo of the Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD) is in third place with 139,290 votes, and Godfrey Miyanda of the Heritage Party is some 32,000 votes behind him.

Political parties in Zambia had earlier expressed concern and frustration at the authorities' failure to release official results from the elections.

The vote count has taken so long that the swearing-in of a new president, originally scheduled for Saturday, has been postponed until Wednesday.

Votes were also cast in parliamentary and local elections.

"The MMD has heavily manipulated the elections. They have rigged them so they can stay in office and the Zambian people will not accept that," said Christon Tembo, president of the opposition Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD).

"Officers from the president's office visited some polling stations and their behaviour was intimidating to voters," Abubakar told a separate news conference, adding that his team would give an overall view once the process was over.

The president's office is a euphemistic name for a security apparatus which oversees foreign and domestic intelligence.

Latest results from the Electoral Commission for 87 of the 150 constituencies gave Mazoka of the United Party for National Development (UPND) 316,888 votes against 308,453 for the MMD's Levy Mwanawasa, Chiluba's chosen heir.

The MMD led in the parliamentary elections, although analysts forecast no party would win an overall majority.

Zambians voted on Thursday, to choose between 11 presidential candidates to lead a country which has high rates of poverty, unemployment and HIV/AIDS.

An unexpectedly high turnout took local and foreign observers by surprise.

BBC correspondent in Lusaka said the electoral commission's painstaking methods, which were intended to show voters there has been no foul play, are instead arousing concern.

Some polling stations in the capital Lusaka and the northern Copperbelt region remained open until Friday morning.

At some stations, voting had been delayed for more than eight hours because of the late delivery of ballot papers.

Eleven candidates ran for the presidency - and voters were also electing a new parliament and local-government representatives.

President Frederick Chiluba, of the MMD, is standing down after serving the maximum two terms.

At least nine people have been killed and more than 15 wounded in an armed confrontation between police and local militiamen in the Somali capital Mogadishu.

Both sides used rocket-propelled grenade launchers, anti-aircraft machine guns and assault rifles in the firefight at the city's animal market.

Four of the dead and seven of the wounded were policemen. Three civilians were killed in the crossfire and eyewitnesses said two of the militiamen also died.

The reason for the fighting is not known. The militiamen are thought to be linked to a local businessman.

The commander of Mogadishu's police force, Colonel Abdi Hassan Awaleh Qeybdiid, said the policemen were attacked by what he described as outlawed militiamen with intent to creating lawlessness.

Eyewitnesses said the fighting broke out when policemen at a checkpoint near the market stopped a pick-up truck full of armed militiamen.

The gunmen killed one of the policemen on the spot before trying to escape.

The second policeman was fatally shot in the exchange of gunfire which

### Mogadishu clash claims nine

ensued before the militiamen sped away.

Both the police and the

militia sought reinforcements. Colonel Qeybdiid himself was called in.

### Iran court commutes sentences

An Iranian court has reduced the sentences of six people jailed for between four and five years for attending a reformist conference in Berlin last year.

Veteran opposition politician, Ezatollah Sahabi, and student leader, Ali Afshari, will now only have to serve respectively six months and a year in jail, a time they had both already served waiting for the verdict.

In addition, prominent Iranian feminists, Mehangiz Kar and Shahla Lahiji, and lawyer Shahla Sherkat, had their jail terms replaced with fines of around \$500 (about N65,000).

And economist, Fariborz Raisdana, was cleared of charges of

undermining national security and insulting Islamic values.

Originally Kar and Lah were given four year jail terms, while Saha received four and a half years and Afshari received five years.

The Berlin conference sponsored by the German Green Party, was organised last April, to discuss the future of Iran following elections in Iran in which reformists scored a sweeping victory.

However, the conference soon collapsed in acrimony when radicals disrupted the meeting by heckling speakers and brawls erupted among delegates.

Iran later arrested 10 academics, journalists and translators and handed down tough jail sentences for seven, while the rest were given suspended sentences and harsh fines.

### Leopold Senghor laid to rest

Senegal's founding father, the poet and former president, Leopold Sedar Senghor, has been laid to rest in state in the capital Dakar.

Five African heads of state and thousands of mourners paid their last respects to the man who led Senegal to independence. He died at the age of 95, on 20 December.

Mourners crammed into Dakar's small cathedral on Saturday, for a funeral mass broadcast live on local television and radio.

The coffin was draped in the Senegalese flag as it was carried into the church, accompanied by the voice of one of Mr. Senghor's favourite singers, Yande Codou Sene.

On top was placed one of the former president's proudest possessions - the hat he wore for his induction as the first African member of the great French cultural institution, the Academie Francaise.

Heads of state from Mali, Equatorial Guinea, Cape Verde, Mauritania and Niger attended the service, as well as Moroccan Crown Prince, Moulaye Rachid and the prime ministers of Ivory Coast and Togo.

Senegal's former colonial master, France, was represented by the country's co-operation minister, Charles Josselin, and Raymond Forni, the speaker of the French

national assembly.

Thousands of mourners lined a street named after Mr. Senghor as the coffin was taken to the presidential palace, where current President Abdoulaye Wade paid tribute in a ceremony of national homage.

"There are some losses which can never be consoled. But the gestures of sympathy we have received from around the world strengthen us," he said.

In a 25 minute speech, Mr.

Wade lauded Mr. Senghor for "choosing to build in Senegal the first model of modern democracy in Africa."

He praised "negritude" the black consciousness movement the former president had helped build as "the affirmation of the personality of black people."

Mr. Wade also thanked Mr. Senghor's wife, Colette, on behalf of the Senegalese people, for surrounding the leader with love and affection throughout his life.



Former Senegalese President and writer, Leopold Sedar Senghor is seen in this October 1996 file photo in Verson, Normandy. Five African heads of state and thousands of mourners paid last respects to Senghor.

## TRUST INTERNATIONAL

## World Report



Cuban President, Fidel Castro (left), votes to declare five men who were convicted in Miami this month on charges of spying on the United States national heroes, during a special session of the Cuban parliament, in Havana. With Castro are from left to right: Raul Castro, Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and brother of Castro and Juan Almeida, Vice-President of the Council of State.

## India rejects Pakistani proposal for dialogue

India said Saturday it would continue to mass tens of thousands of troops at its border until Pakistan cracks down on Islamic militants, rejecting a Pakistani call for the two nations' leaders to meet to try to defuse the crisis.

Indian Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, said his government would do its best to avert war, but Pakistan warned that the tensions at the border - where the two sides traded fire again Saturday - could trigger a full-fledged conflict between the nuclear-armed nations.

In a phone conversation Saturday, President Bush urged Pakistani President, Pervez Musharraf, to "take additional strong and decisive measures to eliminate the extremists who seek to harm India," White House spokesman, Scott McClellan said.

Bush also spoke with Vajpayee and said the United States is "determined to cooperate with India in the fight against terrorism," McClellan said. Bush urged both leaders to work to reduce tensions.

Pakistani police said they have arrested at least 30 militants since the December 13 attack by gunmen on India's Parliament that sparked the current crisis between the South Asian rivals. On Friday, Bush had praised Musharraf for the arrests and said India should "take note" of the crackdown.

India has dismissed Pakistan's steps as cosmetic and on Saturday demanded

tougher action. Pakistan has said it needs proof for India's claims that two Islamic militant groups based on its soil conducted the Parliament attack, which killed nine Indians and the five attackers. India claims Pakistan's spy agency sponsored the attack, an accusation Islamabad denies.

The dozen or so Islamic militant groups based in Pakistan that are battling Indian rule in Kashmir enjoy support among a vocal sector of the public and within segments of the military, making it difficult for Musharraf to carry out a crackdown.

Indian National Security Adviser, Brajesh Mishra, said Saturday that India will not pull troops from the border until Pakistan takes "credible, firm, substantive and visible action" against

militants operating in Kashmir.

Vajpayee insisted "no means shall be spared" in putting a stop to what he called "Pakistan-sponsored terrorism."

"We do not want war, but a war in the form of cross-border terrorism has already been thrust on India," Vajpayee told senior officials of his Bharatiya Janata Party. "We shall do our utmost to avoid war with Pakistan."

### Fireworks blaze kills 120 in Peru

At least 120 people are reported to have been killed and many more injured after fire swept through a shopping centre in the Peruvian capital, Lima.

The fire broke out at about 200 local time (0100 GMT) as the centre was packed with shoppers buying fireworks for the New Year celebrations.

## US seeks Bin Laden's whereabouts

American-led forces pursued Osama bin Laden and clues to his whereabouts Saturday in a campaign President Bush said involved new tactics to "rout a new kind of enemy."

Two B1-b bombers struck a complex occupied by members of the fallen Taliban leadership that harbored bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorists, Major Brad Lowell of the U.S. Central Command said Saturday.

British and U.S. forces joined hundreds of Afghans in the search of caves of the former al-Qaida complex near Tora Bora, looking for documents and other

intelligence as well as al-Qaida that may still be hiding there.

And U.S. troops doubled to nearly 140 the number of Taliban and al-Qaida prisoners they detained for questioning or possible prosecution. From among thousands captured by Afghan fighters, the prisoners were selected for interrogation in the hopes they will give information about bin Laden, other terrorists or planned attacks.

In his last scheduled radio address of the year, Bush lauded progress made so far in the war on terrorism.

"The men and women of

## Argentine cabinet offers to quit

All the ministers in Argentina's week-old interim government have offered to resign following Friday night's violent protests over the country's financial turmoil.

Caretaker President, Adolfo Rodriguez Saa spent Saturday in emergency meetings with the cabinet, but it is not yet clear whether he has accepted the resignations.

He is now holding talks with the heads of the country's banks, and with regional governors, while he decides whether to accept his ministers' offer.

In a statement, the interim president condemned Friday's violence, when tens of thousands took to the streets. Many of the protesters believe that several senior members of the cabinet are responsible for the crisis, and are calling for their removal.

BBC correspondent in Buenos Aires said the mass resignation will give Mr. Rodriguez Saa space to manoeuvre, allowing him to choose whether to sack the least popular ministers.

The US President, George W. Bush, telephoned Mr. Rodriguez Saa shortly after a government spokesman announced the resignations.

Mr. Bush urged the Argentine leader to work closely with the International Monetary Fund and other financial institutions to develop "a sustainable economic plan".

With more meetings planned to thrash out rescue measures for the

béleaguered economy, Mr. Rodriguez Saa called on the Argentine people to be patient with his administration.

The interim government was appointed a week ago, after 27 people died in riots which forced the resignation of former President Fernando de la Rúa.

The president's top adviser, Carlos Grosso, was singled out in Friday's protests, for alleged corruption during a stint as Mayor of Buenos Aires under former President Carlos Menem. Mr. Grosso stepped down earlier in the day.

## ODD WORLD

### Ecuadorans end year 'burning' Bush, Bin Laden

Osama bin Laden and President Bush will share the same fiery fate this New Year's Eve in Ecuador — or at least their likenesses will.

Every year, this small Andean country satirizes the year's loathed — and loved — politicians and TV personalities by dressing up giant dolls in their image and setting them aflame as the clock strikes midnight.

Streets are already decked with cardboard masks bearing images of bin Laden's narrow, bearded face and Bush's rosy cheeks as Ecuadorans gear up for the age-old New Year's tradition to literally burn out the old and usher in the new.

Bush and bin Laden top this year's list of favourites, surpassing Ecuador's own President Gustavo Noboa and a host of allegedly corrupt politicians, many living abroad to avoid court charges.

### Lizard thieves bag three weeks jail term

After being smuggled into Singapore, the Australian native was stolen from the local zoo by three men who bundled him into a bag and offered him for sale on the Internet to make a quick buck. The exotic reptile is worth about \$490 (about N63,700).

The frilled-neck lizard, a protected species that displays a distinctive ruffle around the head when upset, is back in safe hands and the thieves will spend three weeks behind bars, a zoo spokesman told Reuters on Friday.

"The lizard is shrouded with bad things, shrouded with things that are against the law," Robin Goh of the Singapore Zoo said.

Police nabbed the culprits last year after posing as potential buyers. A district judge sentenced Mohamed Jeffry Mansoor, Hairul Hakim Mustafa and Aloysius Lim to the jail term this week.

### Military tanks for war against karaoke bars

Prime Minister, Hun Sen, who has launched a stern crackdown on Cambodia's nightlife, unveiled a new punishment Wednesday for rogue karaoke bars — destruction by tanks.

"If we know of any karaoke parlour still open, go to close it immediately and take tanks to knock it down," Hun Sen told a military commander during a speech broadcast on state radio.

Last month Hun Sen ordered thousands of nightclubs, discotheques and karaoke parlours to close in a nationwide crackdown on vice.

The move sparked protests from thousands of people who said their livelihoods had been destroyed.

### Afghan women fall for western fashion

Beneath the billowing folds of her sky-blue burqa, a young Afghan woman revealed an immaculately tailored purple silk trouser leg, hemmed in gold braid and neatly tapered around the ankle.

Beside her, a loosely veiled companion struts out in a pair of brand new white leather high heeled shoes beneath a sleek skirt of rich green satin.

After five years of Taliban rule, when the burqa shrouded women from head to toe and tailors were not allowed to measure female clients, Kabul's fashion industry has been reborn.

"They're not interested in the styles from 2000, they want 2001," said Salah with all the camp enthusiasm of an Afghan Jean Paul Gaultier.

"They're going for tight-fitting trouser-suits, sculpted jackets and long, figure-hugging skirts," he said. "I even made a cropped top for one client that left her midriff completely bare."

"It was really special."

NEWS

Attempt on Ugochukwu's life: NDDC top shot arrested

A former senior officer with the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) has been arrested in Port Harcourt in respect of last week's attempt on the life of Chief Onyema Ugochukwu.

The Rivers State Police Commissioner, Mr. Bamidele Thomas, while briefing the press, revealed that the suspect is being held at the State Criminal and Investigation Department (SCID).

Against public outcry that the police had refused the suspect bail, the police chief said the suspect was being held over allegation of being in possession of substance suspected to be India hemp besides the attempt on Ugochukwu's life.

He said police had completed its investigations on the assassination attempt and has found some implicating evidence against the former NDDC officer but could not grant his bail until NDLEA come for him. He also stated that if the drug agency refuses to surface, the suspect would be charged to court "and if the court grant him bail then nobody would turn around and blame us for not doing our job," he said.

Chief Ugochukwu, the helms man of NDDC, had written a petition to the police alleging plot to assassinate him and prayed the police to thoroughly investigate the matter as "it is very serious."



Musiliu Smith, IGP

Gov Turaki advises citizens on development

The Jigawa State Governor, Alhaji Ibrahim Saminu Turaki, has advised citizens of the state to intensify efforts in ensuring that the state attains the height of development in the country.

Alhaji Saminu made the call at a reception held in honour of Ambassador (Dr.) Ahmad Baita Yusuf in

From Yusha'u Adamu Ibrahim, in Kano Ringim recently.

Turaki explained that the responsibility of building the state solely rests on their shoulders.

He commended Dr. Ahmad who has been the Executive Director of African Development Bank and Nigeria Ambassador

in the Philippines, Zcheck Republic and Thailand. Governor Saminu also commended the Ringim Emirate Forum for organising the reception and called on other well-meaning indigenes of the state to honour illustrious sons and daughters of their society.

In his response,

Ambassador Baita expressed delight for the honour done to him, and thanked the association for the gesture.

Earlier, the Emir of Ringim, Alhaji Sayyadi Abubakar Mahmoud Ringim, described Ambassador Baita as an obedient and dedicated man.

He called on people to form more meaningful associations, as through their activities good leadership would be realised.

Alhaji Sayyadi praised the Jigawa State government for its effort to improve the living standard of the people in the area.

The Igbo community in Niger State has honoured the governor of the state, Engineer Abdulkadir Kure, with a chieftaincy title.

Conferring the title of 'Ochendu Ndigbo (meaning Protector of Igbos) on the governor, the Igbo leader, Mr. Eze Pampas, said the honour was over-due in view of the governor's liberal disposition.

Mr. Pampas told a large gathering that the governor had extended his goodwill to the Timber community when their shops were razed in an inferno recently.

According to the community leader, Governor Kure also provided subsidy for their

children's school fees when the settlers complained generally to him about the high cost of education in the state.

The Igbo leader also commended the governor's assistance to Igbo people who have been forced by the operation of Sharia law to change their trade from beer selling to other businesses.

He explained that the Igbos were assisted financially to set up new businesses which "is a rare practice among the present generation of leaders."

Mr. Pampas said the

governor's respect for Igbo in the state and his consideration for their feelings had been underscored by his invitation of his Abia counterpart during the Sallah celebrations, saying this practice should be

emulated by other leaders.

Accepting the title, Engineer Kure expressed his gratitude to the Igbo community and said he will forever cherish the title.

He, however, called on the Igbos to be less business conscious and

involve themselves in political activities, as that is the only way that they could assert their rights.

Engineer Kure warned them, saying excessive passivity would do them no good if they missed out in future politics.

Igbo community honours Kure

From Kashim Sule, in Minna

Northern community bemoans Ige's death

As Nigerians remain confounded and stupefied by the assassination of the Minister of Justice and Attorney-General, Chief Bola Ige, in Ibadan, the Chairman of South-South and South Eastern States Northern Communities,

Alhaji Mohammed Ali Kwande (JP), has described the act as tragic for the country's young democracy.

Alhaji Kwande made the statement, at the weekend in Port Harcourt on behalf of all Northerners resident in the area.

According to him, "Ige's assassination is not only a test on the will and might of our security but also a threat to the country's young democracy."

Kwande described the late Ige as "a remarkable gentleman who always stood up to any situation with his constructive criticisms."

He asked the security operatives in the country to rise up to the challenge and unmask the killers of Bola Ige and bring whoever is responsible to book no matter how highly placed the person may be.

Kwande, who is also the Chairman, Rivers State Northern Community, described the late Ige as a rare breed in the legal practice. He urged the Nigerian Bar Association to join forces with the sole

aim of tracking down his killers.

"The Inspector-General of Police should use this case to prove himself and restore the lost of confidence members of the public have been having about them," he added.

Kwande advised President Olusegun Obasanjo to use all powers within his disposal to track down the killers of Ige for the peace of the nation, even as he advised political office seekers to eschew violence in their quest for political power, and reminded them that a nation that spill innocent blood is calling for the wrath of God.



Late Chief Bola Ige

Kano NULGE demands reconstitution of LG commission

The Quadrennial Delegate Conference held by the Kano State branch of NULGE has frowned at the abolition of the Local Government Service Commission in the state.

In a communiqué issued at the end of the conference and signed by the Kano State President of NULGE, Alhaji Ibrahim Khaled, and the state Secretary, Alhaji Muhammed Shu'aibu, NULGE demanded the reconstitution of the commission without further delay, noting that the action is retrogressive.

From Jamilah Nuhu Musa, in Kano

The communiqué observed that the local government commission was abolished as a result of creation of the Ministry of Local Government and that in other places where such ministries exist the commission still remains.

The conference also called for the reconstitution of the local government staff pension board for the improvement of pensioners' welfare at the local government level.

The communiqué then expressed appreciation to the Kwankwaso administration for the appointment of some of the

union members to exalted positions in the current political dispensations notably the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government, Secretary of the State Electoral Commission as well as members of boards and commissions.

The conference also elected officials to run the union's affairs for the next four years. They are Alhaji Ibrahim Khaleed as state president; Alhaji Abdullahi Alhaji Safiyanu Isa Rogo as Treasurer and Alhaji Tahir Nuhu as Trustee.

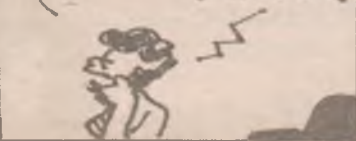
Others are Alhaji Ali Hassan as Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Auwalu Ibrahim Darki, Trustee and Alhaji Kailubi Tanko and Alhaji Abba Shari as Auditors.

RIGHT WAY

Sponsored by TMG/UNEAD Nigeria Project

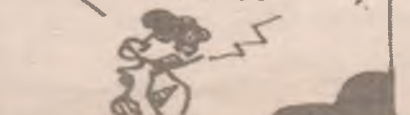
I'M SORRY JAKE, MY HUSBAND CAN'T ATTEND YOUR BIRTHDAY PARTY.

WHY FLORA?



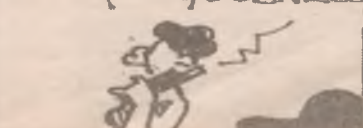
DURING YESTERDAY'S WARD ELECTION, THERE WAS A FIGHT BETWEEN HIM AND HIS OPPONENT AND THEIR THUGS.

OH NO!



MACHETES, JUJU, ACID, BROKEN BOTTLES AND DAGGERS WERE USED.

GOODNESS!



RIGHT NOW, MY HUSBAND IS AT IGBOBI HOSPITAL WITH 5 MISSING TEETH AND 2 COMPOUND FRACTURES



## End of year review

# Major national events in year 2001

The year 2001 will undoubtedly remain indelible in the annals of history given the series of events that shaped its 12 months. To a good number of people, the year 2001 will be remembered for its tragedies, crises, skirmishes and disasters which bedevilled the country. The year is captured here in retrospect.

**January 16**

There is a major cabinet reshuffle, which saw the dropping of 15 ministers.

**February 12**

Elder statesman, Ambassador Yusuf Jolly Tanko, passes on.

**February 13**

President Obasanjo endorses

By Simon Imobo-Tswam

Government Girl's Secondary School, GGSS, Pwolong in Mangu local government area of Plateau State die in a hostel fire.

**March 21**

Nigerian Labour Congress begins nationwide strike to

No fewer than 3,000 people flee their homes and 24 killed in communal clashes involving people in Nasarawa and Plateau States.

**April 11**

Senate confirms Senators Dr. Chuba Okadigbo, Haruna Abubakar, Gbenga Aluko guilty of financial impropriety in the senate.

**April 16**

Eight people belonging to the Brotherhood of Cross and Star burn to death in Illesa, Osun State, over allegation of "missing" organ.

**April 19**

No fewer than 10 persons feared dead as Mosque collapses in Mushin, Lagos.

**April 25**

The former Chief of Army Staff, Gen. Samuel Victor Leo Malu and two other service chiefs, Air Marshall Isaac Alfa (Airforce), and Vice-Admiral Victor Ombu (Navy) retired.

25 World leaders gather in Abuja for AIDS summit

**April 26**

Eight members of a family of nine killed when a building collapses in Dan Kufa Village in Tsafe LGA of Zamfara State, killing eight.

**May 10**

Three AD Senators, Wahab Dosunmu, Fidelis Okoro, Brimo Yemi Yusufu and Representative Gbolahan Okunneye decamp to the ruling PDP.

**May 23**

Kaduna State House of Assembly suspends 10 council chairmen over allegations of financial impropriety.

**May 13**

President Olusegun Obasanjo drops four cabinet ministers and appoints four new ones.

**June 13**

Special Adviser to the Nasarawa State governor and the traditional ruler of Azara community in Awe (Nasarawa State), Alh. Musa Ibrahim, is beheaded by unknown persons.

**June 20**

The speaker of the Kano State House of Assembly is impeached.

**June 28**

Transparency International ranks Nigeria as the second most corrupt nation in the world i.e after Bangladesh.

**July 2**

26 die in auto crash in Sabon Birnin local government area of



Kano riots

Sokoto State.

**July 17**

Kaduna Refinery becomes operational after several months of mal-functioning.

**August 8**

The United Nigeria Democratic Party (UNDP) launched.

**August 22**

The leader of the militant wing of outlawed Oodua Peoples Congress (OPC), Ganiyu Adams, is arrested after many months underground.

**August 27**

A Luxury bus plunges into a river in Kano State along Zaria-Kano road killing 49 on board.

**August 30**



Alhaji Kwatalo

The Federal Government refutes media reports of a coup attempt.

**Sept 4**

Alh. Suleiman Takuma passes on.

**Sept 7**

Sectarian and ethnic riots erupt in Jos, leaving hundreds of people dead.

**October 2**

Soldiers from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Armoured Brigade, Yola, in reprisal attacks over the killing of 19 soldiers, invade Gbeji, Vase, Iorja, Zaki-Biam, Tse-Adoor villages in Logo, Ukum and Katsina-Ala local government Areas of Benue State, killing hundreds and displacing thousands.

**October 15**

Anti-Federal Government demonstrations - turned religious

riots in Kano leave many people dead and property worth millions of naira destroyed.

**October 23**

Fresh fighting erupts in Nasarawa State.

**October 25**

Curfew imposed on Makurdi and Gboko, Benue State following riots over military invasion of some Benue State.

**Nov 1**

Federal Government proposes N843 billion for year 2002 budget.

**Nov 15**

Cholera epidemic hits Kano, State leaving about 250 people dead.

**Nov 17**

Drunken soldier runs amok, kills seven in a shooting spree in Kaduna State.

**Nov 21**

Jigawa State Deputy Governor, Alhaji Ibrahim Kwatalo resigns.

**Dec 23**

The Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of the Federation, assassinated Chief James Ajibola Ige, in his bedroom at his Ibadan residence.

**Dec 27**

27-year-old unidentified young man gives himself up as one of the assassins who killed the Justice Minister.

**Dec 28**

Senate convenes special session to review the Electoral Act.



Late Chief Bola Ige



Oputa

Sharia implementation in Northern states.

**February 14**

An outbreak of cholera claims the lives of 50 persons in Shagari local government area in Sokoto State.

**February 21**

Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) confirms use of ID card for 2003 general elections.

**February 26**

Obasanjo confirms fuel price increase.

**March 7**

23 female students of

protest government planned deregulation of the Petroleum sector.

**March 28**

Death is announced of Senator Adamu Baba Augie in an auto crash

Seven feared dead in clash between political thugs and Yandaba groups in Kano.

**April 3**

Court condemns three policemen with the Kogi Police Command to death by hanging for robbery and murder of five traders.

**April 9**



Aftermath of military reprisal in Tiv land

# End of year review

## Major International events in year 2001

The year 2001 has come and gone. The following are some notable events that shaped the year.

**January 16**

Laurent Kabila, the DR Congo warlord and president was shot by one of his bodyguards while meeting senior generals he has sacked. Exactly ten days after Laurents assassination, his son, Joseph, was named his successor.

**January 20**

George W. Bush was sworn in



President George Bush

as America's 43rd president.

**January 20**

The Philippines witnessed the collapse of Joseph Estrada's govt while Gloria Macapagal Aroyo took over same day

An earthquake shook the foundation of India's Gujarat killing no fewer than 30,000 people on January 26 sealing



After: A 90-hour operation in Kathmandu hospital in Singapore separated Nepali twin girls joined at the head, on April 9, 2001. The Singapore General Hospital where the complicated and delicate procedure took place says Ganga and Jamuna Shrestha are in good condition after the lengthy operation.

By Musa Aliyu

the month's disaster record.

**March 5**

Stampede in Mina during Hajj pilgrimage claimed the lives of 170 pilgrims mainly from Egypt, Algeria and Turkey

**April 1**

America's EP-ZE Aries II Spy plane made an emergency landing in Beijing after colliding with a Chinese fighter jet, killing



Bin Laden

its pilot.

**April 2**

Slobadan Milosevic was arrested.

**April 9**

Nepali Siamese twins joined at the head were separated by doctors in Singapore after a marathon 90-hour surgical operation.

Between April 26 and 27, World leaders converged in Abuja, Nigeria to discuss the means by which the monstrous HIV/AIDS scourge could be tackled. The conference was christened New African Initiative.

**May 1**

Great train robber, Ronnie Biggs returned to UK after a 35-year-exile in Brazil to face trial.

**May 25**

The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) was transformed to African Union.

**June 1**

King Birendra of Nepal, the Queen and several other members of the family were wiped out by Prince Direndra who eventually committed suicide.

Nkosi Johnson, the boy once described by former President Mandela, as the icon of the struggle against HIV finally gave up the ghost after a desperate battle.

**June 6**

Tony Blair was re-elected British Prime Minister.



Timothy Mcveigh

**June 8**

Mohammed Khatami of Iran also retained his post.

**June 11**

Timothy Mcveigh, the American convicted of Oklahoma bombing was put to death via lethal injection after he had defiantly issued a poem.

**July 3**

Yugoslavia's ex-leader, Slobadan Milosevic appeared in court over war crime charges.

**July 19**

Lord Jeffery Archer, millionaire



World Trade Center

writer was convicted of perjury and perverting the course of justice.

**July 20-22**

G8 meeting of most industrialised nations took place at Genoa, Italy amid protests by anti-globalisation crusaders.

**July 23**

Abdulrahman Waheed of



Joseph Kabila

Indonesia was impeached while Mrs. Megawati Sukarnoputri, former VP took over as president.

**August 25**

Aaliyah, an American R & B music star died in a plane crash.

**September 3-7**

World conference on racism held in Durban South Africa.

**September 6**

Commonwealth ministers met in Abuja to deliberate on the Zimbabwean land crisis.

**September 11**

World Trade Centre in New York and the Pentagon in Washington were attacked by suspected terrorists killing over 5,000 people.

**October 1**

Bangladesh elections took place bringing Mrs. Khaleda zia to power as Prime Minister.

**October 7**

US began military operations in Afghanistan, tagged 'war against terrorism'.

**November 9**

Algeria's day of catastrophe, as over 500 lives were lost to flood.

**December 20**

Leopold Sedar Senghor former Senegalese president, poet, writer and pan-Africanist died.

**December 22**

Hamid karzai was sworn in to head Afghanistan's 30-member interim govt.



Nkosi Johnson

# BUSINESS DAY

## Arnold Ekpe becomes new MD of UBA

United Bank for Africa (UBA) Plc. has announced the appointment of Mr. Arnold Ekpe as Managing Director and Chief Executive of the bank with effect from tomorrow, January 1, 2002.

A statement signed by Dr. Cabir Ahmed, head of corporate affairs division of UBA said Mr. Ekpe replaces Malam Abba Kyari, who retired voluntarily at the end of his year.

The statement further said Mr. Ekpe has engineering and Business Administration degrees from Manchester University and Manchester Business School respectively.

He has over twenty-one years banking experience and has worked in Nigeria, London, South and West Africa.

Before his appointment as the Managing Director and Chief Executive of United Bank for Africa Plc., he was the Group Managing

Director & Chief Executive of Ecobank Group, which has subsidiaries in twelve countries in West Africa, including Nigeria.

Meanwhile, the former UBA MD, Malam Abba Kyari who is proceeding on his retirement had served as the bank's managing director since 1997 when he took over from Mr. L. E. Okafor.

UBA Plc is one of the leading financial institutions in the country with a network of 223 branches across the country, including two offshore branches in the United States of America.

The bank, which was incorporated in February 23, 1961 was the first of the international banks operating in Nigeria at the time to be registered under Nigerian law.

## Ciroma signs debt reschedule agreement today

By Ahmed Shekarau

The Minister of Finance, Malam Adamu Ciroma, will today in Abuja, on behalf of the Federal Republic of Nigeria sign the recently approved Debt Reschedule Agreement with the Federal Republic of Germany.

A statement issued by the Debt Management Office (DMO) and signed by Malam Nasir M. Mahmoud, said officials of the German government will sign on behalf of their country.

The statement said the signing ceremony will take place at the conference room of the Ministry of Finance at

10.00a.m.

It will be recalled that the Federal Executive Council at its meeting of Wednesday, December 19, 2001 approved three debt reschedule agreements with Germany, Switzerland and Austria.

This followed an agreement reached between Nigeria and the three creditor nations after series of meetings between officials of the DMO and representatives of these countries.

Meanwhile, the Director-General of the

DMO, Mr. Akin Arikawe has urged all members of staff to rededicate themselves and intensify their efforts towards achieving the corporate objectives of the DMO.

Speaking at a reception tagged "DMO Family Day", to mark the end of year 2001, the Director-General called on all categories of staff to redouble their efforts as the organisation's work is increasing by the day.

The DG recalled that the Hon. Minister of Finance, Malam Adamu Ciroma had while presenting council memos on Debt Reschedule

Agreements on behalf of DMO commended the Debt Management Office for its efforts to address the nation's debt burden."



Adamu Ciroma, Finance Minister.

## Yahaya bags ICEN fellowship

The Institute of Corporate Executives of Nigeria (ICEN) has conferred its highest membership grade of fellowship on the Chairman/Chief Executive of NUB International Bank Limited, Alhaji Muhammad Imam Yahaya.

Alhaji Yahaya, who was last week conferred with the distinguished national honours award of Officer of the Federal Republic (OFR), was the immediate past Group Managing Director and Chief Executive of Union Bank of Nigeria Plc.

A statement issued by Mr. Aliu M. Akoshile, head of NUB's corporate affairs reported the letter conveying the conferment of the fellowship on the NUB chief executive as stating that, the institute award was in recognition of Alhaji Yahaya's enviable achievements in the last three decades of his public service career in the banking industry.

"We have noted with admiration your management expertise, track record of excellence, proficiency on corporate matters, devotion to service, efficient leadership style and public spiritedness," said the institute.

NOW YOU'VE GOT THE  
Right Business  
Connection  
in Cotonou

DIAMOND BANK S.A.

Rue 308, Révérend Pere  
Colineau, Cotonou, Bénin

Doing business in a foreign land can be a challenging experience.  
But all that is now history especially for those Nigerians doing business in Cotonou.  
Whatever your business needs, you're assured of a friend on either side of the border.

Diamondbank  
...the commercial bank to treasure

HEAD OFFICE: Plot 1261, Adeola Hopewell Street, P.O. Box 70381, Victoria Island, Lagos.  
Tel: 01-2620740-7. Fax: 01-2619728. Telex: 28134/28135 DBAN NG. E-mail: info@diamondbank.com. Website: http://www.diamondbank.com

# BUSINESS \$ DAY

## Nigerian Stock Dealings (NSE) Price List as at Friday (28/12/2001)

COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE	DEALS	VOLUME	VALUE
7UP	4.80	4.90	0.10	8	27,480	134,260.00
AFPRINT	0.80	0.83	0.03	4	19,856	16,475.50
AFRIBANK	8.71	9.00	0.29	25	81,130	718,267.35
AGIP	34.30	33.00	1.30	22	72,467	2,427,628.30
AGLEVENT	0.92	0.91	0.01	5	35,425	32,238.25
AP	19.34	19.34	0.00	7	5,740	111,011.60
ASHAKACEM	20.90	19.90	1.00	48	477,450	9,559,395.00
AVONCROWN	0.92	0.92	0.00	3	6,017	5,535.64
BERGER	2.60	2.60	0.00	3	8,000	20,800.00
CADBURY	30.00	30.30	0.30	61	280,376	8,487,011.59
CFAO	3.50	3.50	0.00	6	115,100	402,850.00
CHARTERED	4.35	4.34	0.01	3	771	3,353.65
CHELLARAM	1.78	1.86	0.08	1	300	558.00
CORNERST	1.55	1.62	0.07	7	106,805	167,224.10
CUTIX	2.66	2.66	0.00	1	1,100	2,926.00
DELTGLAS	5.00	5.01	0.01	1	1,003	5,175.33
DNMEYER	10.00	10.10	0.10	2	4,420	44,642.00
DUNLOP	3.35	3.20	0.15	16	66,223	214,309.55
EKOCORP	3.41	3.41	0.00	1	100	341.0
EVANSMED	1.55	1.50	0.05	1	5,429	8,143.50
FIRSTALUM	1.45	1.50	0.05	4	10,140	15,030.00
FIRSTBANK	23.60	23.32	0.28	148	1,394,499	33,078,711.93
FLOURMIL	16.35	16.35	0.00	22	119,053	1,951,920.58
FSB	8.39	8.30	0.09	95	15,705,184	128,871,046.62
GCAPPA	4.66	4.89	0.23	8	66,199	310,117.34
GUARANTY	6.50	6.55	0.05	48	666,986	4,337,208.20
GUINNESS	34.00	33.60	0.40	20	39,453	1,324,480.20
HALLBANK	3.70	3.55	0.15	3	24,000	85,200.00
IGL	4.30	4.35	0.05	2	1,908	8,299.80
IMB	1.02	1.05	0.03	15	1,864,030	1,871,999.00
INLANDBANK	1.19	1.91	0.00	1	26,000	30,940.00
IPW	1.20	1.20	0.00	1	1000	120,000
JBERGER	44.01	44.01	0.00	2	3,583	157,687.83
JOHNHOLT	2.09	2.19	0.10	9	366,955	785,402.45
LASACO	1.64	1.64	0.00	1	4,000	6,560.00
LEVBROS	27.20	27.17	0.03	41	108,876	2,949,499.87
LONGMAN	5.16	5.00	0.19	4	10,500	52,500.00
MAY&BAKER	2.60	2.50	0.10	2	9,400	23,500.00
MOBIL	65.00	63.20	1.80	34	82,613	5,237,092.80
NAL	3.57	3.74	0.17	21	78,329	286,949.53
NB	35.00	35.00	0.00	44	204,347	7,131,252.80
NBC	26.07	27.30	1.23	32	53,463	1,446,532.65
NESTLE	64.00	64.00	0.00	9	8,400	537,600.00
NIGERCWM	0.54	0.54	0.00	1	1,000	540.00
NIGERINS	4.33	4.33	0.00	1	2,000	8,660.00
NNFM	9.50	9.50	0.00	2	833	7,913.50
NOLCHEM	27.90	28.40	0.50	16	268,568	7,511,117.45
OKOMUOIL	9.45	9.92	0.47	2	4,348	43,085.16
OWENABANK	2.35	2.34	0.01	10	171,612	405,636.92
PRESTIGE	2.15	2.15	0.00	1	100	215.00
PZ	10.60	11.00	0.40	18	31,470	337,718.70
ROYALEX	4.28	4.07	0.21	8	20,000	81,400.00
RTBRISCOE	3.39	3.38	0.01	1	949	3,207.62
SAVANNA	0.94	0.98	0.04	5	71,500	67,110.00
SCOA	2.65	2.65	0.00	1	200	530.00
SKBEECHAM	2.05	2.05	0.00	1	3,588	7,355.40
TEXACO	62.50	64.96	2.46	6	4,754	299,347.00
TIB	2.18	2.18	0.00	1	200,000	436,000.00
TOTAL	67.21	70.50	3.29	17	27,505	1,898,100.28
TRADEBANK	1.19	1.19	0.00	1	5,000	5,950.00
TRIPLEG	1.02	1.07	0.05	12	140,000	141,850.00
UAC-PROP	4.40	4.62	0.22	17	228,110	1,048,770.00
UACN	3.70	3.60	0.10	47	312,550	1,130,549.00
UBA	11.00	11.10	0.10	56	269,384	2,967,854.00
UBN	24.91	24.91	0.00	27	61,416	1,529,872.56
UNIC	1.56	1.56	0.00	12	47,236	75,051.60
UNIDONDCON	16.32	17.10	0.78	4	5,000	85,500.00
UNIPETROL	50.00	52.50	2.50	43	78,315	3,994,605.00
UNTL	4.00	4.00	0.00	2	8,000	32,000.00
UTB	3.05	3.05	0.00	8	101,780	309,561.20
UTC	0.99	0.99	0.00	2	7,000	6,930.00
VANLEER	3.00	3.15	0.15	1	5,000	15,750.00
VITAFOAM	4.40	4.30	0.10	40	112,069	489,128.60
WAPCO	23.00	22.98	0.02	9	28,475	653,296.86
WAPIC	2.01	2.01	0.00	5	74,349	148,360.03
WEMABANK	3.57	3.70	0.13	19	99,772	365,224.68
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>1,187</b>	<b>24,555,037</b>	<b>236,696,989.22</b>

## Nigerian Stock Dealings (NSE) Gainers/Losers as at Friday (28/12/2001)

Gainers			
COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE
TOTAL	67.21	70.50	3.29
UNIPETROL	50.00	52.50	2.50
TEXACO	62.50	64.96	2.46
NBC	26.07	27.30	1.23
UNIONDICON	16.32	17.10	0.78
NOLCHEM	27.90	28.40	0.50
OKOMUOIL	9.45	9.92	0.47
PZ	10.60	11.00	0.40
CDBURY	30.00	30.30	0.30
AFRIBANK	8.71	9.00	0.29
GCAPPA	4.66	4.89	0.23
UAC-PROP	4.40	4.62	0.22
NAL	3.57	3.74	0.17
VANLEER	3.00	3.15	0.15
WEMABANK	3.57	3.70	0.13
JOHNHOLT	2.09	2.19	0.10
7UP	4.80	4.90	0.10
CHAEELLARAM	1.78	1.86	0.08
CORNERST	1.55	1.62	0.07
IGL	4.30	4.35	0.05
TRIPLEG	1.02	1.07	0.05
FIRSTALUM	1.45	1.50	0.05
SAVANNA	0.94	0.98	0.04
IMB	1.02	1.05	0.03
AFPRINT	0.80	0.83	0.03

Losers			
COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE
MOBIL	85.00	63.20	1.80
AGIP	34.30	33.00	1.30
ASHAKACEM	20.90	19.60	1.00
GUINNESS	34.00	33.60	0.40
FIRSTBANK	23.60	23.32	0.28
ROYALEX	4.28	4.07	0.21
LONGMAN	5.19	5.00	0.19
HALLBANK	3.70	3.55	0.15
DUNLOP	3.35	3.20	0.15
UACN	3.70	3.60	0.10
MAY&BAKER	2.60	2.50	0.10
VITAFOAM	4.40	4.30	0.10
FSB	8.39	8.30	0.09
EVANSMED	1.55	1.50	0.05
LEVBROS	27.20	27.17	0.03
WAPCO	23.00	22.98	0.02
CHARTERED	4.35	4.34	0.01
RTBRISCOE	3.39	3.38	0.01
OWENABANK	2.35	2.34	0.01
AGLEVENT	0.92	0.91	0.01

Summary of Transactions			
	OPENING	CLOSING	% AGE CHANGE
MKT. CAP.	641,581,271,865.84	644,880,451,293.12	0.51
INDEX	10,846.99	10,902.76	0.51
DEALS	VOLUME	VALUE	No. OF COMPANIES
1,187	24,555,037	236,696,989.22	76

Source: NSE, Abuja Area Office

## The bulls take on lead at NSE

Trading reports collected from Abuja Area Office of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) on Friday, indicated that a total of 24.56 million shares valued at N236.97 million in 1,187 deals were traded on the floors of the exchange.

There were no transactions in the Industrial Loans/Preference Stocks sector and the Federal Government Development stocks sector.

### Price Movement:

The Nigerian Stock Exchange All-Share Index closed that day at 10,902.76 an increase of 0.51 percent. The index opened at 10,846.99, while the market capitalisation closed at N644.88 billion, a decrease of 0.51 percent, it opened at N641.58 billion.

The bears lost on the floor with a total of 20 companies losing and 25 companies gaining in their share prices.

Gains were recorded in the Petroleum Marketing, Food/Beverages & Tobacco, Agriculture, Conglomerates, Banking, Construction, Real Estate, Packaging, Commercial/services, Insurance, Industrial/Domestic Products, Computer and Office Equipment and the Textiles sub sectors.

Total Plc led the price gainers, as it appreciated by 329 kobo each to close the day at N70.50 per share followed by Unipetrol Plc, which appreciated by 250 kobo to close at N52.50 per share.

Other price gainers include Texaco (246 kobo); NBC (123 kobo); Uniondicon (78 kobo); Nolchem (50 kobo); Okomu oil (47 kobo); PZ (40 kobo); Cadbury (30 kobo); Afribank (29 kobo); Geappa (23 kobo); UAC-Prop (22 kobo); NAL (17 kobo); Vanleer (15 kobo) and Wemabank (13 kobo).

Losses were recorded in the Petroleum Marketing, Building Materials, Breweries, Banking, Insurance, Printing and Publishing, Automobile & Tyre, Conglomerates, Healthcare and the industry/Domestic Products sub sectors.

Mobil Plc led the price losers, dropping by 180 kobo to close at N63.20 per share, followed by Agin Plc, which lost 130 kobo, to close at N33.00 per share.

Other price losers include Ashakacem (100 kobo); Guinness (40 kobo); Firstbank (28 kobo); Royalex (21 kobo); Longman (19 kobo); Hallbank and Dunlop (15 kobo apiece); UACN, May&Baker and Vitafoam (10 kobo apiece); FSB (9 kobo); Evansmed (5 kobo); Levbros (3 kobo); WAPCO (2 kobo) and Chartered, Rtrbriscoe, Owenabank and Aglevent (1 kobo apiece).



**ADMISSION INTO PAN TRAINING COLLEGE  
MODERN APPRENTICESHIP IN PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES (MAPT)  
LIST OF SHORT LISTED CANDIDATES.**



The following candidates were successful in the entrance examination conducted on 1st November, 2001 for the admission of fresh Technical school leavers into our Technical College in Kaduna.

They are therefore being invited for oral interview and Medical tests on **Monday 28 January 2002.**

Venue: **PAN Technical Training College, Kaduna.**

The interview commences at 8.00am and may last the whole day..

Candidates are therefore advised to be punctual. They should bring along with them original copies of their academic certificates, birth certificates two recent passport photographs and other relevant credentials.

S/NO	EXAM. NO.	SURNAME	OTHER NAMES	CONTACT ADDRESS
1.	A007	SA'AD	MUKTAR AHMAD	NO. 149 SARKIN HATSI STREET OFF HADEJIA ROAD KANO, P.O BOX 12528 KANO
2	A011	ADAMU	DANIEL YASHIM	E.C.W.A. CHURCH U/MU'AZU P.O.BOX 7718, KADUNA
3	A014	AVONG	ISHAKU	C/O MR BONAT AVONG UNT PLC P.O. BOX 365, KADUNA SOUTH
4	A036	MBONU	TITUS	C/O JOHNSON ELUMAH, PAN LTD. PMB 2159, KADUNA
5	A037	PATRICK	JOSIAH	GOVT. SEC. SCHOOL, KASUWAN MAGANI P.O.BOX 6 (SIX)
6	A040	ALAGIA	PATRICK	5, OLAIDE BENSON STREET ONIGBOGBO MARYLAND, IKEJA LAGOS
7	A043	JIMOH	SALIHU OVANSA	C/O MALLAM MOHAMMED A. IBRAHIM, PRINTING DEPT. C.S.T, PMB 2021 KADUNA POLYTECHNIC
8	A045	HASSAN	SOLOMON	C/O MRS. S. HASSAN NOK, MINISTRY OF EDUCATIONAL, ZONAL OFFICE, S/TASHA, KADUNA SOUTH.
9	A072	UMARU	MUHAMMAD	C/O MOHAMMAD ONIPE, TOWER GALVANISED PRODUCTS L.T.D PMB 2213 KADUNA
10	A073	ALFA	MOHAMMED	IGALA MUSLIM ASSOCIATION P.O.BOX 265, KAKURI, KADUNA
11	A075	OKERUEMU	JOSEPH	C/O MR ANTHONY KEREKUKE, BAY SPECIALIST HOSPITAL P.O.BOX 1013, MINNA, NIGER STATE
12	A076	DABARA	YASHIM TANKO	C/O KASSAH ILIYA ABET COMMERCIAL DIV. PAN LTD, KADUNA
13	A079	MURITALA	ADUL HAKEEM LEKAN	NO. 11 GOBIR'S COMPOUND SOBI ROAD, AWODI, KWARA STATE
14	A081	NINYIO	ABRAHAM KENNETH	E.C.W.A CHURCH, U/MU'AZU P.O.BOX 7718 KADUNA
15	A082	YUSUF	IBRAHIM	NO.51 ISHAKU ROAD, MALALI G.R.A . PMB 7149, KADUNA
16	A086	PAUL	JONATHAN	C/O TINÀ PETER (MRS) UNION BANK PLC, MARKET BRANCH, JOS
17	A088	MADAKI	ABRAHAM	N.E.P.A DISTRICT OFFICE PMB 2079 AHMADU BELLO WAY KADUNA
18	A089	BASHIR	AMINU	ALH. JA'AFARU SAIDU, AGM PHYSICAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT K.S.D.P.C KADUNA
19	A092	ADELAYE	DAVID OLUFEMI	C/O MR. PHILLIP ADELAYE, SUPERTEX LTD. KADUNA
20	A093	ACHI	MUGU	NO. 25 CEMETARTY ROAD, SABON GARI ZARIA, KADUNA
21	A098	ADIKWU	OJONIMI JOHN	C/O MRS. SALOME ADIKWU PMB 2021, KADUNA POLYTECHNIC
22	A100	YAKUBU	ILIYA	C/O MICHAEL ATAMA-MANAGER, TECH. SERVICES (K.S.T.V) K.S.M.C KADUNA
23	A107	UDE	JUDE	NO.38 HAUSAWA ROAD, BEHIND DE-FRIENDSHIP HOTET, TELEVISION
24	A108	SHADARI	ADAMS	C/O ENGINEER HABILA SAMAILA, SAMAILA CONSULTANTS, POBOX 10456, KADUNA
25	A115	SULE	CLEMENT OKHAI	C/O MR. INNOCENT IKE, PAN LTD. KADUNA
26	B267	AFUWAI	IBRAHIM	C/O MR. DIGGA NATHAN, TECHNICAL COLLEGE MALALI KADUNA
27	B275	JOSHUA	AKILA	C/O REVEREND MUSA MATO E.C.W.A. CHURCH UNGWAN PANMA, SABON TASHA KADUNA
28	B286	AYUBA	HUSSANIN	C/O JONATHAN ESANGBEDO QUALITY COTROL PAN LTD. KAUNA
29	B307	DANIEL	DONATUS DOJWAN	COCIN SABON-GARI TRIKANIA KADUNA
30	B310	BELLO	BASHIR MOHAMMED	C/O IBRAHIM ABDULLAHI C.S. ENG'G LTD.P.O.BOX5002 KADUNA
31	B311	YAKUBU	JOSHUA	E.C.W.A GOSPEL CHURCH P.O.BOX4783 OR MR ABRAHAM JATAU PAN LTD KADUNA
32	B317	LUKA	LYNDA	C/O P.N.O. SARAH LUKA BARAU DIKKO SPECIALIST HOSPITAL KADUNA
33	C501	SANYAOLU	A. BABATUNDE	C/O MR. ADEBANJO, GOVT. TECHNICAL COLLEGE, P.M.B. 1011, IKORODU LAGOS
34	C542	NWEKE	PETER I.	KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES, P.O.BOX 1742 KAWO - KADUNA
35	C549	SANUSI	LATEEF OLAREWAJU	PLOT 201, IDOWU AJAO ROAD, AJAO ESTATE, ANTHONY VILLAGE, LAGOS
36	C589	MRS S.O. OJORO	ONIMISI IDRIS	C/O NO. B15 IBRAHIM TAIWO ROAD, OPP. PEOPLE'S BANK, KADUNA
37	D754	SOLOMON	JOSEPH	NO. 36 ONOJA ROAD, BARKIN LADI L.G.C.OR 1ST BAPTIST CHURCH P.O.BOX 17 BARKIN LADI, JOS, PLATEAU STATE
38	D794	UMADEH	IDOKO JOSEPH	C/O MR. J.A. IBRAHIM (STORE A) PAN LTD. KADUNA
39	D798	SALIHU	MUKTAR MAIKARFI	C/O ZAKARIYA'U YUSUF TRAINING DIVISION, PAN LTD. KADUNA
40	D802	OKPE	FRIDAY IBKWE	C/O FELX AMAECHI, NIG. BREWERIES LTD. PMB 2116, KADUNA
41	D822	STEPHEN	LIVINUS BAGUDU	AUTA STREET, TELEVISION, KADUNA STATE
42	D837	SILAS	EZEKIEL	C/O OLAJIDE D. OLADELE, ADMIN. DEPT. PAN LTD. KADUNA
43	D852	JOHN HASSAN	GODWIN	QQ 27 BLOCK C, IRI STREET, U/KADARA, SABON TASHA, KADUNA
44	D857	ACHI	PETER	E.C.W.A GOSPEL CHURCH KAKURI, KADUNA
45	D860	GAIYA GIDEON	ANDREW	C/O AMOS ISHAYA, TAWALI'U BAPTIST CHURCH, P.O.BOX 4041 NASSARAWA, KADUNA
46	D864	MESHACK	HELDA ABU	C/O ALH. USMAN H.B.(SM) NITEL, NORTH-WEST ZONAL HQ. KADUNA
47	D879	LAWAL	RASHEED ILORI	UMAR BIN KHATAB ISLAMIC CENTRE, P.O.BOX 4703 KADUNA

This space is for sale



Edited by Kevin Ebele Adinnu



Razed New Wuse Market



...rebuilt

Useful addresses in Abuja

Page 18

Hope rises on Nyanya-Keffi Road

Page 19

## Traders rebuild market with inflammable materials

Barely one month after fire razed the new Wuse Market, traders in the market have rebuilt their shops with the same inflammable materials like pieces of wood and roofing sheets which made it difficult to put out the fire.

When *Abuja Trust* visited the market over the weekend, most of the traders had already commenced business in their shops making it difficult to identify the area razed by fire.

According to the Chairman of the Environmental Protection Committee of the market, Mallam Abdullahi Muhammed, the reconstruction work was being undertaken by traders affected by the inferno.

The government, he added, has not offered any form of financial assistance to the traders for reconstruction of their stalls.

The traders who themselves were eager to resume trading activities in the market could not wait for any form of aid from the government.

Said the chairman: "We went to the Abuja Municipal

By Yakubu Ozohu-Suleiman

Area Council to request for government plan for the market and possible financial assistance but we were told that the government was making arrangement to relocate the traders to either Idu or Gwarimpa or Monday market in Garki village."

The chairman added that the traders are composed dominantly of poor people who cannot afford to wait indefinitely for the government to execute its plan.

"Majority of the traders here have no option than to put up their tents again to resume trading activities

because they are poor people. They don't have any other means of getting income," he said.

"There is a rumour that the market area belongs to Dantata, but we are not sure of this. All we know is that a part of the land belongs to the government while a part does not. And the market is just a temporary arrangement.

"In fact we even demanded that if the government does not want to offer any financial assistance to the traders, they should give us their plan for the market so that the traders themselves will contribute money and construct it, but they refused," he added.

Most of the traders in the

Wuse new market, according to the chairman, were relocated from old Wuse market some time ago.

Said he: "Again they want to relocate the traders, but we know that even if they construct the Gwarimpa or Idu market, they would only give stalls to wives and relations of big men. The traders who actually have suffered in this market may not get any allocation. This is partly why they don't even want to wait for the government to put-up the damaged structures in this market."

The chairman lamented that rent for stalls in the old Wuse market is exorbitant.

"Ordinary attachment, just a small space in Old Wuse Market costs N5,000.00 per month. How many people can afford this, and how much can such trader make in a month as to be able to record profit?" the chairman added.

Some of the traders who spoke to *Abuja Trust* said that they had to resort to using the burnt roofing sheets to put up new stalls as they had run short of money due to the inferno.

Right now new stalls are being erected outside the fence of the market while trading activities have been extended to the roadside, causing severe traffic hold up in the area.

## Cleric stresses good family upbringing

Fr. Patrick Arowele, has called on Nigerians to pay more attention to the upbringing of their children, saying that most of the ills in the society have their roots from the family.

Arowele, Parish Priest of St. Luke's Catholic Church, Kubwa, Abuja, made the call in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) after a mass to mark the Family Day, celebrated in the Catholic Church yesterday.

He urged Nigerians to discipline themselves and to give their children a good moral upbringing if the ills in the country must be reduced, adding "it is fundamental in fighting crime in the society.

"If a child has a good upbringing no matter what you do to lure him into crime you will hardly succeed because majority will say, I don't want to stain my family's name," he said.

"It is true that some go into crime because of the

suffering in the society, especially unemployment, but even at that, most of them would prefer to keep the image of their family intact than to allow suffering to push them into committing crime," he said.

Earlier in the sermon, Arowele had stressed the importance of love, tolerance and reconciliation in the families. He called on families to emulate the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph in the scriptures, saying "husbands should love their wives as Christ loves the church and wives should respect and obey their husbands as the church obeys Christ."

Arowele called on children to obey their parents, point out that they would receive endless blessings for doing so.

He urged the parents to try their best to perform their responsibilities toward their children warning that "you should not drive your children to resentment or they will feel

frustrated."

A mother, Mrs. Beatrice Ezeobi, who said that the sermon touched her personally, advised Nigerians to learn how to forgive one another and allow harmony to reign in their families.

Mr. Simon Abah, a father, urged all husbands to love their wives because it was a command of the Lord and

## Gwagwalada organises workshop for birth attendants

A two-day workshop for traditional birth attendants has ended in Gwagwalada Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory.

Addressing the participants at the closing ceremony, the chairman of the Area Council, Alhaji Isa Ega Dobi urged them to put into use the experience acquired during the training.

The chairman, represented by the

also because of the understanding that women were the weaker sex.

A youth, Sandra Do, urged other youths to be obedient to their parents, adding "I believe that our parents love us very well and would not mislead us because they want us to be great."

Supervisory Councillor for Health, Mallam Usman Loma, said that the council was making necessary efforts to equip all the existing health care institutions managed by the area council.

The workshop was organised to ensure safe motherhood among women living in the rural areas.

Birth attendant materials were distributed to the participant, which included drugs, cotton wool and disinfectants.



Engr. Abba-Gana

# Abuja Trust

News you can use

## Useful addresses in Abuja Banks and other financial institutions

**Trans International Bank Plc.**  
Tofa House, Plot 770  
Opp National Mosque  
Central Area Business District,  
Abuja Tel 09-5234249  
**Triumph Merchant Bank**  
Herbert Marcuway Way  
Zone 6, Wuse District  
P.O. Box 150J,  
Abuja Tel 09-52331/4-5  
**Standard Trust Bank Limited**  
Plot 832, Adetokumbo Ademola Crescent  
Off Ahmadu Bello Way  
Zone A8 Wuse II

P. O. Box 8800  
Abuja  
Tel 09-5234889-10  
**Union Bank Nigeria Plc**  
(Garki Branch Office & Area Office)  
J.S. Tarka Street,  
Area 3 Garki- Abuja  
Tel 09-2341141  
**ii (Central Business. Distret Branch Office)**  
Plot 272/273, UAC Plaza  
Central Area Business

District, Abuja.  
**United Bank for Africa Plc (UBA)**  
(Garki Branch Office & Area Office)  
Kaura-Namoda Street,  
Area 3  
Garki P O Box 170  
Abuja Tel 09-2341435  
**ii UBA(Cash point)**  
Nicon Hilton Hotel  
Maitama Abuja  
Tel 09-5231811  
**iii UBA (Cash point)**

Abuja Sheraton Hotel  
Tel 09-5230225.  
**Tropical Commercial Bank**  
Plot 643 Abeokuta Street  
Area 8, Galki -Abuja  
Tel 09-2344173-5.  
**Universal Trust Bank of Nigeria**  
Plot 443 Jos Street  
Area 3 Garki Abuja  
PMB.365  
Tel: 09-2346624-7  
**Wema Bank Plc**  
Wema Bank Building  
Central Business District  
Near PTF Office, Abuja  
Tel 09.5234820  
**ii Wema Bank**  
Old Wuse Market Branch

Zone 6 Wuse, Abuja  
**Zenith International Bank Limited**  
Usuma Street, Maitama District  
PMB 5019, Abuja  
Tel 09.5231846, 5231841-2  
**Nigeria Export and Import Bank (NEXIM)**  
Plot 795, off Ibrahim Babangida Way,  
Central Area Business District  
PMB 332, Abuja  
Tel: 09-2346141-50  
**Aso Savings & Loans Limited**  
8, Ogbomosho Street  
Area 8Garki  
P.M.B.332, Abuja  
Tel 09-234516-8  
**Nigerian Deposit Insurance Corporation**  
Plot 447/448 Central Business District  
Airport Road,  
P.M.B 284, Abuja  
Tel 09-5231710-21  
**Urban Development Bank Plc**  
Zone 6, Wuse District  
P.M.B. 272, Abuja  
**Peoples' Bank of Nigeria**  
Plot 2A Herbert Marcuway Way  
P.M.B. 5041, Abuja  
Tel: 09-528212-3  
Central Bank of Nigeria  
Zaria Street Off Ladegoke Akinto  
Boulevard Garki  
P.M.B. 187, Abuja  
**Union Trust (Mortgage Bankers)**  
Wuse II (Near ECWA Church) Abuja  
**Equitable Life, Merchantile Assurance Company (ELMAC)**

Plot 1207 Obafemi Awolowo Street Area 11, Garki  
P.O. Box 5372,  
Abuja Tel: 09-2344729  
**Niger Insurance Plc**  
Plot 1207 Obafemi Awolowo Street  
Area 11, Garki  
P.O. Box 2241 Abuja.  
Tel: 09-2343075, 2345600  
**Corporate Alliance & General Insurance**  
Plot 662A Aba Close  
Area 8, Garki  
P. O. Box 2246, Abuja  
Tel: 09-2344967  
**Central Insurance Company Limited**  
Plot 661 Aba Close  
Area 8, Garki  
P.M.B. 443, Abuja  
Tel 09-2346447  
**Fidelity Bond of Nigeria**  
(Insurance & Re-insurance Broker)  
Plot 659 Lokoja Street  
Area 8, Garki  
P.O.Box 3246, Abuja  
Tel: 09-2345016  
**Nigerian Agricultural Insurance Corporation (NAIC)**  
Plot 590  
Zone Area Central Area District  
P.O. Box 3754  
Tel 09-2342820, 2342071  
**National Insurance Corporation of Nigeria (NICON)**  
Abuja Head Office, Plot 4 SfaX Street  
Off Herbert Marcuway Way  
Zone 4, Wuse District, Abuja.  
Tel: 09-5237120

Just arrived Abuja? Are you bothered about where to relax and organise yourself? Below are some of the hotels, suites and guest houses in the city, depending on the depth of your pocket:

## Where to stay in Abuja

Rate/Standard Room	Hotel/Guest House	Address
N1,000 - N3,000 per night	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Duhu Guest Inn. Ltd.</li> <li>Amanda Guest Inn.</li> <li>Elyte Guest Inn</li> <li>NUJ Motel</li> <li>A. Avision Hotel</li> </ol>	Plot 21/29, Ladi Kwali Way, Zone 4, Wuse Ibrahim Sani Abacha Estate, Wuse Zone 4, Zunguru Close, Off Jos Street, Area 3, Garki NUJ National Secretariat, Area II, Garki Plot 456, Kontagora Close, Area 3, Garki
N3,000 - N5,000 per night	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arewa Suites</li> <li>Dayspring Hotel</li> <li>Savannah Suite</li> <li>Ostra Guest House</li> </ol>	Central Business District, Tel: 52338925-3 Juba Street, Zone 6, Tel: 09-52338714-5 Area 3, Garki, Abuja. Tel: 09-2340090 Plot 860, Obajami Awolowo Street, Area II Garki 09-2342339, 2342343
N5,000 and above	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sheraton Hotel &amp; Towers</li> <li>Agura Hotel</li> <li>Bolingo Hotel &amp; Towers</li> <li>Chelsea Hotel</li> <li>Nicon Hilton</li> </ol>	Maitama, Abuja FCT., Tel: 09-52302325 Area 10, Garki. Tel: 09-2341758 Area 10, Garki. Tel: 09-2344701-00 Central Area, Abuja FCT. Maitama, Abuja. Tel: 09-4130801



### NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE CORPS NATIONAL DIRECTORATE HEADQUARTERS

#### NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE 2001/2002 CORPS MEMBERS

Notice is hereby served that all prospective corps members for the 2001/2002 service year should report at their various institutions beginning from Friday, 4th January 2002 to collect the counterfoil of their call-up letter before proceeding to the orientation camp.

Also corps members deployed to Taraba and Plateau States are to note that the orientation camps as previously announced have changed. The new venues are:

**Taraba State: Government College, Jalingo; and  
Plateau State: Police Training School, Zaria Road, Jos.**

The commencement date of the orientation course remains Monday, 7th January, 2002.

May God grant you all safe journey to the camp and your places of primary assignment.

*Signed*  
**Alhaji Abdul Wahab Obomeile**  
For: Director-General



## GIDAUNIYA INVESTMENTS & SECURITIES

(Member of the Nigerian Stock Exchange)

### CONGRATULATIONS

The Management and entire staff of GIDAUNIYA INVESTMENTS & SECURITIES heartily rejoice with and congratulate one of its strongest pillar, ALHAJI MUHAMMADU IBRAHIM, OFR, JP on his conferment with a National honour of the Officer of the Federal Republic (OFR) by the Federal Government. The honour is well deserved and long over due.



**Alhaji Muhammadu Ibrahim, OFR, JP**  
Director, FBN Plc  
Trustee, Kano Foundation

## GIDAUNIYA INVESTMENTS & SECURITIES

(Member of the Nigerian Stock Exchange)

**HEAD OFFICE:**  
3rd Floor, Kano Foundation Building  
15, B.U.K. Road,  
P. O. Box 14427, Kano.  
Tel: 064-667844, Fax: 667394,  
Mobile: 090-800956

**LAGOS OFFICE:**  
Leo Wing, Eleganza Plaza,  
1 Commercial Avenue, Apapa  
P. O. Box 4611, Apapa, Lagos.  
Tele Fax: 01-5878649, 01-4701015.

# Abuja Trust

## Features

### Hope rises on Nyanya -Keffi road

*For the past one year, the Nyanya-Keffi road has sent shock waves down the spine of many residents of the FCT and beyond for the untimely deaths it has caused. Emmanuel Aude of Abuja Trust, in this piece, takes a look at the dualisation of the road, the expectations and challenges involved.*

That the Nyanya-Keffi road is notorious for leaving so many families in grief is no longer news as the countless havoc it has wrecked by claiming so many innocent lives is already in the public domain. What is however heart-warming is the bold but epileptic move taken by the federal government to dualise the dreaded road as a measure of stopping the worrisome accidents on it.

In spite of the slow pace of work on the road, residents of Abuja, who were hitherto pensive over the neglect of the road, have started wearing cheerful faces as hope for an accident-free driving along the dangerous road rises, following the improved attention given to the dualisation project by SETRACO, the construction company handling the project.

Engineer Muhammed Abba-Gana, the FCT Minister, perhaps the happiest man in Abuja as the project for the dualisation of the Nyanya-Keffi road has so far recorded some positive results as the firm handling the project, SETRACO Construction Company, has completed over 40 per cent of the work. One is tempted to be curious as to the reason behind Abba-Gana's expression of joy on the day the project was flagged off by Vice-President Atiku Abubakar on March 26 2001. It is partly because, as the landlord of the federal capital territory, he perhaps felt more than any other person in view of the terrible impact of various fatal accidents that, daily, occur on the road, sending many souls to their untimely grave. Abba Gana's concern is understandable against the backdrop of the casualties that were always recorded against his constituency, the residents of federal capital territory. It is therefore not surprising that the minister was all joy and highly delighted on the historic occasion meant to put an end to the daily

traffic nightmare for millions of people who ply the road.

For those who may not be familiar with Nyanya-Keffi road, it is one of the busiest roads in the entire country. The road happens to be the only access road to Abuja from about thirteen states of the federation in the North Central, North-Eastern and some in the South-South and south-Eastern zones. With the rising tempo of social and business activities in and around the federal capital, the road has become even busier and more congested. The result of this has been constant frustration for those who daily ply the road, especially those who live in the satellite towns of Nyanya, Mararaba, Karu and Masaka and have no alternative route to commute to and from Abuja municipality.

The Abuja-Keffi road is part of the network of federal roads from Zuba on the Lokoja-Kaduna highway to Akwanga on the Makurdi-Jos road. The traffic intensity on the road is so high that the capacity of the carriage way has been overstretched resulting in

frequent hold-ups and fatal accidents.

The ongoing dualisation of the road will enhance smooth transportation of people and goods, and promote the safety of motorists and pedestrians alike when completed. Even though good roads



Engr. Muhammad Abba-Gana, FCT Minister

may not necessarily end accidents, they could reduce them. Hence, one believes that the increasing lost of

of a dream come true with the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory Engr. Muhammed Abba-Gana, it is the firm belief of many that the issue of payment of compensation on demolished structures meant to create way for the project should not be allowed to delay the construction process.

It is sad that with the attention given to this road, some greedy government officials are still playing games with the project. The design of the road, which is to guide the contractor handling the project was handed over to the firm three months ago, barely six months after the project was commissioned. In normal circumstances, the road design is supposed to be handed over to the construction company before even the commissioning day. On the issue of

compensation, some residents whose properties are affected are crying foul over the manner the

compensation exercise did not delay work on the road even though the project is not directly under his ministry. He is the landlord, so nobody should dictate for him on how he paddles the canoe of the FCT. He should also ensure that SETRACO completes the project early enough.

The entire dualisation contract, which extends from Sani Abacha Barracks in Asokoro District through Karu, Nyanya, Mararaba, and Masaka to Keffi, covers 50 kilometres stretch of road, while the contract sum was put at N10.49 billion.

The project, which took off informally on March 15, 2001, is expected to be completed 30 months later on September 15, 2001. Its main features include the construction of additional carriageway alongside the existing Abuja-Nyanya-Keffi road. Kilometre zero to kilometre 10 approximately of the dualized road road shall carry six lanes, that is three lanes on either side (10.15 metres wide). This shall be set apart by a four metres wide median.

From kilometre 10 to kilometres 49.50 approximately shall carry four lanes, that is two lanes on either side (7.30 wide) set apart by a 40 metre wide median.

The project also includes the construction of four river bridges and three fly overs (two at Karu and one at Keffi). Also six pedestrian bridges are to be constructed. Four of these will be axis while the other two will be located before the end of he road.

During the commissioning ceremony, it was dancing and celebrations all the way, with the notion that the Abuja-Nyanya-Keffi death trap was about to be cleared off. That way, hundreds of lives that would have perished in the future on the road would be saved.

***"In spite of the slow pace of work on the road, residents of Abuja, who were hitherto pensive over the neglect of the road, have started wearing cheerful faces as hope for an accident-free driving along the dangerous road rises, following the improved attention given to the dualisation project by SETRACO, the construction company handling the project."***

lives on the road would be drastically reduced, if not halted altogether.

As residents of Abuja and others savour the joy and fulfilment

compensation exercise was carried out.

What the Minister of FCT Engr. Muhammed Abba-Gana should do now is to ensure that the



The usual traffic congestion along the Nyanya-Keffi road shortly before the commissioning of the road dualization project.



No fewer than 24 lives were lost in this accident on the Nyanya-Keffi road in the middle of the year, 2001.



www.sony-middleeast.com

SONY®

The party goes on and on and on...



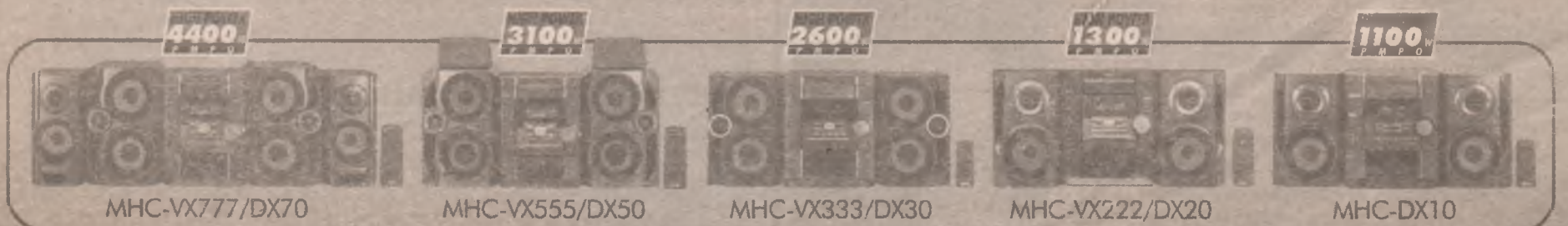
**POWERMAX**  
AUDIO VISUAL HI-FI SYSTEMS

HIGH POWER  
**6600**  
P M P O

The party never stops with the Sony Powermax 3CD changer. Add to that its powerful speakers, equalizer and astoundingly clear sound and what you've got is a real Hi-Fi for a real party.



MHC-VX888/DX80



MHC-VX777/DX70

MHC-VX555/DX50

MHC-VX333/DX30

MHC-VX222/DX20

MHC-DX10



# 2001 in retrospect

By Patrick Andrew

**January 7**  
make shift Super Eagles crumbled like a pack of cards before the Lone Stars of Liberia, in Monrovia. It was a World Cup 2002 qualifier. The result was 2-1.

Then the Golden Eaglets were humbled in Bari, Italy, where they had participated in the Euro-Afro Championship – the Meridian Cup. The Eaglets were rated Africa's best for placing 5<sup>th</sup> on the chart. Though they lost 6-0 to Portugal, the Eaglets defeated Europe's best – Italy 1-0 in their last encounter.

**February 17**  
The change of guards at the Sports Ministry. President Olusegun Obasanjo in a cabinet reshuffle dropped Mr. Damishi Tsonso Sango for a water engineer, Ishaya Mark Aku.

**February 5-8**  
The NFA held an emergency meeting in Makurdi, the Benue State capital, where it was decided that 30 percent of Super Eagles should be home-based, U-23 60-40 percent, U-20 50-50 percent while U-17 should be exclusively grassroots drawn.

Same month President Obasanjo donated Cup for secondary school soccer tournament.

**March 2**  
Dr. Amos Adamu was appointed Executive Director of the 8<sup>th</sup> All Africa Games, COJA. Dr. Adamu was the erstwhile Director of Sports Development in the ministry. Many say it was Aku's first coup.

**March 11**  
Nigerians mourn the barren draw the Super Eagles secured against an improvised Black Stars of Ghana in the Korea/Japan World Cup qualifier. The stars were largely drawn from Accra Hearts of Oak.

**March 25**  
The Flying Eagles crashed out of the African Youth Championship in far away Ethiopia.

**April 9**  
The House of Representatives Sports Committee in apparent reaction to the dwindling sports fortunes in the country initiated a public hearing on National Sports Policy.

**April 21**  
Super Eagles World Cup qualification woes deepened with the Eagles' narrow loss to hapless Leone Stars of Sierra Leone.

**April 26**  
Technical adviser of the Super Eagles, Johannes Bonfrere, was sacked by the NFA after an emergency

board meeting in Abuja.

**April 26**  
Chief coach, Shuaibu Amodu, appointed new manager of the Super Eagles. Stephen Keshi and Joe Erico were to assist.

**May 11**  
Amodu's Eagles thrashed George Weah-led Lone Stars of Liberia 2-0 in Port Harcourt to rekindle World Cup hope for Nigeria.

President Obasanjo set up the National Sports Committee headed by Chief Samuel Ogbemudia. The NSC was to appraise sports problems and make recommendation to government.

**June 21**  
CAF banned Katsina Utd for three years for failing to honour the second leg of the Cup Winners Cup in Johannesburg, South Africa.

**June 17**  
Rookie Super Eagles under chief coach, Shuaibu Amodu, secured a Nations Cup ticket in Windhoek, Namibia with 1-1 draw with the host.

**July 1**  
Super Eagles crushed Sudan 3-0 in Omdurman in a World Cup qualifier that brightened Nigeria's hope for qualification.

**July 22**  
The curtains of the 12<sup>th</sup> Mobil/NNPC Athletics Championship were drawn. Old warrior, Sunday Bada, dusted Enefiok Udo-Obang in the 400m finals even as Endurance Ojokolo breasted the tape before Mercy Nku and Mary Onyali-Omagbemi.

**July 29**  
The Super Eagles mauled the Black Stars of Ghana 3-0 to berth at the Korea/Japan World Cup 2002.

**Group B**

	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Nigeria	5	1	2	15	3	12	16
Liberia	5	0	3	10	8	2	15
Sudan	4	0	4	8	10	-2	12
Ghana	3	2	3	10	9	1	11
S/Leone	1	1	6	2	15	-13	4

**July 31**  
Elections into boards of the 29 national sports associations held.

**August 7**  
National associations boards inaugurated.

**August 10**  
The World Athletics Championship ended in Edmonton, Canada, without any medal recorded for Nigeria. The contingent of 11 athletes failed to impress even as Kenya won three gold and silver and a bronze.

**August 12**  
Nigeria crashed out of the Volleyball World Cup Cham-

pionship, losing 3-2 to Egypt.

**August 17**  
NFA nominated, Dr. Amos Adamu for CAF executive seat.

**August 12**  
D. Tigers failed to secure World Cup qualification in Basketball.

**August 23**  
Ishaya Mark Aku annulled elections into the boards of Boxing, Athletics and Gymnastics.

**August 27**  
Aku sacked NFA scribe, Dr. Tijani Ahmed Yusuf.

**August 28**  
Former NFA scribe, Mr. Patrick Okpomo, reappointed in acting capacity.

**September 8**  
Nigeria drew Mali, Liberia and Algeria in Nations Cup 2002 draw.

**September 30**  
Golden Eaglets failed to win World U-17 Championship losing in the finals to France.

**October**  
Reorganisation of personnel commenced in the NFA.

Dolphin FC won the National Challenge Cup.

**November 7**  
Vice-President Atiku Abubakar inaugurated the Presidential Committee on the 8<sup>th</sup> All Africa Games.

**November 24**  
Pelican FC won the female Challenge Cup.

**December 1**  
Eagles drawn against Argentina, England and Sweden in the Korea/Japan World Cup 2002.

**December 23**  
New NOC President, Alhaji Habu Gumel, elected.

**December 18**  
Written interview held for NFA declared vacancies.

**December 21-23**  
Oral interviews conducted for candidates who passed the written interview.



Shuaibu rescued Nigeria.



## INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION (INEC)

### VACANCIES

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for appointment as Principal Legal Officers on Grade Level 12 in the following States of the Federation:

- |                 |              |             |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Adamawa      | 9. Imo       | 17. Oyo     |
| 2. Akwa Ibom    | 10. Jigawa   | 18. Ogun    |
| 3. Anambra      | 11. Kano     | 19. Osun    |
| 4. Bauchi       | 12. Katsina  | 20. Plateau |
| 5. Borno        | 13. Kebbi    | 21. Sokoto  |
| 6. Cross Rivers | 14. Kogi     | 22. Yobe    |
| 7. Delta        | 15. Kwara    | 23. Zamfara |
| 8. Ekiti        | 16. Nasarawa |             |

#### Applicants must possess:

- a good law degree
- six years post-call experience
- a masters degree in law will be an added advantage.

#### METHOD OF APPLICATION:

Applications in candidates own handwriting together with detailed Curriculum Vitae and photocopies of credentials should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Independent National Electoral Commission, Zambezi Crescent, Maitama District, P. M. B. 0184, Garki - Abuja not later than three weeks from the date of this publication.

Serving officers are also eligible to apply.

SIGNED.

Secretary to the Commission.