

Daily Trust

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Rajab 11, 1444 AH

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32
PAGES

STILL IN CAPTIVITY

11 SCHOOLGIRLS OF FGC, BIRNIN YAURI

597
DAYS

1 STUDENT OF BETHEL BAPTIST HIGH SCHOOL, KUJAMA

569
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1 killed as police station, INEC office bombed in Anambra

PAGE 16>>

Wike revokes stadium approval for Atiku's campaign in Rivers

PAGE 11>>

Gov'ship candidates to defend agenda at Media Trust debate in Kano

PAGE 6>>

Naira scarcity:

Hardship lingers as businesses, travels suffer

- Online transactions fail
- Chaos at banks; customers fight

Pages 19>>>

Emir of Dutse buried amid eulogies

P 26>>

Taraba gov'ship: S/Court removes Bwacha as APC candidate

P 10>>

Kano Hisbah clears woman who married her daughter's suitor

P 16>>



■ Sympathizers at the burial of Emir of Dutse, Alhaji Dr Nuhu Muhammad Sunusi, yesterday

Photos: Ali Rabiu Ali

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- Powerful elements in Villa against our candidate – El-Rufai
- Cabal fighting back – CSO, dons
- Buhari not supporting anybody – Lai

P 4>>

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PAGE 11>>

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PAGE 6>>

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P 26>>

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P 10>>

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P 4>>

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved

– William Jennings Bryan



AFRICAN SAYINGS

“The chameleon looks in all directions before moving”

(African Proverbs)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

WEATHER

Compiled by JAMIL H. SALIM

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

(Temperature in centigrade)

PRAYERS TIMES

RAJAB 11, 1444 AH

PRAYERS	ABUJA	ENUGU	KADUNA	KANO	KATSINA	LAGOS	MAIDUGURI	P/HARCOURT	SOKOTO
FAJR	5:40	5:39	5:41	5:38	5:42	5:58	5:20	5:43	5:51
DHUHR	12:48	12:52	12:49	12:44	12:51	1:04	12:28	12:51	1:01
ASR	4:03	4:07	4:04	3:59	4:06	4:19	3:43	4:06	4:16
MAGHRIB	6:34	6:35	6:34	6:29	6:32	6:53	6:11	6:38	6:44
ISHA	7:39	7:40	7:39	7:34	7:37	7:58	7:16	7:43	7:49

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna



PHOTO OF THE DAY

■ A young team member takes a photo of her teammates practicing during the Frost Extreme cheerleading event at the Chase Center in Wilmington, Delaware, US

Photo: Andrew Caballero-Reynolds/AFP/Getty Images

STOCK INDEX

GAINERS	SEPLAT	IMG	NNFM	INTENEGINS	NAHCO	LOSERS	GUINNESS	ARDOVA	ACADEMY	RTBRISCOE	CORNERST
OPEN	N1210.00	N7.70	N8.10	N0.82	N8.85	OPEN	N63.00	N17.20	N1.19	N0.28	N0.55
CLOSE	110.00	0.70	0.70	0.07	0.75	CLOSE	-7.00	-1.90	-0.13	-0.03	-0.05
CHANGE	10.00%	10.00%	9.46%	9.33%	9.26%	CHANGE	-10.00%	-9.95%	-9.85%	-9.68%	-8.33%



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IN-DEPTH

Igangan: Indigenes still count losses two years after Fulani eviction

...Fulani leader demands compensation

From Abdulateef Aliyu,
Lagos

Two years after the widely reported invasion of the Fulani settlement in Igangan, Ibarapa North Local Government Area of Oyo State by the self-acclaimed freedom fighter, Sunday Adeyemo popularly known as Sunday Igboho, several questions remain unanswered.

Igangan caught the attention of the nation following the eviction of the Sarkin Fulani and his family from his settlement. This was after a week's ultimatum was given to the Fulani to vacate area.

Igboho, who initially stormed the Sarkin Fulani settlement with his men, had accused the Fulani leaders of being behind series of kidnapping incidents, killings and insecurity in the area.

He was hailed by members of the community for standing up against the Fulani accused of unleashing terror on the people, and instantly transformed into a hero of sorts in Yorubaland who came to free his "oppressed" people.

After the expiration of the deadline, Sunday Igboho ejected the Sarkin Fulani and his family from the palace and razed down the ardo's cars and other properties.

According to the evicted Fulani leader, Alhaji Saliu Abdulkadir, no fewer than seven people were killed during the invasion. He is therefore asking the federal government to probe the burning of his house, vehicles and the killing of Fulani, adding that he lost property worth N500 million following the attack.

"My houses, 12 vehicles belonging to myself, my children and some visitors were burnt and seven of our people were killed and some of my animals were carted away.

"I and my family have been living in Igangan for over 50 years without issues with anybody either in Igangan or other places," Abdulkadir said.

After the incident, the Sarkin Fulani relocated to Ilorin, Kwara State with members of his family who survived the attack.

Daily Trust reports that prior to the invasion of the Fulani settlements, there were several cases of farmers-herders' confrontations. At some point, the Fulani cried



■ Scene of attack on Igangan community in Oyo State

out that the farmers planted poisonous substances on the grazing routes within the town which instantly killed any cow that consumed it.

On several occasions, the evicted Sarkin said he had to intervene when issues of farmers-herders' crisis arose to the extent of paying compensation to farmers whose farmlands were destroyed by cattle.

But the dangerous dimension to the crisis was the issue of kidnapping and attacks allegedly linked to Fulani herders.

The killing of Dr Fatai Aborode, a renowned farmer in the community, irked many members of the community who blamed herders for the crisis. However, the father of the deceased said the killing was politically motivated.

In a BBC interview, Dr Aborode's father, Lasisi Aborode, exonerated Sarkin Fulani for the murder of his son.

"My son, Dr Fatai Adisa Aborode, was assassinated on his way from his farm. He was killed on politics basis. The information we gathered was that when they were coming, four assassins were waiting for him. When they got to the spot where he was assassinated, the four of them wore masks. They were with guns and they said they were there to take his life. They started shooting at him. He didn't die immediately. He died on his way to the hospital.

"What I know is that those assassins were hired. Fulani were there, Yoruba were there. They were hired by politicians," he told BBC Yoruba.

For the evicted Fulani leader, this evidence was enough to exonerate him and prove his innocence on the various attacks in the community which eventually led to his eviction.

However, for the Igangan people, life has not remained the same since the eviction of the Fulani. This is reflected in the declining economic activities in the village. Our correspondent also gathered that many indigenes of Igangan have relocated from the community as commercial activities have dipped so drastically.

When our correspondent visited the community recently, it was discovered that many residents are yet to come to terms with the reality that the Fulani community is no longer around them. Those who spoke to Daily Trust recollected, with nostalgia, the friendship, camaraderie and economic ties they had built over the decades with members of the Fulani community.

Findings by our correspondent showed that the Fulani settlement is now being used by some members of the community for farming. The nomadic school razed during the Sunday Igboho invasion remains abandoned while a barracks has been built close to

the settlement known as Gaa Seriki.

Many indigenes of the community refrained from making comments about the incident when they were approached by our correspondent because of the fear of a backlash that their comments could generate among the leaders of the community.

However, one of the indigenes, who spoke with our correspondent on condition of anonymity, said the community is unhappy with the exit of the Fulani as it has affected commercial activities, adding that many people have relocated. Those who borrowed money to do business are no longer making sales. Just about two weeks ago, I know two people who relocated to Shaki.

"Also, as farmers we are not really doing well because we also depend on the cattle of these herdsman to clear the remnants on our farmlands. But since there are really no cows now, we spend a lot clearing. Even the problems of kidnapping that Sunday Igboho talked about at the time are still happening. We are not happy that the Fulani have left, we have a problem with that."

'Allow Fulani to move around'

The indigene, who simply identified himself as Ade, called on the authorities to allow the movement of the herders even if they are not yet welcomed back in the

community, saying this would boost commercial activities which are at their lowest ebb in the last two years.

"I am an indigene of Igangan and I am a stakeholder here. We are appealing to the government to allow Fulani access to this place. We even met the chairman of the local government and the police authorities in Ibarapa North Local Government on the same issue. We emphasised that there should be freedom of movement for the herders as the constitution guarantees.

"We plead with you journalists to assist us in this regard. Let the Fulani people come back, they are Nigerians and we can also checkmate them in the community with the local hunters and vigilantes that we have across Igangan and its environs."

We are yet to be compensated for our losses – Sarki Salisu

Speaking at his house in Ilorin, Kwara State, Sarki Salisu said he was still not happy with the way he was treated for no just reason.

He said two years after his palace was razed, nobody has been held responsible for the destruction and their losses estimated to be over N500m. "These were properties I worked hard to acquire over 50 years of my sojourn in Igangan. No evidence was found to conclude that the attacks in Igangan were caused by me as the Fulani leader or that I supported any of my people to commit crime," Sarki Saliu said.

He said several letters to the state governor, Mr Seyi Makinde, and the federal government seeking compensation for the losses incurred during the attacks were not responded to while the promises made especially by the state governor have not been fulfilled.

"The government has failed to do anything. We were punished unjustly and the truth has been revealed.

'We have no regret sending Fulani away'

However, the chairman of Igangan Community Council, Mr Segun Okedeji said there is peace in the community since the January 2021 event. "Nothing has happened. We are living in peace. There is no trouble again and everybody is going about with his normal business," he told our correspondent in a telephone interview.

Cracks widen in APC over Tinubu

By Fidelis Mac-Leva,
Muideen Olaniyi,
Saawua Terzungwe (Abuja),
Abdullateef Aliyu (Lagos) &
Clement A. Oloyede (Kano)

Cracks appear to be widening on the walls of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) over its presidential standard-bearer, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, *Daily Trust* reports.

Barely a week after he raised the alarm over an alleged plot to sabotage him in the forthcoming election, Governor Nasir El-Rufai of Kaduna State and staunch supporter of Tinubu yesterday re-echoed a similar position, saying elements within the presidency were working against the presidential ambition of the former Lagos State governor.

Daily Trust recalled that while addressing a campaign rally at the Moshood Abiola International Stadium, Abeokuta, Ogun State, recently, Tinubu alleged that some interests were against the elections as scheduled.

He specifically said the scarcity of fuel being experienced across the country and the redesign of the naira, the Nigerian currency, were part of the plot to sabotage him at the polls.

But he assured his supporters, who attended the rally, that neither the elections nor his victory can be stopped.

Aside from lingering fuel scarcity, Tinubu was referring to the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), which had on October 26, 2022, announced its plan to redesign the three banknotes.

Buhari subsequently unveiled the notes on November 23, 2022, while the apex bank fixed the January 31 deadline for their validity.

As the January 31 deadline approached, many Nigerians have been lamenting the scarcity of the new notes while the National Assembly demanded a six months extension.

However, emerging from a meeting with the president on Sunday, the apex bank boss said Buhari gave permission for the deadline to be extended to February 10.

Mixed reactions had trailed Tinubu's comments, even as the presidential campaign organisation of the PDP candidate had berated the APC candidate of trying to blackmail President Buhari and blame the APC-led federal government over his "looming rejection by Nigerians."

El-Rufai's bombshell

Just as the dust raised by the Tinubu comment was about to settle, Governor Nasir El-Rufai yesterday stirred the hornet's nest when he declared that elements in the Presidency were working against Tinubu's candidature.

El-Rufai, who spoke on Channels Television's Sunrise



■ Tinubu

Daily programme, said those people backed a different aspirant in the APC presidential primaries but the aspirant did not win the ticket. According to him, people are now hiding behind President Buhari to pursue their interests.

"I believe there are elements in the villa who want us to lose the election because they didn't get their way; they had their candidate. Their candidate did not win the primaries.

"They are trying to get us to lose the election, and they are hiding behind the president's desire to do what he thinks is right," he said.

Aisha, wife of the president yesterday backed El-Rufai over his claim that some elements in the presidency are plotting to sabotage Tinubu's victory.

The first lady, who wields great influence in the Villa, voiced her support for El-Rufai when she shared a clip of the interview containing the governor's main allegation against the saboteurs who are non-members of the party and are exploiting the president's goodwill for their selfish ends.

El-Rufai's comment won't affect Tinubu's chances - APC

The Director of Strategic Communications of the All Progressives Congress (APC) Presidential Campaign Council, Dele Alake told *Daily Trust* that El-Rufai's statement has no effect on the chances of the party's presidential candidate, Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

Alake said the most important person in the Villa is President Muhammadu Buhari, who he said was very much in support of Tinubu and his emergence as his successor on May 29.

He said, "The statement is self-explanatory. He said some people; he never said the president.

"In your individual media houses, you have an editorial policy and there are elements within your organisations that

don't agree with those policies but they still work there.

"So it is a natural phenomenon in all organisations, in all institutions. Not all staff in organisations see issues the same way.

"The most important person is the president and Commander-in-Chief. He has spoken often and he said Tinubu is his candidate and he has appealed that we should vote for him who is coming to consolidate his achievements and address whatever challenges that would be left because he has the managerial competence, he has the intellectual acumen, he has an outstanding record of experience and performance.

"So we know that Bola Ahmed Tinubu is the candidate to beat. Asiwaju is the only fruitful candidate and that is why all of them are envious of him. But that has never won them an election and this one won't be different", he said.

Cabal fighting back - CSO, dons

The Executive Director, Coalition of Democrats for Electoral Reforms (CODER), Dr Wunmi Bewaji, said El-Rufai's comment is an indication that some members of the Aso Rock cabal are still aggrieved with the outcome of the APC primaries.

"The implication is these are people who are taking advantage of Buhari himself. When you say somebody is president, of course, there are a whole lot of people surrounding him.

"We heard what Governor Ortom of Benue said, of how he was prevented from seeing the president by some powerful forces within the villa. So these are people, by nature of what they do around the president, who could determine what happens in the country. Unfortunately, at the end of the day, it is the president that will be blamed by the people.

"When Asiwaju made that statement in Abeokuta, those who



■ Buhari

were ignorant of what was going on thought there is a problem between Asiwaju and Buhari. Absolutely not! The same people, this same cabal who wanted to be the one to determine who will succeed Buhari come 2023, are the same people who recruited all the people that Asiwaju defeated.

"They recruited all of them and in the end their candidates lost. This is it, but by and large, it is manifesting clearly that it is not Buhari that is against Bola Tinubu. It is the so-called cabal that he has defeated during the primaries. He defeated all their candidates and of course, they are already jittery," Bewaji, a former member of the House of Representatives said.

On his part, a university don, Prof. Gbade Ojo said, "It is a demonstration of a party that is not cohesive. Ordinarily, there cannot but be quislings in a political party but where irreconcilable differences cannot be managed to the point of working against the flag bearer of the party, sad enough it means Mr. President is not in charge!"

Reacting, a renowned political scientist, Professor Kamilu Sani Fage of Bayero University, Kano (BUK) said the utterance from the Kaduna state governor is not strange as it is "part of Nigeria's party politics which is devoid of any clear-cut ideologies separating the parties. Therefore, you have these 5th columnists in every part that as losers tend to sabotage and go about with the mentality of 'if I can't get it, no one else should.'"

He said what is happening in the ruling party is similar to the face-off between Atiku Abubakar, the presidential candidate of the PDP and the G-5 governors led by Rivers State governor, Nyesom Wike.

He also likened the development to a similar crisis within the then Action Group (AG) that led to the collapse of the First Republic and also a

similar crisis in the then Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) in the Second Republic.

"This does not augur well for democracy. It is undemocratic and positions like this (sabotaging one's party) is a short-sighted approach because if your party loses, the opposition will give all of you tough times," he added.

Buhari not supporting anybody - Lai

Contacted, the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Media and Publicity, Malam Garba Shehu, simply replied: "You want to know the names? Wouldn't it be better for you to ask the governor?"

However, the Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, while reacting to El-Rufai's statement, said officially, the government was not aware of anyone within the Presidential Villa engaging in such action.

He said the government had been fair to all candidates regardless of party affiliation and that President Muhammadu Buhari had consistently demonstrated that he was for free, fair and credible elections.

The minister, who was asked to react after the Federal Executive Council (FEC) meeting, said: "On a more serious note, one thing I can assure you is that no matter what, this administration is focused, determined to ensure free and fair elections. But I think with this administration, the most important person is Mr. President and I think he has shown by words and by deeds that he is dedicated to free, fair and credible elections.

"Fair, free, credible elections means not backing anybody. And everywhere he goes, he makes that very clear even as recently as Friday when he was in Daura, he said the same thing. If there's anybody working against a candidate, we don't know officially."

Gov'ship candidates to defend agenda at Media Trust debate in Kano

From Clement A. Oloyede, Kano

Media Trust Group, the parent company of Daily Trust, Aminiya and Trust TV, will on Saturday, February 4, organise a governorship debate among four leading candidates in Kano State.

Tagged, "Trust Nigeria 2023 Elections Debate," the debate would give political parties and their candidates in the upcoming general elections the opportunity to get their plans and agenda across to the voters, said the Group CEO, Malam Mounir Gwarzo.

Already, the participating candidates: Nasir Yusuf Gawuna of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Bashir I. Bashir of the Labour Party (LP), Abba Kabir Yusuf (New Nigeria People's Party (NNPP), and Mohammed Abacha (PDP) have all committed to being part of the maiden event, where they promised to give voters in Kano valid reasons why they should be the next governor of the state known for its booming commercial activities.

Gwarzo said the organizer had already got commitments from the candidates that the debate would be issue-based and focus on specific policy areas including Education, Commerce, Agriculture, Water

and Sanitation, Housing and Infrastructural Development, and Social Policy.

He said the debate would take place at the Faculty of Communications, Bayero University, Kano by 10am. He added that the choice of English Language for the debate was informed by many reasons, key of which is the position of Kano State and its politics in the country and the sheer fact that people across the country and all over the world are concerned about who will emerge as the next governor of the state.

He added that to ensure that the residents of Kano State who might not understand the language of the event would not miss out, the organizers had concluded to simultaneously run a live commentary and analysis in the Hausa Language, which would be broadcast live on partner radio stations: Freedom Radio, Nasara FM, Express FM and Vision FM while the live event would be broadcast on Trust TV and Abubakar Rimi Television (ARTV).

The debate would be moderated by Dr Suleiman Suleiman, Chairman Editorial Board/Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Daily Trust; while the Hausa live commentary and analysis would be moderated by Dr Maude Gwadabe, Head of Hausa Services, Media Trust Group.

Immigration arrests 516 illegal immigrants with PVCs, NIMC in Kaduna

From Mohammed Ibrahim Yaba, Kaduna

Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) has arrested 516 illegal immigrants in Kaduna State with some of them having permanent voter cards and national identity

cards.

The illegal immigrants were from Niger Republic, Chad, Cameroon, Togo and Senegal.

The state comptroller, Liman Sani Kila, while parading the illegal immigrants at the command's headquarters

said those arrested were undergoing profiling and would be deported.

Kila explained that in the last year's mop up operations, the command retrieved 1,000 PVCs from illegal immigrants arrested within Kaduna Zone.

In tomorrow's



Aminiya

Yadda Ganduje da Kwankwaso da Shekarau ke kokowar kwace Kano

Yadda aka kashe Janar Ironsi — *Kanar Sani Bello*

El classico: Real Madrid da Barcelona za su kece-raini sau uku



Media Trust: Gobe ake muhawarar 'yan takarar Gwamnan Kano

A nemi Aminiya gobe!



BRAVE WOMEN NIGERIA PROJECT PROJECT OFFICER (FCT & LAGOS)

Background

The Women Entrepreneurship Finance Initiative (We-Fi) is a multi-donor fund consisting of the G-20 countries (hereinafter referred to as the "Fund") currently being administered by the World Bank designated Islamic Development Bank Group (IsDBG) as one of the Implementing Partners (IPs) to support in the implementation of projects approved by the Fund. The Business Resilience Assistance for Value-Added Enterprises (BRAVE) Women Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Program") is a 5-year multi-donor fund implemented in Yemen, Nigeria and Burkina Faso.

The Program focuses on developing and increasing the economic opportunities for female entrepreneurs through skills training aimed at business viability (that is, profitability) in targeted country-specific value chains. It will enhance the bankability, entrepreneurial and market development skills of female owned/led Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) that are critical to sustainable local growth and job creation. Furthermore, it will promote pro-poor growth by targeting the value chain in the market segments and sectors where the majority of the poor earn their living, and tackle gender disparities in economic opportunities by targeting women entrepreneurs. The program would also increase access to finance through a matching-grant scheme.

Since April 2021 the program has been operating in Edo, Gombe and Kano and as at end of 2022, there have already been two rounds of applications and beneficiaries in these three states. We are now expanding and would be targeting an additional 500 beneficiaries, based in Lagos and the FCT, who will benefit from capacity-building support and a matching grant scheme.

In order to meet the Nigeria program goals for "Dedicated professionals and market recruits with developed capacity to allow national scaling beyond program boundaries," the services of Project Officer in Lagos and the FCT as follows:

Role Title: Project Officer, FCT and Project Officer, Lagos

Location: Abuja and Lagos State

Employment Type: Full time

Contract Period: Till April 2024

Reporting Requirements:

Under the supervision of the Project Manager.

Scope of work/Responsibilities:

<https://bravewomenng.com/tor-project-officer>

Mode of Application

1. All applicants must be resident in FCT and/or Lagos State
2. Electronic applications should be done at:
<https://bravewomenng.com/vacancies>

Application closes at 5 pm, Thursday, February 16, 2023.

EYE ON BORNO

Co-Created content

Scholarship: Zulum sends 19 orphaned-youths for Medicine study in Egypt; pays N250m ... Approves dollars as parting gifts

Governor Babagana Umara Zulum on Thursday bade farewell to 19 youths, mostly orphans and vulnerable indigenes from Borno State, who would soon depart for Suez City in Egypt, to study and obtain Bachelor of Medicine & Surgery (MBBS) degrees on full government scholarship for a duration of five years.

The scholarship to Suez University for which Zulum released N250m was one of the outcomes of a visit to some Egyptian universities by the governor in November 2020.

He had, during that trip, promised

to approve scholarship to youths from the most deprived family backgrounds in Borno State to study in Egypt, other countries and across Nigeria.

He, later in February 2022, paid a follow-up visit to the Egyptian Embassy in Abuja for a meeting with Ambassador Ihab Awad to discuss the educational partnership.

The 19 youths, who benefitted from that partnership, were selected from Borno's 27 local government areas, comprised 12 young men and seven young women.

Governor Zulum received the 19 beneficiaries at the Government

House, Maiduguri.

They were led by the Commissioner for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, Dr Babagana Mustapha Mallambe, whose ministry supervises the Borno State Scholarship Board.

Zulum congratulated the youths and urged them to focus on their studies and be good ambassadors of Borno and Nigeria.

He announced release of 500 U.S Dollars as special parting gifts to each of the 19 students.

The governor also said each of them would be receiving 200 U.S

Dollars every month in addition to the provision of accommodation and some logistics.

Mallambe, who was earlier introduced, said the beneficiaries would be departing to Egypt on February 11, 2023.

The chairman of the Borno State Scholarship Board, Malam Baba Isa, confirmed that all payments and necessary documentations had been concluded.

Dr Tamos Khazim, who was in charge of testing and selection, noted that the students were admitted after passing pre-qualification examinations.

Borno gov unveils Chibok water project

Governor Babagana Umara Zulum on Monday night unveiled a water project with a capacity to store and distribute one million, two hundred and fifty thousand litres of water at Mboa village in Chibok Local Government Area of (southern) Borno State.

Mboa village is located five kilometres away from Chibok town, headquarters of Chibok LGA and with that proximity, the commissioned water project will serve over 40,000 residents of not just Mboa village, but also of Chibok town and neighbouring communities.

The water facility was designed with a storage capacity of a 750,000-litre surface tank and a 500,000-litre overhead tank with water sources from 20 motorized boreholes.

"One of the major challenges of Chibok town has been the lack of portable drinking water. During our electioneering campaign, we promised you that if elected, we shall address the water problems you face. This night, we are here to commission a multi-million naira project which was executed to provide Chibok and its environs with water.

"I am very happy to be here to commission this project. Let me also commend the Commissioner for Water Resources for a job well done", the governor said.

Conducting the governor round the project, the Commissioner for Water Resources, Engr Tijjani Alkali, explained that the water project was powered by 36,000 watts of solar and a 100 kva generating set.



■ Governor Zulum (9th from left) with 19 orphaned male and female youths sponsored for medicine at an Egyptian University, when the Governor hosted them for a farewell... on Wednesday in Maiduguri. Also in the photo is Commissioner for Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, Dr Babagana Mustapha Mallambe (8th left).

...Opens Schools in Damboa, Askira

After the water project in Chibok, Governor Zulum stopped over at Gumsuri, a community in Damboa LGA, to commission a senior secondary school same Monday night.

Before going to Chibok and Damboa,

the governor had been in Askira town, headquarters of Askira Uba LGA.

He commissioned a new junior secondary school in Askira town with classrooms to contain about 1,000 students.

During the commissioning, each student was presented with uniforms, reading and writing materials as well as bicycles to ease transportation, especially for those coming from distant places.

Resettlement: Zulum Commissions 300 houses in Rumirgo

Governor Babagana Umara Zulum on Monday commissioned 300 units of resettlement houses built for citizens affected by Boko Haram attacks in Rumirgo town of Askira-Uba Local Government Area in southern Borno State.

The project was one of several housing interventions from which about 10,000 resettlement houses were freshly built by the Zulum administration for IDPs and refugees.

Rumirgo was one of the communities affected by the over decade old crisis which left many homes and public structures destroyed.

Before Monday's trip to Rumirgo, Zulum had spent Sunday night in Gwoza where he upgraded the General Hospital to a specialist hospital and announced the siting of a nursing college and a higher Islamic school.

Zulum was in Rumirgo alongside the state chairman of the All

Progressives Congress (APC), Ali Bukar Dalori; Senator Mohammed Ali Ndume; Deputy Speaker of the House of Assembly, Engr Abdullahi Askira; the Chief Medical Director of the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital, Professor Ahmed Ahijo, who hails from Rumirgo; the APC's House of Representatives candidate for Askira Uba and Hawul Constituency; some top government officials and party stakeholders.

729 ballot boxes, 243 cubicles, others destroyed in Anambra attack – INEC

● Says attack won't affect elections

By Abbas Jimoh

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has said that all furniture and other non-sensitive materials recently delivered in readiness for the 2023 general elections were destroyed in Wednesday's attack on its office at Idemili South Local Government Area.

National Commissioner and Chairman Information and Voter Education

Committee of INEC, Festus Okoye, said this in a statement on Wednesday in Abuja.

He said the Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) for Anambra State, Dr Queen Elizabeth Agwu, reported that INEC's office in Idemili South LGA was attacked and set ablaze by unknown gunmen in the early hours of Wednesday.

"Among the items lost to the inferno are 729 ballot boxes, 243 voting cubicles, 256 election bags, 11

megaphones, 1 electric power generator and large quantities of indelible ink and liquid gum.

"However, uncollected Permanent Voter Cards (PVCs) kept in the fireproof cabinet were not affected by the inferno. Similarly, no sensitive materials have been delivered to the LGA office. The destruction appears to have been coordinated as the Nnobi Police Station in the LGA was similarly attacked," Okoye said.

He assured that would be made to replace elections would proceed as contingency arrangement the materials, adding that the scheduled.

Akeredolu asks FG to allow states fix salaries, allowances

From Clement A. Oloyede (Kano) & Tosin Tope (Akure)

The Southern Governors Forum (SGF), on Wednesday, called on President Muhammadu Buhari-led federal government to allow each state to determine the salaries and emoluments of its public officials.

The chairman of the SGF and governor of Ondo State, Rotimi Akeredolu (SAN), described the current practice of fixing salaries and allowances of the officials by the federal government to reflect uniformity as unacceptable.

He stated this at the Zonal Public Hearing on the Review of the 2008 Remuneration Package

for Political, Public, and Judicial Office Holders in Nigeria organised by the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMFAC) in Akure, the state capital.

Akeredolu, who was represented by his deputy, Lucky Aiyedatiwa, expressed displeasure over what he called the overbearing attitude of the federal government while reiterating that power must devolve from the central government to the state.

He said the logic of mopping up revenues accruable to states and local governments into a general pool for sharing in accordance with federal government formulas was becoming retrogressive.

The governor, however,

called for the need to tinker with the current structure to allow the real creation of wealth rather than concentrate all attention on how to share resources.

Meanwhile, the RMAFC chairman, Alhaji Mohammad Shehu, during the public hearing for North West in Kano on Wednesday, said the review did not necessarily mean an increase in the salaries and allowances of political and public office holders.

He explained that the commission embarked on a review of the remuneration package of political, public and judicial officers because of various changes that had occurred in the socio-economic indicators in the country.



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CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA ON BEHALF OF DMO OFFERS NIGERIAN TREASURY BILLS

Notice is hereby given by the Central Bank of Nigeria on behalf of DMO that the Federal Government of Nigeria Treasury Bills of 91, 182 and 364-day tenors amounting to N4,522,000,000; N1,314,900,000 and N211,227,300,000 respectively would be issued by Dutch auction on Thursday, February 09, 2023.

All Money Market Dealers should submit bids through the CBN S4 WEB INTERFACE between 8.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

Each bid must be in multiple of N1,000 subject to a minimum of ₦50,001,000. Authorized Money Market Dealers can submit multiple bids. A bid may be for authorized Money Market Dealers own account, non-Money Market Dealers or interested members of the public. The result of the auction would be announced on Wednesday, February 8, 2023. The Bank reserves the right to reject any bid.

Allotment letters would be issued for successful bids on Thursday, February 09, 2023, while payment for the successful bids should be made to your account with Central Bank of Nigeria not later than 11.00 a.m. on Thursday, February 09, 2023.

The Bank reserves the right to vary the amount on offer in line with market realities prevailing as at the period of auction of the Nigerian Treasury Bills.

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@ 59



The Pinnacle Oil & Gas family celebrates our Chairman, celebrated banker, businessman and Emir of Bichi, His Royal Highness, Alhaji Nasir Ado Bayero, on his 59th birthday today.

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Your Royal Highness, as you remember with nostalgia the grace of Almighty Allah in your life today, we join you, millions of your family members and admirers all over the world in acknowledging His strides in your life. We also pray for greater grace, strides and wisdom to continue to administer the ancient Bichi Emirate.

Emir of Bichi, His Royal Highness,
ALHAJI NASIR ADO BAYERO

Peter Mbah, CEO



INSIDE POLITICS

“ I believe there are elements in the Villa that want us to lose the election because they didn't get their way; they had their candidate. Their candidate did not win the primaries — Governor Nasir El-Rufai of Kaduna State

Taraba gov'ship: S/Court removes Bwacha as APC candidate

By John C. Azu (Abuja) & Magaji Isa Hunkuyi (Jalingo)

The Supreme Court has nullified the nomination of Senator Emmanuel Bwacha as the All Progressives Congress (APC) governorship candidate for Taraba State.

A five-member panel of justices led by Justice Kudirat Kekere-Ekun on Wednesday affirmed the verdict of the Federal High Court in Jalingo which in November last year held that the APC did not conduct a valid governorship primary in the state.

In the lead judgment by Justice Adamu Jauro, the apex court noted that the result of the primary was fraudulently allocated to Bwacha.

An APC governorship aspirant, David Kente, had approached the high court to challenge the outcome of the May, 2022, primary, after the Chairman of the APC governorship

primary election in the state, Lawrence Onuchukwu, alleged that the committee members were threatened during the exercise.

The high court nullified the primary and ordered a fresh primary within 14 days, while directing the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to desist from recognising Bwacha as APC candidate.

A Federal High Court in Abuja, in a similar suit by another of the eight aspirants alleged to have been defeated by Bwacha, Senator Yusuf Yusuf, last year, also nullified the primary.

However, Bwacha filed an appeal at the Court of Appeal in Yola, Adamawa State, which overturned the decision of the Federal High Court in Jalingo, before the latest verdict of the apex court.

Bwacha, Kante's camps react

Kante commended the apex court's justices for the “sound

judgment” and urged his supported to remain calm and wait for the decision of the party's national body.

Chief Shuaibu Ataka, Secretary of the David Kente Governorship Campaign Organisation, while briefing newsmen in Jalingo said the judgment would serve as a lesson to politicians who felt the society should continue with its old draconian ways.

Ataka expressed optimism that Kante would win the ticket of the party.

On his part, Senator Bwacha said he is well-prepared for a fresh primary, expressing confidence that he would win again.

Mr Aaron Artimas, who spoke on behalf of Bwacha camp, said they were not deterred by the Supreme Court's ruling.

“Senator Bwacha is not a paper candidate and has the support and backing of all members of APC in Taraba state,” Artimas said.



■ Bwacha

Amosun shuns Abiodun, campaigns for ADC in Ogun

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

A senator of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Ibikunle Amosun, yesterday led the African Democratic Congress (ADC) governorship campaign in Ogun State against his party's candidate and incumbent governor, Dapo Abiodun.

Amosun, a former governor of the state, stormed the ADC governorship campaign flag off held at the Ake palace ground in Abeokuta to mobilise support for his anointed candidate, Biyi Otegbeye, who is running on the platform of ADC.

Daily Trust reports that that was the second time Amosun would openly campaign against Abiodun, his friend turned foe.

In 2019, the former governor backed Adekunle Akinlade who ran on the platform of the Allied Peoples Movement (APM) but lost to Abiodun with about 19,000 votes.

Amosun again turned against Abiodun ahead of the March 11, election, asking the Ogun electorate to reject him at the poll.

On Wednesday, Amosun raised Otegbeye's hand

and that of his running mate, Tunde Awonuga, and asked the electorate to vote for them.

He explained that his support for Otegbeye was based on equity, justice and fairness because the Yewa-Awori region where the ADC flagbearer hailed from had never produced a governor since the creation of the state.

Amosun, however, called on the electorate to vote for his party's presidential candidate, Bola Tinubu.

He said, “There are two reasons why I'm doing what I'm doing. The first one is based on equity, justice, fairness...Ogun State is almost 50 years old now. Since the creation of this Ogun State, nobody from Ogun West has been governor. Some characters are saying Yewa doesn't have good people, I know they have. Yewa has good children I know that can do it. He (Otegbeye) is a lawyer he has been tested and trusted.

“The second reason, and that is very important, is that Ogun State must not derail. We have set the path of development for Ogun State, we must not allow it to be derailed.”

Bauchi PDP, APC trade blames over killing at campaign rally

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Bauchi State yesterday pointed fingers at each other over Monday's killing at the latter's governorship campaign rally in Akuyam community in Misau LGA.

Two persons were shot at the rally and one of them died after they were rushed to the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Azare.

The Director General of the PDP campaign organisation in the state, Faruq Mustapha, alleged that the escort of the APC gubernatorial candidate, Air Marshal Sadique Baba Abubakar (Rtd) shot the two persons.

Mustapha, at a press conference yesterday in Bauchi, denied the claims that PDP supporters attacked the APC convoy which prompted Sadique Abubakar's escort to open fire.

The Director, Media and Communications, to Air Marshal Abubakar, Salisu Barau, alleged that the party's campaign train was attacked by the

opposition's supporters.

He said despite the attack, they pleaded with APC supporters not to take revenge.

Barau said, “Our people were attacked and about 15 to 20 cars were smashed. Some people from our own side got injured.”

When contacted, police spokesman in Bauchi, Ahmed Wakil, confirmed the incident and said the Commissioner of Police, Alminu Alhassan, had ordered a discreet investigation into the incident.

He said, “Yesterday (Monday) at 8.30pm, the gubernatorial candidate of the APC, Air Marshal Abubakar Sadique, was on his way from Dambam LGA to Akuyam for a campaign and on reaching Akuyam town, his entourage was attacked.

“The escort attached to the APC gubernatorial candidate opened fire on two young men following an attack on the convoy of the APC in Akuyam by suspected PDP supporters. Two persons, namely Saleh Garba, aged 35; and Yakubu Yunusa (20), of Akuyam village were shot and were evacuated to the Federal Medical Centre, Azare.

Don't extend naira swap deadline, Atiku urges CBN

By Baba Martins

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) presidential candidate, Atiku Abubakar, has urged the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) not to extend the February 10, deadline for phasing out the old naira notes.

There has been pressure on the apex bank from many Nigerians to extend the deadline for the naira notes swap due to the scarcity of the newly designed N200, N500, and N1,000 notes.

The former vice president, in a statement yesterday, asked the CBN not to grant further extension after the February 10, deadline in order not to destroy the objective of the policy.

He, however, urged the apex bank to immediately review the measures put in place for ensuring the seamless circulation of the new notes to alleviate the “hardship confronting ordinary people across the country, especially rural dwellers, who need

cash for their daily transactions.”

He also alleged that politicians planning to rig the general elections were canvassing for further extension for them to use the old notes to commit electoral fraud.

He said, “The CBN may have to consider printing more currency notes to eliminate the current scarcity among ordinary people, especially rural dwellers who need them for their daily transactions.

“The cashless policy and reduction of the cash in circulation has many advantages and every patriotic Nigerian should support the CBN on this. A cashless economy will help to save and grow our democracy. Those who have devised several means of buying votes in the coming elections and using money to corrupt the electoral system, as well as destroying the principle of ‘one man one vote’ and the goal of credible, peaceful, free, and fair polls are the ones shouting against the cashless policy and naira redesign.”

Vote our candidates, get key positions, PDP tells Kwara community

From Mumini Abdulkareem, Ilorin

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Kwara State has promised to reward Offa community with key positions if its candidates are elected in the general elections.

Chairman of the party in the state, Babatunde Mohammed, disclosed this at the party's secretariat in Ilorin while receiving APC defectors from across 10

political wards in Offa LGA.

Muhammed urged the new PDP members to canvass votes for all the party's candidates, assuring that a PDP-led government would reward the people of Offa with key positions.

The Director General of the PDP Gubernatorial Campaign Council in Kwara, Prof Ali Ahmad, said the success of PDP at the polls would bring good fortune to Offa and Kwara State in general.

NNPP, LP deny merger talks with Atiku

By **Terkula Igidi & Abbas Jimoh**

The New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) and the Labour Party (LP) have said they are not in any discussion with the presidential candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Atiku Abubakar, for a step down by the former vice president.

In an interview with BBC Hausa Service, Atiku had said that he was holding talks with the NNPP and LP presidential candidates, Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso and Peter Obi, respectively for possible support.

But both parties yesterday denied any merger talks with Atiku, describing the claim as false and baseless.

The chief spokesman of



■ Atiku

the Obi-Datti Presidential Campaign Council, Diran Onifade, in a statement, said, "We are not in any talks with Atiku or anyone else with a view to stepping down from a race in which we are the frontrunner. Peter Obi is in the contest to win in consonance with the aspiration of the majority of Nigerians who desire

a new Nigeria devoid of lies, corruption and selfish scheming."

Also, National Chairman of NNPP, Prof Rufai Alkali, urged Atiku to step down for Kwankwaso instead.

Addressing a press conference at the NNPP's secretariat in Abuja yesterday, Prof Alkali said those who were calling on

the NNPP's presidential candidate, Kwankwaso, to step down for Abubakar were faceless people.

He said Atiku was a "serial contestant" and had nothing new to offer Nigerians.

Alkali further said, "We are not in talks with Atiku. He should know that there are other people who have the right to be president, and Kwankwaso has done a lot for Nigerians and Nigeria. Kwankwaso is a frontrunner in the contest.

"We have no talks with Atiku and we are not planning an alliance with Atiku. He should respect his age, and he can't force anyone to endorse him."

Alkali claimed that the PDP was in crisis, saying the party's "umbrella is shredded".

Abia gov'ship: PDP runner-up asks INEC to restrict re-run to aspirants in first primary

By **Baba Martins**

The runner-up in the first Abia governorship primary election, PDP's Mayor Lucky Igbokwe, has called on the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to halt the decision of a few members of the party to micro-zone the next governorship candidate of the party to Isiala Ngwa North LGA.

INEC had directed PDP to conduct a fresh primary within 14 days to replace its late governorship candidate in Abia, Prof Eleazar Uche Ikonne, who died on January 25.

Igbokwe, in a statement on his behalf by Abraham Amah, Abia PDP vice chairman, alleged that following INEC's directive, some party chieftains met and zoned the ticket to Isiala Ngwa North, the LGA of the late Prof UcheIkonne.

Igbokwe noted that it was wrong to exclude those who participated in the first primary while admitting fresh people in the re-run.



■ Prof. Mahmood

He said the decision ran against the intention of the electoral law and the instruction of INEC that the election should be conducted in 14 days.

Igbokwe said, "Rather than follow due process by conducting a fresh primary as INEC instructed, the governor has handpicked a number of people to choose one of his lackeys to cover his tracks in a sham primary just like he did in the last primary where there was no ad hoc election in the choice of delegates.

"All those who participated during the first primary must not be excluded in the party decision making process on a re-run."

Yobe North: S/Court to decide Lawan, Machina's fates Monday

By **John Chuks Azu**

The Supreme Court has fixed Monday, February 6, for judgment in the dispute between Senate President, Ahmad Lawan, and Bashir Sheriff Machina, over the authentic candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC) for Yobe North Senatorial District.

A five-man panel of justices of the apex court led by Justice Chima Nweze on Wednesday adjourned the appeal for judgment after taking arguments from both parties.

The Federal High Court in Damaturu and the Court of Appeal both upheld the nomination of Machina as the candidate of the party, forcing the APC National Working Committee (NWC) to appeal to the Supreme Court.

APC had attempted

to replace Machina with Lawan as its candidate for Yobe North after the senate president lost the presidential ticket to a former Lagos State Governor, Bola Tinubu.

The party submitted Lawan's name to INEC, an action which made Machina to seek redress in court.

The high court held that the May 28, 2022, primary produced Machina and ordered the APC to forward his name to the INEC as its candidate.

The court held that the primary that was conducted by the APC on June 9, was invalid as it was not monitored by INEC, which was a gross violation of the Electoral Act.

Machina had at the high court contended that the attempt to replace him violated Section 84(14) of the Electoral Act, 2022; Article 21.3



■ Lawan

of the APC constitution and Paragraphs 20 (c), 27 (c), (d) and (f) of the APC Guidelines for the Nomination of Candidates for the 2023

General Elections; the suit was not premature; and Section 223 (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).

Wike revokes stadium approval for Atiku's campaign

From **Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt**

The Rivers State Government has revoked the approval granted the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Presidential Campaign Organisation to use the state-owned Adoki Amasiaemeka Stadium in Ikwerre LGA for its campaign billed to hold February 11.

Governor Nyesom Wike had weeks ago granted approval for the use of the stadium for the campaign with a condition that the facility

would only be accessed 48 hours to the event.

The Commissioner for Sports, Barrister Christopher Green, said the state government took the decision following an intelligence report that the Atiku Campaign Organisation planned to share the facility with the state's APC governorship candidate, Tonye Cole.

Green stated this in a letter dated January 31, 2023, addressed to the Director General of the Atiku Campaign Organisation and Governor of Sokoto State,

Aminu Tambuwal.

He said, "Credible intelligence available to Rivers State Government and recent developments now show that your presidential campaign organisation is working in collaboration with a faction of APC and its intention of your presidential campaign organisation to accommodate and share the approved facility for your campaign with the said faction of APC.

"Government record showed that the activities of the APC in Rivers State

have always been marred by violence due largely to irreconcilable internal conflict within the party."

Green further said the state government withdrew the approval for the use of the stadium for Atiku's presidential campaign rally because it was not ready to expose the stadium to any risk of being damaged.

Efforts made by our reporter to speak with the spokesman of the PDP Presidential Campaign Organisation in Rivers State, Dr Lenu Nwibubasa, was unsuccessful.

LP, PDP, APC, NNPP differ on Nigeria's N44trn loan

By **Abbas Jimoh**

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), the All Progressives Congress (APC), the Labour Party (LP) and the New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) have differed on Nigeria's public debt profile.

The parties' representatives spoke on Wednesday about "Ensuring Transparency in Managing Nigeria's Foreign Loan" on Focus Nigeria, an AIT programme supported by CEDANAC Resources.

Nigeria, as at September, 2022, had a total debt of N44.06trn, with most taken from foreign lenders.

Spokesman of the Atiku/Okowa Presidential Campaign Council, Ehiedu Aniagwu, said the PDP had done a lot of leg work to service the loans through opening of businesses and partnerships with the private sector.

On his part, the youth spokesman of the Tinubu/Shettima Campaign Council, Aliyu Audu, said there was nothing wrong in borrowing, and that the COVID-19 pandemic made it imperative for any

country which wanted to develop to borrow.

He said, "The size of the loan should not be a concern if the GDP ratio is good. Tinubu will ensure that every available avenue is put in place to kick start the infrastructure without much borrowing."

Also, the spokesman of the Obi-Datti Presidential Campaign Council, Dr Yunusa Tanko, said the other political parties had managed resources without transparency and that his candidate would ensure that Nigeria moved from consumption to production.

He said, "In the last 24 years, both the APC and the PDP mismanaged the revenue generated. They supervise the issue of oil theft. Obi will block leakages, reschedule the loans and manage them transparently."

On his part, the spokesman of the NNPP, Ambassador Major Agbo, said, "The NNPP government will go into agreement with the creditors on how to pay so that Nigerians do not feel the burden."

COLUMN

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THE SECOND WIND

HUZAIFA JEGA
08165502469 (sms only)

Now that we are here

My recollections of the aftermath of the 1993 elections are quite foggy, but I do remember at least two scenes quite well. I remember a teargas canister exploding near the house of Mama Fatai, the lady who had a grinding machine that served the neighborhood. And when the sound of gunfire was added, my mother corralled us all from the balcony of the Wuse Zone 6 apartment block we lived in into the bathrooms. I had no idea what was going on and frankly the fun was only ruined by the pain in my eyes and sense of panic by those who I supposed knew.

Of course I eventually learnt all about it – the whole odyssey has been immortalised in the annals of this nation's history as June 12. What you may never hear about June 12 however is the backstory leading up to it – even if the buck did stop at the desk of the then military president, Gen. Ibrahim Babangida. Hardly do the roles the judiciary and statutory civilian institutions such as the defunct National Electoral Commission (NEC) played in the outcome feature in the tales you hear... and as one of the subjects that come up a lot, you hear that Nigerians did not care about religion back then and a Muslim-Muslim effortlessly sailed through. You never hear that even the sitting military president protested against it.

History has an uncanny knack for repeating itself. Twenty-nine years later, it is déjà vu, but that is with the benefit of a backstory that has evolved beyond the black and white narrative of the June 12 pop culture. Now, I do not know a whole lot about politics and what the backstage of its intrigues looks like, but from where I am standing, it is starting to look like trouble may be on its way, the same way there were clear tell tales of trouble before June 12, 1993.

Tinubu, like Abiola, is a Muslim from the South West who picked another Muslim as vice president from the North East – and for politically prudent reasons. There are rumours about the baggage they bring along, to wit, being members of international criminal networks specialising in narcotics. They are both superb political networkers who built bridges and planted assets in strategic places where they could maneuver their boss' interests successfully. Abiola won Kano, the crown jewel of presidential politics. It is safe to say that Tinubu will do the same. It is worth noting that at an individual level, Tinubu shares no affinity with the people walking on the street and will earn their votes only because he is the establishment candidate, and according to another conspiracy theory, victory is assured with Kwankwaso in the picture, in the picture only to ruin Kano for Atiku. In 2023, the electorate seems to be content with being shepherded by the establishment in a mercantilist transaction, based on instant gratification. The taste of 2015 is still bitter in their mouths and they have returned to their fathers, the establishment, contrite like the prodigal

son and ready to restore business as usual. Like Abiola, Tinubu is a billionaire who can afford any price, so that will work just great.

But it has been a pretty tough few days in Kano. There are news reports that the state governor wrote to the president to postpone a planned visit to the state to avert disaster – as he would have been targeted due to burning public anger. After the extension of the deadline for the old-currency swap, the president visited, but moved around by helicopter to some of the places he visited. One video clip I saw ritualised the stoning of the president's helicopter, with the incantation “labbaiKal-La humma labbaiK...” added. That is a scene reminiscent of the ritual of stoning the devil by pilgrims in Mecca.

That is just how difficult things have been for all of us in Kano. It has not been a good look for the regime; it is one of the things people consider as their government giving them the middle finger. It gave a whole new meaning to that principle about not kicking someone while they are down. To the person whose trust you do not have, who hates you and believes you hate them right back, there is no other way to make a meaning out of the implementation of many of Buhari's policies, even though they were clearly conceived to improve our lives. I walked into a pharmacy with a migraine last week and had to leave empty handed because they did not accept cash, and the telecom network was so bad that you could not even make a phone call much less use the internet for wire transfers.... I believe I might have muttered an absentminded “Allah ya isa” on my way out.

Last week, Tinubu told the crowd at one of his rallies that, “He knows what time it is.” He spoke in Yoruba and, of course, did not use such colorful language but that was the message. In the 90's rap-parlance, it means that he knew what was going on. He implied that he was being targeted by the CBN's cashless policy and bungled currency swap, and also the grinding fuel scarcity. To many, especially his diehards, that must have had a Eureka ring to it. They believe there is an Oz somewhere pulling the strings, sabotaging or credibly conspiring to make the prospects of a Tinubu presidency a Chinaman's chance.

It is just so difficult to imagine that all going on is not a set-up. There are patterns beginning to appear, same way patterns of what may follow June 12 that started appearing well before that date. There is now this lingering fear that this may be a psyops campaign, part of the broad plan to stop Tinubu by hook or by crook, even if it means no election is held, or the process becomes such a farce and we end up with another Shonekan that will be so ineffectual, so suffocated and caricatured that he does not survive his first year and the party of Oz quickly recapturing the Rock and the partying resumes.

So, now that we are here again, I pray for a mother for all Nigerians, someone to save us all.

OPINION

The fault is not in our stars

By Mohammed Bello Yunusa

Corruption has become pervasive in Nigeria. What the country loses to corruption annually must be over and above the national budget. We must come to terms with the fact that the perpetrators are but Nigerians, the limited arrests, prosecution and punishment notwithstanding. Nigerians are of this earth. None is born and bred in heaven. Nigerians are not angels. Likewise, no Nigerian was and is brought up and trained by angels.

So, Nigerians are not close to saints. Nigerians eat, excrete, fall sick and have a propensity to be greedy. From a cursory observation, those that have been put in positions of trust have only proved to possess infinite elasticity for greed. No economist has successfully come up with the greed elasticity quotient of public officers in Nigeria.

It seems that those charged with the responsibility of counting our money are over-helping themselves to it without due process or our permission. Yet, the assumed superhumans are destroying our institutions.

The Nigerian state thinks otherwise. Nigerians become angels and saints once they become high-level public officers. Therefore, governors, including the Central Bank governor, ministers and Accountant General of the Federation (AGF) are infallible angels and saints. In any of these posts, humans become super mortals devoid of human frailties and greed. This must have informed the adoption of the Treasury Single Account (TSA), sink and hook, as provided by the World Bank or its allies. The TSA centralises the storage and control of national resources in the Central Bank of Nigeria and the office of the AGF.

It took the tango between the Academic Staff Union of Universities and the federal government to expose the fact that the government never did the integrity test of the software, particularly of the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System, before adoption. The TSA created the circumstance for the apex bank to take on retail banking services for all federal agencies and institutions. This is a recipe for corruption.

The recent news oozing out of the CBN has certainly demystified the notion of super Nigerians in high positions. The ocular proofs abound. It seems that those charged with the responsibility of counting our money are over-helping themselves to it without due process or our permission. Yet, the assumed superhumans are destroying our institutions.

The first is that Nigeria is inside out upside down with respect to values and ideas. The country is empty and bereft of resource management ideas. We had all the liberty to ensure the apex bank does not take on retail banking roles. We ignored it and mindlessly adopted the TSA. Now there are multiples of accounts, some allegedly undeclared or unknown to the three arms of government. These need to be tackled.

The second is that the treasury system has faded away. By implication, such books as General Order (GO) and

Financial Instruction (FI) have virtually been abandoned. These books have become more of civil service promotion examination textbooks rather than guides to financial and administrative procedures and practices. With this, public financial and administrative processes are nothing but kwamachala (messing up). Because things have become so bad, top civil servants, who should guide civil service practices and processes from the top, cannot spot the difference!

Thirdly, the civil service has become too weak and bastardised to stand up for rules and procedures. The prevailing job insecurity in the civil service has cut the knees of civil servants to be able to refuse their super-ordinates on matters of rules and procedure. The superior officials take extremely bad advantage of this to satisfy their kleptomaniac tendencies. Because 'oga' has done it, the boys do their own and worse than oga has done.

The checks and balances that give civil servants the self-confidence to religiously uphold the GO and FI above individual interests have all gone into thin air. The civil service needs re-engineering.

Finally, I should say Nigeria has refused to be independent. Nigeria remains subservient to the dictates of international agencies. Otherwise, how did we come to adopt the TSA without a reflection on its suitability to our national goals and objectives? All data on Nigeria are obtainable from these agencies.

As of now, if one seeks to know the population of Nigeria, and Nigeria's total export in tons and barrels, the best bet is to call the World Bank or the IMF. Likewise, to know the number of housing units, toilets per thousand and even open defecation fields, simply reach out to the United Nations Habitat. Shamefully absurd.

No doubt, Nigeria's dependency on external agencies for policies has terribly jeopardised the citizens' dreams of the good life. The burden of straightening things out rests with us citizens and the incoming government. The outgoing should be allowed to go.

We must assert our independence and strive to be ourselves. Let us use our brains to determine what we want. It is only thus we can generate policies that are relevant to our situations.

Critically, we must acknowledge the fact that the Central Bank is not a commercial bank. When it takes on retail banking functions, we are certainly routed for financial and economic disaster. We gain nothing from frustrating Chief Executive Officers of Ministries, Departments and Agencies. The CEOs are responsible enough to be subjected to the laws of the land including the GO and FI. Release their budgetary allocations to them for spending, managing and accounting. Any defaulting CEO should be liable and accountable. The judiciary, legislature and executive must agree to decentralise corruption.

Re-engineering the civil service from its foundation to give it a new orientation and enhanced job security should be of high priority.

We need to restore the professional skills, knowledge, dignity and confidence of civil servants as the basis for upholding rules and regulations above all interests. The earlier we move in these directions the better. A stitch in time saves nine.

Yunusa is the Executive Director, Socioeconomic and Environmental Advocacy Centre, Zaria

EDITORIAL

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

Aviation workers: One strike too many

The strike action on Monday, January 23, which lasted for 14 hours by staff of the Nigerian Aviation Handling Company (NAHCO) Plc and frustrated the travel plans of hundreds of air passengers is one too many. The industrial action led to the delay or outright cancellation of several domestic and international flights, with attendant loss of revenue for an economy that is struggling.

According to the National Union of Air Transport Employees (NUATE) and Air Transport Services Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (ATSSSAN), they decided to proceed on the strike after making no headway in negotiations with the management of NAHCO for the review of salaries since June, 2022.

The attempt by the NAHCO management to downplay the effects of the strike, claiming that it had no significant impact on its business operations because it lasted only a few hours, smacked of insensitivity, especially to those who must have missed out on important appointments; be they medical, business or even leisure. Time, as they often say, is money.

One of the major players in Nigeria's aviation industry, Air Peace, said it lost about N500m to the strike as its aircraft were unable to fly.

"Neither NAHCO nor the striking union informed us of an impending strike. Our staff reported to work and noticed an ongoing industrial action. If we were informed beforehand, we would have conveyed same to our passengers early enough," the airline said.

The same story is true for many other airlines, including those that had to return to their points of takeoff, incurring losses in the process.

To be sure, labour strike in the aviation sector is not limited to Nigeria. Just this Wednesday, about 300 flights were cancelled due to an industrial action over pay by workers at the Berlin Brandenburg airport in Germany. But the Nigerian experience is embarrassing nonetheless, as authorities waited till the last minute to engage the aggrieved workers who, on their part, know no other means of pushing for their rights, or have seen that the only time the authorities pay attention is when they down tools; which should not be the case. Demanding improved pay is no crime, but it must not be at the expense of the public.

Sadly, this is not the first time that flight operations will be disrupted in the name of industrial disharmony in Nigeria. Last September, operations were grounded at the Mallam Aminu Kano International Airport (MAKIA) over a dispute between the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) and the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA). But it would appear no lesson was learnt from those harrowing experiences.

The federal government, while apologising to air travellers over the industrial action of by NUATE and ATSSSAN, vowed to enforce the section of the Civil Aviation Act (2022) disallowing employees from embarking on flight-crippling strikes.

The Minister of Aviation, Hadi Sirika, while speaking on the strike action, told State House correspondents that, "There are other ways of channeling issues when they arise, but they (aviation workers) are not permitted to go on strike because aviation is an essential service."

But the best way to stop this embarrassment from recurring is for the authorities to pay attention to the welfare of the workers through periodic improvement in conditions of service. The authorities should also establish a harmonious relationship between staff and management, where issues can be raised and problems solved before they get out of hand.

When agreements are voluntarily reached also, the details should be followed to the latter. Sometimes the authorities renege on promises made and this often leads to workers resorting to all manner of actions to reclaim their rights, including embarking on strike, which seems to be the only language both parties understand. Disagreements are better addressed on the negotiation table. If this fails, the industrial court is there to adjudicate.

The workers should also be considerate in their demands and always consider the public anytime they are pushing for their rights. It is not good to hurt those that have not wronged you in any way, because when employees down tools, those who feel the pinch often times have no link or input to their employers' decision and actions.

So, while it is heartening that this round of strike did not last long, we must work towards making sure they don't happen at all.

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[PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING]
CHIKA UNIGWE | chikaunigwe@dailytrust.com

Buchi Emecheta, hero

Last week was the sixth death anniversary of Nigerian writer, Buchi Emecheta (1944-2017), and I posted a series of tweets on her life that proved to be so popular I've decided to share them here as well. We say often that we must celebrate our own, and Emecheta deserves that celebration.

reminded her that "pride goeth before a fall," and sent her to the chapel to "pray for God's forgiveness."

Emecheta never prayed for forgiveness. She kept the dream of writing and of moving to the UK close to her heart, never disclosing them to anyone else lest it got her in trouble.

At 16, she graduated from Methodist High and married Sylvester Onwordi, a handsome, young man from Ibusa who also harboured dreams of migrating to the United Kingdom. Emecheta imagined that she had found a soul mate. In 1961, Onwordi went ahead of his family to England while Emecheta earned good money working at the American Embassy and saved up enough to join him in 1962 with their two children.

Emecheta arrived England on a cold, wet, March morning. It was nothing like she had expected and was a foreshadowing of her early years: there were no jobs waiting for her; her husband lived in a rented one room apartment where the children slept on the couch he had bought with part of the money Emecheta had sent him to buy her a coat (the rest of the money he spent on a coat for himself); twelve days after her fourth child was born, she came home to find her husband in bed with another woman; when she finished her first novel and gave it to him to read, he burned the manuscript. The marriage eventually and inevitably ended.

By 22, Emecheta was a single parent raising five children and writing. In 1972, her first novel, *In the Ditch*, was published. Two years later, Emecheta published *Second Class Citizen* which tells the fictionalised story of both her early life in Nigeria and her early years in England. By the time of her death, she had published over 20 books including *Destination Biafra* (1982) - often considered her most ambitious and most radical work, and arguably the earliest work of fiction about the Nigerian-Biafran war by a woman writer, and *The Rape of Shavi* (1983) a dystopian science fiction novel in which a group of Europeans flee an impending nuclear war and crash land in Shavi, at the edge of the Sahara desert.

Emecheta was made an OBE by the Queen in 2005. Predeceased by two of her children, she died on January 25, 2017. She came, she saw, she conquered. Truly. Now go out and discover her works, if you haven't already.

Emecheta never prayed for forgiveness. She kept the dream of writing and of moving to the UK close to her heart, never disclosing them to anyone else lest it got her in trouble.

Emecheta was born Florence Onyebuchi Emecheta on July 21, 1944, in Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria. Coming two months early, she had not been expected to survive. Her mother, Alice Ogbanje Ojebeta Emecheta, was a former slave girl, sold into slavery by her brother to a relative in another town to raise money for silk head ties for his coming-of age dance. When her mistress died, Ogbanje Emecheta returned home to freedom. Ogbanje Ojebeta, like her alterego in the novel she inspires, trained as a seamstress. She married Jeremy Nwabudinke, a railway worker. The couple moved from Umuezeokolo, Odanta, Ibusa, (now Delta State), their ancestral home, to the capital city of Lagos to seek their fortune. They had two children, Buchi and a younger brother, Adolphus Chisingali Emecheta. Like many in their situation, they went back to Ibusa during the holidays so their children could stay rooted to their culture, their values and their ancestors' way of life. In Ibusa, the siblings helped on the farm and listened to folktales. When Emecheta's father died in 1953, the family disintegrated. Alice was 'inherited' by her dead husband's brother (and moved back to Ibusa where she bore him a son), her children were sent to live with relatives in different parts of Lagos.

After her father's death, Emecheta's continuing education was thrown into jeopardy. She lived with a family who did not treat her well. She appropriated two shillings from the family's food money to pay for a scholarship application and entrance examination to the coveted Methodist Girls' High School, a missionary school, where she discovered and reveled in Shakespeare and Keats and Brooke, and escaped a fate that would have had her married by the age of twelve. It was here, in an English Literature class taught by an Oxford educated English missionary, Miss Humble, that Emecheta first articulated that she wanted to be a writer to which Miss Humble

By the time of her death, she had published over 20 books including *Destination Biafra* (1982) - often considered her most ambitious and most radical work, and arguably the earliest work of fiction about the Nigerian-Biafran war by a woman writer

LETTERS to the Editor

CARTOON by Mustapha Bulama



and Osun states, where voters were persuaded by party agents with inducement offers ranging from N3,000 and above.

In 2015 and 2019, vote buying was carried out with careless abandon by political parties, and in most cases, with the active participation of electoral officials and security agents. These electoral compromises have led to people losing their lives alongside property.

The Electoral Act stipulates some form of punishment for such electoral malpractice. But is the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) willing to prosecute offenders? For example, Section 121 (2) of the Electoral Act, 2022, states that a: "Voter commits an offence of bribery where, before, or during an election, directly or indirectly, by his or herself, or by any other person, on his or her behalf, receives, agrees, or contracts for any money, gift, loan, or valuable consideration, office, place of employment, for himself or herself, or any other person, for voting or agreeing to vote, or for refraining or agreeing to refrain from voting at any such elections."

Therefore, steps must be taken by the government, in collaboration with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in overhauling Nigeria's electoral system to make it more difficult for monetary influences and other malpractices. Any meaningful attempt to stem electoral fraud in Nigeria must consider the wide gap between the poor and the rich. There is no doubt that poverty has impacted negatively on the electoral behaviour in Nigeria, as it encourages buying and selling of votes by the electorate, aside other malpractices.

Fatima Dauda Salihu is a student of *Mass Communication, Bayero University, Kano (BUK)*.

Vote buying in Nigerian politics

Since the return of Nigeria to democracy in 1999, the electoral process has been plagued by the tendency to monetise. Nigeria has been battling with the hard luck of having responsible leaders. In a democracy, politicians are expected to respect the people equally regardless of their status.

In Nigeria, just as in many countries of the world, free and fair elections constitute

the central factor in ensuring democratic survival. In Nigeria's case, money plays an important role in choosing who becomes a leader. Money politics has become a common feature in Africa, arising from poverty, apathy, close competition on party manifestoes, among others.

Vote buying and selling are consistent with the continued materialisation and

commercialisation of political parties. Those with lower income status become prey for political parties in vote buying, though the rich are equally not left out of the booty.

The 2022 primaries and off-season gubernatorial elections in Nigeria brought to light the reality of vote buying. Delegates to the primaries of the two major parties were paid thousands of dollars to induce them to vote

for one candidate or the other. This was an important factor in the electoral victory of most candidates at the primaries.

Also, the manipulation of ballots has gradually given way to material or cash incentives and the sales of the Permanent Voter's Card (PVC) and their accompanying Voter Identification Number (VIN). This could be seen in the 2022 governorship elections in Ekiti

Atiku and the rantings of the G-5

Since the emergence of Atiku Abubakar as the presidential candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Governor Nyesom Wike of Rivers State and four other PDP governors: Seyi Makinde (Oyo), Samuel Orthom (Benue), Okezie Ikpeazu (Abia) and Ifeanyi Ugwauny (Enugu) set in motion a confrontation with him, demanding that he should ask the National Chairman of the party, Dr Iyorchia Ayu, to resign.

The grouse of the governors, known as the G-5, is Atiku's refusal to strike the deal. Atiku has maintained that Ayu emerged through an election and as such it would be naive and out of place for him to ask him to resign.

It should be made clear that the emergence of Ayu as the national chairman was made possible by the actions of Ortom and Wike, who chased out the former National Chairman, Uche Secondus, thinking that Ayu would do their bidding to help Wike emerge as the party's flag bearer.

Since that failed, Wike rallied his colleagues to oppose and scuttle Atiku's ambition.

Some political pundits have opined that the G-5 are fighting a worthless battle and that if they did not thread softly it could consume them.

So, rather than dissipating too much time, resources and energy fighting Atiku, it is better they put their acts together for the success

of their party that is facing stiff opposition from the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC).

The G-5 should exhibit high sense of responsibility and decorum in seeing that they assiduously work for the success of their party in order to bring about the desired change in the land.

It is imperative for the governors flying the flag of the PDP with the variables of winning the 2023 presidential election to forge a common understanding with the flag bearer in order to win the election and change the country for the better.

It is also imperative for the governors to listen to the plea of the Chairman of the PDP Presidential Campaign Council

(PCC) and Akwa-Ibom State Governor, Udom Emmanuel, as he has waded into the matter and asked them to sheathe their sword and broker peace with Atiku. Doing otherwise would be counter-productive for them and the party.

If it is destined for Atiku that he will be the president of this great country, no Jupiter can stop it.

They should not be carried away by the antics of the former President Olusegun Obasanjo, by his endorsement of a candidate of another political party. The former president is a featherweight politician, as in 1999 it was Atiku, together with the late Titi Ajanaku, who visited him in Abeokuta and pleaded with him to join the race

for the presidential election.

Going by what Ortom said at the flag off of the campaign of Governor Seyi Makinde in Ibadan, that the G-5 are committed members of the PDP and are working round the clock to ensure that the party wins in all elections in their respective states, they should also ensure that of the presidential candidate of their party also wins. Even if they don't want Ayu, they should allow for the constitutional provisions and party guidelines to follow.

A stitch in time saves nine.

Usman Santuraki, No2 Santuraki Close, Demsawo, Jimeta-Yola: ususanturaki37@gmail.com

55 Hearty Cheers To a Transformational Leader and Achiever!



Muhammad
Nami

Executive Chairman FIRS



It is a delight to wish you continued success in your endeavors on this occasion of your 55th Birthday. Undoubtedly, you have held sway at the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and have shown uncommon competence, relentless passion and unprecedented excellence. It is my prayer that God will continue to strengthen you, bless you and give you more wisdom to deliver on the national assignment He has placed on your hands.

May I use this opportunity to congratulate you on the record-breaking revenue of over N10 trillion, the highest tax revenue ever collected by the Federal Inland Revenue Service in the nation's history in the year 2022.

I wish you more years of greatness and success!!

Happy 55th Birthday!!!



Signed:
Yahaya Amfani
Yaliam Press Ltd.

CITY & CRIME

08116759756

Hisbah clears woman who married her daughter's suitor, says action legitimate

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano

The Kano State Hisbah Board has concluded an investigation on Malama Khadija Rano who was alleged to have dissolved her marriage and married her daughter's suitor.

This was contained in a statement issued to newsmen by the spokesman of the board, Alhaji Lawan Ibrahim, on Tuesday.

The statement reads in part: "Presenting the report, chairman of the committee who doubles as deputy commander in charge of operations of the board, Malam Hussain Ahmed, said the committee found out that the marriage is legal and had fulfilled all the necessary criteria."

Ahmed said Khadija was divorced by her husband and had observed the three months waiting period (iddah) prescribed by Islam,

later married a man whom her biological daughter had rejected.

He dismissed allegations that she was seeing her present husband while married and instigated her husband to divorce her to marry her daughter's suitor.

The statement further reads: "The marriage is legal according to Islam. That was the reason Hisbah commander in Rano LGA supported and took part in the wedding rites."

The Commander General of the board, Dr Harun Ibn Sina, has commended the committee for discharging their responsibilities.

Ibn Sina said the committee members were carefully selected due to their vast knowledge on Islamic teachings and societal orientation.

Sheikh Ibn Sina charged the public to desist from spreading fake news and avoid misconceptions on issues regarding Islam.

He urged them to seek knowledge as Islam was a religion that had jurisdictions regarding marriage, family life and all other related issues of human endeavour.

Ogun CJ pardons 14 awaiting trial inmates

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

The Chief Judge (CJ) of Ogun State, Justice Mosunmola Dipeolu, has granted pardon to 14 inmates of correctional centres in the state.

The inmates freed were from Oba, Ibara, Ijebu-Ode, Ilaro and borstal home institute Adidbe in Abeokuta.

Justice Dipeolu, who ordered the release of the inmates during the first quarter "jail delivery exercise" held at the State Judiciary Complex in Abeokuta on Tuesday, said the gesture was part of efforts to decongest the correctional centres, as well as to reduce cases of unlawful detention and awaiting trial inmates who had been in custody without trial over a period.

She said, "They cannot be incarcerated for long in the correctional centres, hence the need for their release to avert backlog."

"Some of the inmates have been in custody since 2015, 2016 and 2017 based on no legal advice rendered by the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP); no case files found, among others."

The CJ noted that those who regained freedom were imprisoned for various offences of conspiracy, robbery, murder attempt, abduction, rape, among others.

She, however, admonished the freed inmates to be law-abiding as they went out and positively contribute their quotas to the development of society.

She added that they should make the best use of the amnesty by shunning crime and criminal activities capable of bringing them back to prison.

The CJ disclosed that another round of jail delivery exercise would take place in April, in order to reduce congestion in the correctional centres.

Also speaking, the Ogun State Controller of the Nigerian Correctional Service (NCoS), Rasheed Alimi, appreciated the gesture of the CJ in ensuring that inmates were released periodically.

Alimi, who was represented by the Deputy Controller (Corrections) of the New Oba Custodial Centre, Mr Babatunde Adenaya, noted that the periodic exercise would go a long way in minimising congestion in the custodial centres in the state.

Police explains killing of DPO in Benue



SP Mamud Abubakar, DPO Naka Division who was killed

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

The Commissioner of Police in Benue State (CP), Wale Abass, has explained that the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Naka, SP Mahmud Abubakar, succumbed to death from a gun injury he sustained during an engagement with armed men who blocked a road in Gwer-West LGA.

Abass, who expressed sadness over the killing of the DPO on Tuesday, prayed that Almighty God would grant him eternal rest.

He explained in a statement signed by the command's spokesperson, SP Catherine Anene, he said: "On 31/1/2023 at about 1330hrs information was received at Naka Police Division that armed men blocked Makurdi-Naka road and people were running back to Naka town for safety."

"The Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Naka Police Division, SP Mahmud Abubakar, mobilised a team and moved to the scene. On sighting the police vehicle, the hoodlums engaged them in a gun duel that lasted until the police were able to suppress these hoodlums and rescue people that were held on the road. However, the DPO who led the team sustained gunshot injuries and was rushed to the General Hospital, Naka, where he was confirmed dead."

Man charged with assault, breach of peace

From Raphael Ogbonnaie, Ado-Ekiti

A 55-year-old man, Rufus Olaniyi, has been arraigned before an Ado-Ekiti magistrates' court over alleged assault and breach of peace.

The prosecutor, Inspector Sodiq Adeniyi, told the court yesterday that the defendant committed the offence on January 29, at about 1130hrs on Matthew Street in Ado-Ekiti.

Adeniyi alleged that the defendant indecently assaulted a

10-year-old girl by placing her on his laps with intent to ejaculate thereby conducting himself in a manner likely to cause breach of peace.

Counsel to the defendant, Mr Olayinka Adelus, urged the court to grant his client bail and promised that the defendant would not jump bail.

The Magistrate, Dolapo Babalobon, granted the defendant bail in the sum of N50,000 with two sureties in like sum and adjourned to March 13.

to him by his employer and meant for PoS transactions.

The Magistrate, Mrs A. O. Adeyemi, admitted the defendant to a N100,000 bail with one surety in like sum and adjourned to February 6. (NAN).

2 rapists sentenced to life in prison

From Raphael Ogbonnaie, Ado-Ekiti

An Ekiti State High Court sentenced two persons to life imprisonment for raping a 14-year-old girl.

The defendants, Salau Adams (21) and Odeleye Tobi (21), were arraigned before Justice Olalekan Olatawura on May 13, 2022.

The police charge read that the defendants on February 28, 2022, at Awo Ekiti in Irepo/Ifelodun LGA, conspired and raped the girl, contrary to Section 421 of the Criminal Law of Ekiti State and Section 31(2) of the Child's Rights Law, Cap. C7, Laws of Ekiti State, 2012.

In her statement to the police, the victim said, "I know Adams and Tobi on the street. On that day, I was hawking fried meat; they called me and bought meat worth N100 each.

They pretend to bring out money and Adams brought out a black handkerchief. I decided to report them to my mother. When I turned, Tobi held and carried me from the back while Adams covered my mouth with the black handkerchief. I was carried to a nearby bush behind their house. Adams first forcefully had sex with me and Tobi also did the same. Thereafter, they ran away.

"I went back home crying, with blood stains on my clothes. I told my mother what happened, and some of our neighbours followed my mother to their house but they were not at home. The matter was reported at the police station and they were later arrested."

The prosecutor, Adeola Arogundade, called eight witnesses and tendered defendants' statements and medical report as exhibits.

The defendants spoke through their counsel, O.G. Abiola, who pleaded

with the court to temper justice with mercy, noting that they were young and could still be useful to society.

Justice Olalekan Olatawura said rape and defilement of children in the court's jurisdiction was fast assuming a frightening dimension, hence that it was the duty of the court to send the right signal to would-be rapists.

He held that, "The only way to discourage this dastardly and bestial act would be to punish those found guilty severely."

"I, therefore, hold that the prosecution has proved beyond reasonable doubt that the defendants had sexual intercourse with the victim and it was not consensual."

"From the proved facts, it can be inferred and I so do that the defendants conspired to commit the offence of rape."

"Consequently, the two defendants are hereby sentenced to life imprisonment."

Police arrest suspect stealing heavy generators

...How he does it is mysterious – Police



The generators



The suspect

The Delta State Police Command has arrested a 49-year-old man, Titus Sunday, who specialises in stealing heavy generators from residential places.

The command's spokesman, DSP

Bright Edefa, on his Twitter handle, yesterday described the activities of the suspect as a mystery.

He tweeted: "How he does it seems like a mystery. This suspect, Titus Sunday, aged 49, specialises

in stealing heavy generators at night from people's houses, package them like waybills in such a way that it's very difficult to catch him. Over 15 of these generators have been recovered."

Man arraigned over N115,000 fraud

... Another for sexual assault

The police in Osun State on Wednesday arraigned a 32-year-old man, Sola Babatunde, before an Ile-Ife magistrates' court over an alleged N115,000 fraud.

The prosecutor, ASP Abdullahi Emmanuel, told the court that the defendant sometime in January, at the Arubidi area of Ile-Ife, stole the sum of N115,000, property of one Alfred Gabriel.

He said, "The defendant fraudulently collected the sum of N115,000 from one Alfred Gabriel under the pretext of selling a motorcycle to him, which he did not."

The defendant pleaded not guilty to the two-count charge of fraud and theft.

The Magistrate, Mrs A. I. Sarumi, granted the defendant bail in the sum

of N100,000, with two sureties in like sum and adjourned to February 20.

In another case, a 55-year-old man, Rufus Olaniyi, was charged before an Ado-Ekiti magistrates' court for allegedly sexually assaulting a 10-year-old girl.

The prosecutor, Insp Sodiq Adeniyi, told the court that the defendant indecently assaulted the girl and conducted himself in a manner likely to cause breach of peace.

The defendant pleaded not guilty to the charge and his counsel, Mr Olayinka Adelus, urged the court to grant him bail.

The Magistrate, Dolapo Babalobon, admitted the defendant to bail in the sum of N50,000 with two sureties in like sum and adjourned to March 13. (NAN)

QUICK READ

Student, café operator bag 1 year jail for printing fake payment slip

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano

A 23-year-old student of the Federal College of Education (FCE), Kano, Bashir Shuaibu, and a café operator, Iliya Yakubu, have been sentenced to one year in prison each for faking the college's registration payment slip.

The two were arraigned for conspiracy and providing fake documents to the college before a Sharia court sitting in Danbabe in Ungogo LGA presided over by Munzali Idris Gwadabe.

When the charges were read to them by Inspector Bashir Wada, the convicts pleaded guilty.

In his judgement, Mallam Gwadabe sentenced them to three months in prison for conspiracy or a fine of N10,000 each, one year in prison or N40,000 fine each for providing fake documents to the school.

Police charge man with attempted felony

A 23-year-old man, Adegusi Habeeb, was on Wednesday arraigned before an Ile-Ife magistrates' court in Osun State over an alleged attempt to commit felony.

The prosecutor, ASP Abdullahi Emmanuel, told the court that the defendant on January 26, around 2am at Unit 3, Block 3, Bada Elusade, Opa Street, Iloro, Ile-Ife attempted to commit felony when he was roaming about and could not give satisfactory account of what he was looking for in the area.

According to him, the offence contravened Section 509 of the Criminal Code, Laws of Osun, 2002.

The defendant pleaded not guilty to the charge, and the Magistrate, A. I. Sarumi, granted him bail in the sum of N50,000 with one surety in like sum and adjourned to February 20. (NAN)

Amotekun arrests 2 for stealing batteries in Osun

The Amotekun Corps in Osun State said it has arrested two suspects for stealing batteries of a lorry in Igbaye Community in Odo-Otin LGA.

Brig Gen Bashir Adewinmbi (Rtd), commander of the corps in the state, disclosed this while addressing newsmen in Osogbo on Wednesday.

He explained that the suspects, in the early hours of Monday, removed the batteries of a lorry belonging to a resident of Igbaye community.

He said, "The complaint reported that the batteries were stolen in the early hours of Monday. Our operatives swung into action and arrested the suspects at the point where they went to sell the batteries."

"Upon interrogation, the suspects confessed to stealing the batteries from the complainant's truck," adding that they had been handed over to the police. (NAN)

Community family planning method, S-CAP, launched

By Hussein Yahaya

In line with the strategy of the Federal Government of Nigeria's Family Planning (FP) 2030 agenda, the Community Oriented DMPA-SC/Self-Injection Acceleration in Nigeria (CODSAiN) and Self-Care Accelerator Project (S-CAP) has been launched.

While launching the project in Abuja on Tuesday, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Association for Reproductive and Family Health (ARFH), Dr Kehinde Osinowo, said the CODSAiN project aimed to reduce the unmet needs and missed opportunities for family planning through community scale-up of DMPA-SC and Self-Injection (SI) as a self-care measure and within the broader contraceptive method mix.

Osinowo said as a result of the success achieved through the Resilient Accelerated Scale-up of DMPA-SC Self-Injection in Nigeria (RASuDIN) project in 10 states, the Federal Ministry of Health approved the extension of the innovation to four new additional states, Gombe, Kano, Nasarawa and Yobe.

The Director, Reproductive Health at the Federal Ministry of Health, Mrs Tinu Taylor, said the newly introduced DMPA-SC which was self-injection was a very good way to empower women to take their own health in their hands because they didn't have to come to the health facility every day, noting that, "They can be given an extra dose and taught how to use it at home."

Bandits shoot man trying to save wife

By Abubakar Akote, Minna

Gunmen suspected to be bandits have shot and wounded a man, Yakubu Shuaibu, while he was trying to rescue his wife from being abducted in Tudun-Magaji village in Kontagora LGA of Niger State.

Shuaibu, who was rushed to the Kontagora General Hospital, told Daily Trust on his hospital bed that, "I have two wives and 10 children. That night, I was in my second wife's room around 12am when I heard my first wife screaming for help. I went to check what happened and discovered that she was surrounded by bandits in her room. As they saw me coming to rescue her, one of them opened fire and shot me on the stomach. He also shot me on the hand. They also shot my son who heard the scream and came out."

Shuaibu's 32-year-old victim son, Muhammadu Kabiru, who is receiving treatment like his father in the same hospital, said he heard one of his father's wives screaming and went out of his room to check and in the process was shot.

He said, "I closed from my shop around 11pm. When I



The victim

returned home, I was still awake around 12am. Then I heard my father's wife screaming. I went to check what the problem was and one of the bandits shot me."

He further said, "Before the last attack, we had been experiencing relative peace for some time after several attacks in the past. But the challenge we are having in the community is that some men go after people's wives and rape them, especially when their husbands travel. So, when she screamed, I thought it was those men and I went out

to check and everywhere was dark. I just heard the sound of the gunshot. They shot me and one started following me and hitting me with a stick on my head as I was running."

Father and son called on the state government to assist them in their treatment and to station security operatives in the area to enable them have peace, noting that security operatives did not come to their rescue till the bandits left after operating for several hours.

1 killed as police station, INEC office bombed in Anambra

From Titus Eleweke, Awka

Gunmen in the early hours of Wednesday killed a 16-year-old boy and shot a 15-year-old girl when they attacked a police station and residential homes inside the station in Nnobi in Idemili South LGA of Anambra State.

The gunmen also bombed the office of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in the Ojoto area of Idemili South LGA.

A source said the hoodlums bombed the commission's headquarters with an Improvised Explosive Device (IED).

The state's police spokesperson, DSP Toochukwu Ikenga, said the attacks occurred at about 2am on Wednesday.

He said the attackers came in their large numbers and stormed the scenes of the incidents in four Toyota Sienna buses.

He noted that the command has made heavy deployment of security personnel around the state to forestall further attacks in other places.

In a statement, he said, "Anambra State Police Command today 1/2/2023 has reinforced security deployment in the state following an attack on the INEC office in Idemili

South, Ojoto and Nnobi police station.

"The hoodlums came in their numbers by 1:45am today 1/2/2023, with four unmarked Sienna vehicles, armed with IEDs, petrol bombs and other explosives.

"They invaded the INEC office, the police station and residential buildings in the station. Unfortunately, one boy aged 16, a relative of a serving policeman in the station, was murdered by the armed men, while the other, a female aged 15, sustained a gunshot injury. She has been taken to the hospital where she is receiving treatment."



KANO STATE GOVERNMENT

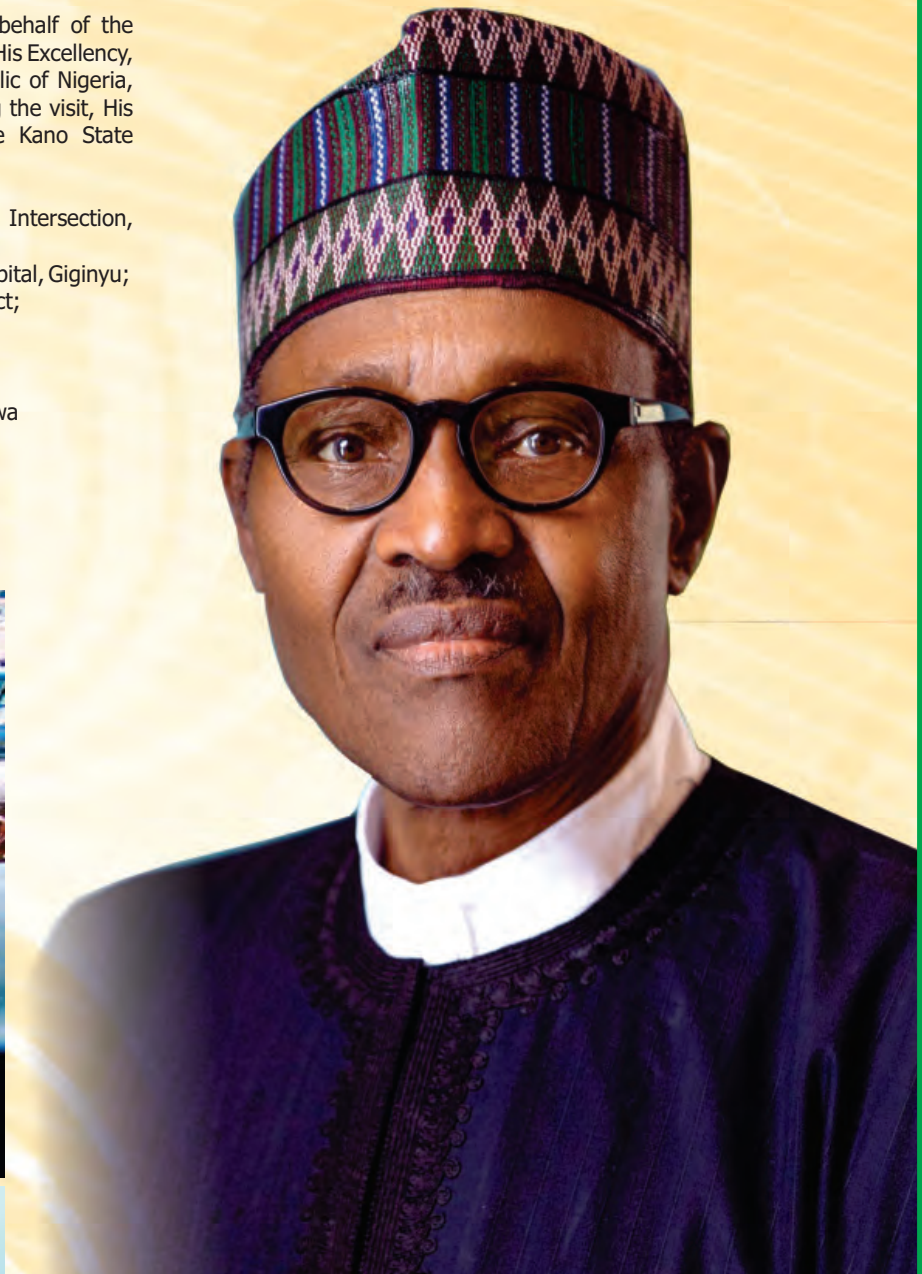
APPRECIATION

I Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje OFR, the Executive Governor of Kano State, on behalf of the government and good people of the state, hereby extend our sincere appreciation to His Excellency, the President and Commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari for the one-day State Visit on Monday, 30th January, 2023. During the visit, His Excellency commissioned the following ground breaking projects executed by the Kano State Government:

1. Multi Billion Naira Muhammadu Buhari Interchange at NNPC Mega Station/Rotary Intersection, Hotoro, along Maiduguri Road;
2. Prof. Hafsat Ganduje Cancer Treatment Center at Muhammadu Buhari Specialist Hospital, Giginyu;
3. 10 Megawatts Hydroelectricity Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution Project;
4. Dala Inland Dry Port, Zawachiki, Kumbotso LGA;
5. Aliko Dangote Ultra Modern Skills Acquisition Center, KM 7, Zaria Road;
6. Kano State Data Center, Audu Bako Secretariat, Kano
7. Federal Government Housing Units (Family Homes Estate) at Gandun Sarki, Darmanawa
8. 10MW Hasken Solar Power Plant at Kumbotso LGA

We are most grateful for the honour, Sir.

Mun Gode! Thank You Sir!



**His Excellency,
Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR**
President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces
Federal Republic of Nigeria.



Signed:
DR. ABDULLAHI UMAR GANDUJE, OFR
Executive Governor,
Kano State

BUSINESS

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

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

COMMODITIES PRICE (December 28, 2022)

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

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

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

By Sunday M. Ogwu, Kamar Ogundele, Simon E. Sunday (Abuja), Vincent Nwanma (Lagos), Tijani Labaran (Lokoja), Ali R. Ali (Dutse), Olatunji Omirin (Maiduguri), Peter Moses (Abeokuta) & Zahraddeen Y. Shuaibu (Kano)

Naira scarcity: Hardship lingers as businesses, travels suffer

● Online transactions fail ● Chaos at banks; customers fight

There seems to be no end in sight yet to the hardship the banking public is passing through over the lingering scarcity of the old and new naira notes.

Many Nigerians yesterday continued to queue Nigerians at ATM locations and pay exorbitant withdrawal charges to Point of Sale (Pos) operators.

The citizens are also grappling with failed online bank transactions.

Despite the extension by the Central Bank of Nigeria, of the deadline for the old naira notes' existence to February 10 after an initial January 31, Nigerians, who spoke to our correspondents in several states yesterday, said they could still not get access to both the old naira and new naira notes.

"A company I know did not open today because the staff had a problem coming to the office. Although they have been paid their January salary, they are unable to withdraw money and so can't pay their fares to get to the office," said a resident of Surulere in Lagos where many shop owners complained of low patronage.

A video circulating on the social media yesterday showed a woman in a banking hall protesting lack of access to her fund. The woman, who stripped herself half-naked, demanded that her account be closed.

One of our correspondents, who visited some banks at the Jabi District of Abuja, observed that the door to the ATM gallery of the Zenith Bank branch in the area was chained.

At the First Bank's branch in the area, there were long queues of customers behind ATMs that were not dispensing money.

A customer said the bank



■ People queue up at ATM machine to withdraw money in Abuja yesterday

Photo: Onyekachukwu Obi

officials disconnected the ATMs after a fight broke out between two customers.

"Since then, we've been waiting and begging them to resume service but they're not willing," he said.

There were banking halls filled with customers, but with no cash.

A customer was heard lamenting that she was told in clear terms that there was no cash to give out.

"We can't give what we don't have; there's no cash. We can only give N100 notes and below to customers, but we don't have them. We're also awaiting supply of new notes so that we can load the ATMs," a bank official said.

Okon Inang, who said he went to a UBA ATM point at Asokoro, Abuja, stated, "Usually, the bank does not pay more than N10,000 per transaction if that's not your bank."

In Kano, some businesses were said to have been crippled owing to the scarcity of naira notes. Popular markets in the state were deserted as many traders were struggling to get naira notes.

Maiduguri PoS operators travel to Damaturu in search of cash

In Maiduguri, Point-of-Sale (POS) operators travel to Damaturu, Yobe State, in search of cash.

One of them, Abu Suleiman, expressed fear that he and his colleagues might be out of business due to the scarcity of naira notes.

"We traveled to Damaturu yesterday to get some cash for our customers, it was seamless, as we speak now in Maiduguri, the frustration is boldly written on the faces of people. I spent about 8 hours in Access bank three days ago yet I could not get

the money," he said.

Hiccups at Abuja airport toll gate

A traveler said he almost missed his flight at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport Abuja yesterday due to long queues at the airport toll gate with people struggling to gain access but did not have naira notes to pay the fee as toll operators declined cashless transactions.

At some satellite communities of Abuja, motorcycle and tricycle riders hiked their fares amidst the naira scarcity; while at Mararaba, Nasarawa State, commuters were seen 'buy' new naira notes.

Online bank transactions fail

There were also complaints of failing online bank transactions.

Bella Onwu, an Abuja resident, said she could not transfer money on her GT

World application and when she tried Zenith, the transaction was declined but her account was debited.

"Apart from my case, I know of over 10 persons that had tried transactions around PoS operators; some failed and some remained unreversed."

Jummai Ishaya, a PoS operator at Garki market, said she stopped accepting transfers from Unity and Zenith Banks after multiple transfer failures on Wednesday.

"I don't want trouble from customers. So, when they come with a Unity Bank or Zenith Bank card, I will just not accept that. And for the cash withdrawal, we have limited cash; some of my colleagues have not operated since Monday because of lack of cash; while some of us got cash because we had to pay more to wholesale bank agents who swap the old naira notes," she explained.

Moody's downgrades rating for Zenith, 8 Nigerian banks

By Vincent Nwanma

Moody's Investors Service has downgraded Zenith and eight other Nigerian banks that it rates, saying the action followed its downward review of Nigeria's rating last week.

The banks involved are Access Bank Plc, Zenith Bank Plc, First Bank of Nigeria Limited, United Bank for Africa Plc, Guaranty Trust Bank Limited, Union Bank

of Nigeria plc, Fidelity Bank Plc, FCMB (First City Monument Bank) Limited and Sterling Bank Plc.

The international rating agency downgraded to Caa1 from B3 the long-term deposit ratings, issuer ratings as well as the senior unsecured debt ratings (where applicable), all the nine lenders, it said in a statement issued on Tuesday.

Moody's also changed the

outlook to stable on the long-term deposit ratings, issuer ratings as well as senior unsecured debt ratings (where applicable) of the nine rated Nigerian banks, it said.

"Today's rating actions follow Moody's downgrade on 27 January 2023 of the long-term issuer rating of the Government of Nigeria to Caa1 from B3, and change in the outlook to stable," it said in a statement.

It explained that the downgrade of the long-term ratings of nine Nigerian banks reflected a combination of two factors – the weakening operating environment, as captured by Moody's lowering of its Macro Profile for Nigeria to "Very Weak" from "very weak+"; and the inter linkages between the sovereign's weakened creditworthiness (as indicated by the downgrade of the sovereign

rating to Caa1 from B3) and the banks' balance sheets, given the banks' significant holdings of sovereign debt securities.

"Rated Nigerian banks have significant direct and indirect exposure to the Nigerian sovereign, with a significant portion of their assets located in the country, and sovereign debt holdings representing 28% of their aggregate total assets as of June 2022," it said.

NEWS

From Abiodun Alade,
Lagos

Inflationary pressures remain high, industry indices show

The Nigerian private sector registered a slight loss of growth momentum in January as the headline Purchasing Managers Index dipped to 53.5 points from 54.6 points in December 2022.

This is according to the PMI report which gauges the level of activities in the real sector. A reading below 50 is a marker of contraction but any reading above that threshold suggests growth.

The report noted that

the rate of overall input cost inflation continued to moderate in January, easing for the second month running to the softest for a year.

It, however, added that January data pointed to a further marked increase in purchase prices in the private sector, despite the rate of inflation easing to a three-month low.

“Higher costs for fuel and raw materials were widely reported, with a number of respondents indicating

that currency weakness had exacerbated inflationary pressures,” it said.

The report noted that business activity increased at a much slower pace at the start of the year, despite the rate of growth remaining marked, adding that the latest rise was the weakest in five months.

While demand continued to improve, it noted that some firms reported a moderation in customer numbers.

The report indicated

that Nigerian companies increased their staffing levels at a solid pace in January, with the rate of job creation accelerating sharply to the most marked since June 2018 as part of efforts to complete work on time.

The PMI is a monthly survey by Stanbic IBTC Bank compiled by London-based market intelligence powerhouse S&P Global Platts and endorsed by the National Bureau of Statistics.



■ From left: Group Executive, Transaction Banking, FirstBank, Olaitan Martins; Chairman, CeBIH, Celestina Appeal; ED, Chief Risk Officer, FirstBank, Olusegun Alebiosu; Vice Chairman, CeBIH and Head, Card & Messaging Business, e-Business & Retail Products, FirstBank, Folasade Femi-Lawal, and Chief of Staff to the CEO, FirstBank, and Akinwale Olawoye, during the hosting of the Committee of e-Business Industry Heads (CeBIH) by First Bank of Nigeria Ltd in Lagos recently

MTN Nigeria posted N358bn net profit in 2022

From Jide Olasunkanmi, Lagos

MTN Nigeria Communications Plc has reported a Profit After Tax (PAT) of N358.89 billion for the 2022 financial year, up by 20.16 per cent from N298.65bn in 2021.

The telecommunications company saw its revenue increase by 21.64 per cent to N2.012trillion from N1.654trn in 2021, according to its results for the year ended December 31, 2022, released on Wednesday.

Its statement of comprehensive income indicated a 22.28% rise in Profit Before Tax (PBT) to N533.97bn as against the N436.68bn reported in 2021.

Direct network operating cost added 18.05% to N459.32bn when compared with N388.829bn recorded in the 2021 financial year.

The network service-providing firm also recorded growth across its financial position as total assets rose to N2.716trn, representing 20.02% from N2.262trn, and its total equity added 26.68% to N335.682bn from N264.981bn posted earlier.

The company's earnings per share increased by 20.16% in 2022 to N17.6% from N14.6% in 2021.

The firm said on Wednesday, its mitigation efforts led to the recovery of its base through reactivations and

gross connections, broadly in line with expectations, with voice traffic maintaining a steady recovery, while data traffic demonstrated strong growth.

“Our mobile subscriber net addition was 7.2 million for the year, representing a good recovery from the impact of an increase in churn in the third quarter 2022, and demonstrating the effectiveness of our churn management initiatives and interventions to ramp up gross connections,” CEO Karl Toriola said in the results.

Nigeria is Africa's most populous country and accounted for over a third of the group's core profit in 2021.

Scarcity: 'NNPC boss Kyari working to supply fuel'

By Linda Ifeakor

The Greater Nigeria Professionals (GNP) has lauded Mele Kyari, the Group Chief Executive Officer, Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPCL), for the efforts to sustain petrol supply amidst global energy crisis.

The chairman of GNP, Ahmed Tahir, in a statement said: “Because of a poor understanding of what is going on; or for sheer mischief, Nigerians look for and find a scapegoat in the NNPC Ltd and its leadership under Mele Kyari. If only they know the dynamics that combine to produce these fuel queues, they will be saluting Mr Kyari and the NNPC under his leadership, instead of maligning him.”

“Kyari works 24/7 to make sure that despite daunting challenges, PMS or petrol is available in Nigeria daily,” the group said.

GNP however blamed saboteurs for excess profiteering leading to the hike in the price of petrol to the detriment of Nigerians.

The group also commended Kyari for being honoured with the ‘The Sun Man of The Year Award 2022’ for the second consecutive time which the members said is “well-deserved.”

“Kyari has successfully renegotiated the Ajaokuta-Kaduna-Kano (AKK) Gas Pipeline contract. He played an important role in facilitating the passage of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) 2021,” it added.

Nigeria moves to overtake Kenya in cargoes

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Nigeria is working to overtake Kenya with the largest cargo volume in Africa in three years, the Aviacargo Committee has said at its meeting held at the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) in Lagos.

Nigeria ranks number five and hopes to meet the target leveraging its population, the number of airports and commercial activities.

The Aviation Cargo Roadmap Development Committee was inaugurated by the Managing Director of FAAN, Capt. Rabiú Yadudu, in December 2022 as part of the outcome of the Chinet Aviation Cargo Conference.

The committee headed by Mr Ikechi Uko, the organiser of the conference, was tasked with the responsibility of looking at the hindrances and challenges of cargo

export.

Stakeholders have raised concerns that while 10 freighter jets come into the country on a daily basis with imported items, they return to their destinations empty.

The committee is however tasked with the responsibility of reversing the trend with a target of 2027 to overtake Kenya which has the largest cargo volume in Africa and leading Nigeria which is currently number five, with 100,000 tons.

The committee recently presented the project plan and interim report to FAAN MD while three sub-committees on export, cargo and airport were yesterday inaugurated with a 45-day timeline to deliver.

Uko said: “Kenya doesn't have the population of Nigeria. We have the largest economy. With the number of airports we have and the 15 cargo airports, there is no reason for us not to be number one in Africa.”

Cotton producers seek end to smuggling to revive sector

By Faruk Shuaibu

The National Cotton Association of Nigeria (NACOTAN) has urged the federal government to reduce the rate of smuggling of finished cotton products into the country to revive the sector.

NACOTAN in a communiqué issued at the end of its maiden

international conference in Abuja said the revamp of the cotton, textile and garment sector is significantly hinged on reducing smuggling at the country's borders. Therefore, the federal government must provide a more aggressive control at the country's borders by setting up an anti-smuggling task force at all points of our borders.

It stated that it is working on signing an MoU with Mali and India to train cotton farmers in the country while proposing the need to trade with India using local currencies of both countries.

“We must ensure that cotton farming in Nigeria is rebranded to become competitive and therefore attractive, especially to

the teeming youths of our nation. There is need to follow up urgently on the offer made by Nigeria Export Promotion Council to support cotton by reducing exportation costs using the instrument of the Export Expansion Grant (EEG) while subscribing to the NEXIM Bank's initiative to allow cotton benefit from its financing intervention,” it said.

QNET partner media to fight product misinformation

By Sunday Michael Ogwu

QNET, a multinational direct-selling company operating in multiple regions globally in partnership with Transblue Nigeria Limited, a customer service compliance, and logistics company has engaged the media to fight the

spread of misleading information designed to defraud unsuspecting Nigerians.

Speaking at a media roundtable yesterday, the Group Chief Communication Officer, QI Group, Ramya Chandrasekaran, said QNET has a positive social impact across the world and has recently

seen some criminal elements hiding behind its brand name to offer non-existent job opportunities to Nigerians.

Chandrasekaran said: “This is not good for society, QNET adding that the company's aim is to build entrepreneurial skills that will enable Nigerians to earn commission and

add value to society.”

She said QNET has leveraged technology very early on in its operation to deliver value to its customers worldwide.

The Managing Director TRANSBLUE, Abdulkhakeem Ajisafe Abiodun said: “The partnership which commenced in

April 2022 has seen QNET leverage its offices in Lagos, Abuja and Port Harcourt as well as its call centre to enable Nigerians to track purchases, lay complain and follow up with resolutions.

He said: “Our partners are fully compliant with tax authorities in Nigeria.”

NEWS

Dangote, Sinoma sign pact on cement plant in Ogun

By Faruk Shuaibu

Dangote Industries Limited (DIL) has signed an agreement with China Sinoma International Engineering to build a six million tons per annum cement plant in Itori, Ogun State.

In a statement by Dangote, the agreement was signed by the Chairman of Dangote Cement Plc, Aliko Dangote alongside the Group Executive Director, Strategy, Capital Projects & Portfolio Development, DIL, Devakumar Edwin, while China Sinoma Engineering was represented by its

Group President, Yin Zhisong, and the company's Chairman, Liu Renyue.

Dangote speaking at the signing ceremony, said, "We are comfortable working with your company. You have handled some of our key projects and I am positive that this project will be completed as scheduled."

Group President of China Sinoma Engineering, Yin Zhisong, expressed satisfaction with the commitment and determination of the Dangote Group in building cement plants across Africa. He said: "It is an honour for us to build another cement plant for

Dangote Group. We are proud and happy to be on this journey with the company again.

When operational, the plant is expected to have two Lines x 6,000 TPD Clinker Production with an installed daily total capacity of 12,000 TPD of Clinker production. It is expected to be completed within 27 months with best-in-class equipment in the cement industry, sourced from Europe's major equipment suppliers.

The Itori Cement Plant will be Dangote Cement's fourth cement plant constructed as a green field project in Nigeria, the rest are Obajana, Ibese and Okpella Plants.

FG harps on sustaining quality services

By Abbas Jimoh

The Head of Civil Service of the Federation (HoCSF), Dr. Folasade Yemi-Esan, has urged the management and staff of the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation (OHoCSF) to ensure continuous improvement in Quality Management System (QMS) in their delivery of services.

She made the call yesterday in Abuja at the official presentation of an ISO 9001:2015 QMS certificate by the Managing Director, Digital Jewels Africa, Mrs. Adedoyin Odunfa.

This connotes that the

OHoCSF has fulfilled all requirements of the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), necessitating the award by the International Independent Certification Authority (MSECB), Canada.

In her acceptance speech, Dr. Yemi-Esan, said that compliance with the ISO 9001:2015 means that standards are maintained throughout the three-year certification cycle.

"Since certification is not an end in itself, but the means to achieve continuous service quality improvement," she said.

Also, the Director, ICT in the OHCSF, Mr Dada

Adeniyi was certified as QMS Manager, while five other staff were certified as Team Leads for the five Offices of the Permanent Secretaries in the OHCSF and two other Officers as Team Leads.

The Managing Director/CEO, Digital Jewels Africa, Mrs. Adedoyin Odunfa, said given the centrality of the OHCSF to the Civil Service, the ability to streamline and simplify its processes to systematically imbibe a quality philosophy that delivers high quality services to its stakeholders, is a game changer for the entire Service and the nation, as a whole.

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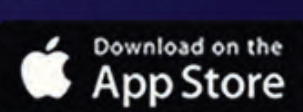
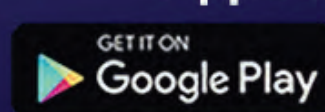
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GOLDEN HARVEST

COMMODITY INDEX

Commodity	Kano (Dawanau mkt)	Yanbuhu Mkt, Jos	Dandum Mkt (Katsi)	Idah, MKT, Kaduna	Bwari. Mkt, Abuja	Kumo Hatsi Mkt (Gombe)
Maize (100kg)	₦21,000	₦22,000	₦18,000	₦18,000	₦22,500	₦20,000
Beans (100kg)	₦40,500	₦37,000	₦32,000	₦41,000	₦45,000	₦41,000
Sorghum (100kg)	₦22,000	₦35,000	₦16,000	₦22,000	₦22,500	₦23,000
Rice Paddy (100kg)	₦23,000	₦30,000	₦72,000 (Mill)	₦21,000	₦22,000	₦22,000
Millet (100kg)	₦25,500	₦26,000	₦28,000	₦25,000	₦27,000	₦23,000
Wheat (100kg)	₦39,000	₦68,000	₦55,000	₦44,000	₦48,000	₦41,000
Soybeans (100kg)	₦30,000	₦36,000	₦30,000	₦40,000	—	₦44,000

Quote

"As a business person, one must think beyond planting and harvesting, you must have a clear picture of how and where your farm produce will be sold, even before you get started in whatever agricultural venture you choose. That's how you can succeed"

— IITA -Start Them Early Program (STEP)

What is your take on our stories?

Send us your views, comments as well as contributions to agric@dailytrust.com or SMS: 08116759756

Heat waves may affect wheat yield

From Mahmoud Idris, Katsina

● Katsina farmers worried

Wheat farmers in Katsina State have expressed concern over the weather swing experienced in the last two weeks as the crop prefers cold all through its production stages.

Wheat farming in the state is fast gaining ground courtesy of CBN's intervention last year and the crisis rocking the Russia/Ukraine axis that put pressure on the produce' supply globally.

Our correspondent who visited some farms reports that the farmers are concerned that the changing weather may spell doom to their productivity this year if it remains as it is.

Usman Musa Mairuwa, a wheat farmer in Faskari LGA, said most farmers tried taking off early this year so that the production stages of the crop would be covered in the cold season for optimum yield.

He said, "Despite challenges in sourcing the right seeds and high cost of inputs, farmers this year took off from the month of October and November so that the crop will enjoy the cold season of November, December, January and February, but to our surprise the weather completely changed to hot season in the last



■ A promising wheat farm threatened by hot temperature in Katsina state

two weeks; a situation that has a serious effect on the crop."

Mairuwa added that they were apprehensive, especially that they had no control of the situation.

Another wheat farmer, Murtala Suleiman, said the crop was seriously affected by hot

weather, especially at its panicle and milk stages.

He said, "A week of hot temperature can seriously cause yield loss, especially at heading, panicle and milk stages. The best a farmer can do is to plant early as we did and also imbibe mixed cropping with cabbage, lettuce

or onion to mitigate chances of loss in case of weather swing."

He added that though the situation was gradually reverting to normalcy, there was fear among the farmers of possible yield loss this year.

He further said, "In the last two days the wind's direction

has changed and we began to have cold in the morning and evening; but two weeks ago our temperature here was reaching up to 37°C."

An irrigation farmer and expert in wheat production, Iliyasu Umar Farouk, said farmers needed to be acquainted with the seasonal weather forecast by the National Meteorological Centre so that they could make the best choice of the crop to be planted and when.

He said, "At its heading and filling stages, wheat requires a temperature of 12°C to 22°C for optimum yield; anything above 25°C is detrimental to the crop, and at 31°C chances of losing 50 per cent of the yield is very high. To mitigate this situation, we should learn to plan our irrigation farming according to the seasonal weather forecast by the National Meteorological Centre."

Farouk called on farmers not to relent; that they should adequately water their crops and at average intervals make the farms' temperature bearable to the wheat.

He noted that, "A hot temperature of 30°C and above, plus long intervals of watering, would put wheat plants in much stress leading to wanton yield loss."

FG, World Bank to fund 6yrs livestock project

By Vincent A. Yusuf

A six-year livestock development initiative (L-PRES) is being jointly funded by Nigeria and the World Bank with the goal of increasing productivity and reducing farmers-herders conflicts in the country.

The project was inaugurated on Tuesday at the State Banquet Hall in Abuja by Professor Ibrahim Gambari, Chief of Staff (CoS) to the president.

In a message delivered by Gambari, President Muhammadu Buhari invited all the 36 states and the FCT to participate in the project.

He said that the country was successful in widespread vaccination of livestock against transboundary illnesses which helped protect the nation's livestock sector.

He said, "Our commitment to the health and welfare of our

livestock population in line with global best practices is evidently clear in the huge investments we have made into that. Between 2020 and 2022, more than 12.5 million doses of vaccines have been procured and administered against transboundary animal diseases of livestock and poultry. This is set to continue until 75 per cent coverage is achieved, which will guarantee eradication of these diseases, some of which are zoonotic in nature. In the long-term, it will facilitate Nigeria's participation in international meat trade.

"Similarly, small animal veterinary clinics have been constructed in states across the geopolitical zones of the country."

He further stated that the L-PRES project would "complement our efforts in the sector, as it is set to provide financing for explicitly

mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation objectives across all relevant policies and strategies, including the Livestock Master Plan (LMP), the National Livestock Transformation Plan (NLTP) and the National Agriculture Innovation Policy (NATIP)."

The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dr Muhammad Mahmood Abubakar, said the improvement of livestock productivity, resilience and commercialisation of specific value chains were the developmental goal of the L-PRES project, which also aims to increase Nigeria's capacity to respond to crises and emergencies in the livestock industry.

Dr Abubakar said the goal was consistent with the National Agricultural Technology and Innovation

Plan (NATIP) and the National Livestock Transformation Plan (NLTP), and it aims to achieve knowledge-driven agriculture for sustainable national food security and nutrition, as well as diversification, job creation, and resilience. The sector must recover and grow following the COVID-19 pandemic drawback adding this project will help unemployed youths in participating states and act as a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to help resolve conflicts arising from farmer-herder conflicts.

Speaking at the event, the World Bank's Deputy Country representative, Ms Kathy Whimp, said that the program would receive technical assistance from the World Bank in addition to financial support to implement the initiative.

Ms Whimp emphasised that the bank was now investing in

the development of Nigeria's livestock for the first time in 20 years.

L-PRES, according to her, will help Nigeria resolve its farmers-herders conflicts and generate wealth and employment for young and many Nigerians along the value chains.

MAN MUST CHOP

FARMERS REJECT MONEY TRANSFER IN COMMODITY MARKET -NEWS



WE WILL BE DEAD IF THEY GO ON STRIKE

GOVERNMENT OF NASARAWA STATE



**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

**Request for Bids Works
(Without Prequalification)**

EMPLOYER: Nasarawa State Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
PROJECT: ACReSAL
CONTRACT TITLE: CONSTRUCTION OF SOLAR POWER MOTORIZED BOREHOLES Lot 1 AND CONSTRUCTION OF STREET LIGHT BASE AND SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SOLAR POWER STREET LIGHTS Lot 2
COUNTRY: Nigeria
CREDIT NO.: IDA70150 NG, P175237
NG-NASARAWA ACReSAL-309535-CW-RFB Lot 1 / NG-NASARAWA ACReSAL-309513-CW-RFB Lot 2
Issuance Date: 2 February, 2023

The Federal Republic of Nigeria has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Agro Climatic Resilience in Semi- Arid Landscapes Project (ACReSAL), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments in the the contracts for the Construction of Solar Power Motorized Boreholes and Construction of Base and the Supply and Installation of Solar Power Street Lights in 11 Wards, Akwanga, and Loko, Nasarawa LGA of Nasarawa State. As shown in the table below.

LOTS No.	DESCRIPTION	LOCATIONS
Lot 1	Construction of Solar Power Motorized Boreholes	Akwanga 11 Wards & Loko in Nasarawa LGA
Lot 2	Construction of Base and Supply and Installation of Solar Streets Light	Akwanga 11 Wards & Loko in Nasarawa LGA

The State Project Management Unit (SPMU), Nasarawa State– Agro Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes Project (NS-ACReSAL) Project on behalf of Nasarawa State Government now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for;

LOTS	DESCRIPTION	LOCATIONS
Lot 1	Construction of Solar Power Motorized Boreholes	Akwanga & Loko
Lot 2	Construction of Base andSupply and Installation of Solar Streets Light	Akwanga & Loko

3. Bidding will be conducted through Open National procurement using Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers- Procurement in Investment Projects Financing (Procurement Regulations for Investment Project Financing (IPF) Borrowers: August 2018) ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from State Project Management Unit (SPMU) (NS- ACReSAL) Attn: Elias Gyobe Napoleon (Project Coordinator), Email: nasarawaacresal2022@gmail.com, Telephone: +234-8138889367 or 08038279808 and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 0900 to 1500 hours Monday to Friday at the address given below.

5. The Bidding document in English Language may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non -refundable fee of Eighty thousand naira (N80, 000.00). The method of payment will be through Bank draft in favor of Nasarawa State – Agro Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes Project.

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 12.00 Noon On 1st MARCH, 2023. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below.

7. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as stated in the table below;

LOTS No	DESCRIPTION	LOCATIONS	BID SECURITY
Lot 1	Construction of Solar Power Boreholes	Akwanga 11 Wards and Loko in Nasarawa LGA	NGN 8M
Lot 2	Construction of Base and Supply and Installation of Power Streets Light	Akwanga 11 Wards and Loko in Nasarawa LGA	NGN 9M

8. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document

9. The address referred to above is:

**The State Project Management Unit Office,
Nasarawa State Agro Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscaping Project (ACReSAL)
NAGIS Premises, Block B, Karu, Nasarawa State, Nigeria.
Telephone: 08038279808 E-mail: nasarawaacresal2022@gmail.com**

PKF Professional Services



CONGRATULATION ON YOUR 55TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



MUHAMMAD MAMMAN NAMI
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN
FEDERAL INLAND REVENUE SERVICES

Management and the entire staff of PKF Professional Services heartily felicitate with you as you turn 55 years.

As you celebrate another year today, it is our prayer that the Almighty God continue to bless and elevate you Sir.

You have demonstrated an unusual leadership quality with purpose and vision.

As an alumnus of PKF Professional Services, we are proud of your service to the nation and your achievement so far.

We pray God will continue to guide you to do more for the nation”

Happy Birthday and Many Happy Returns.

TAJUDEEN AKANDE
MANAGING PARTNER

(For and on Behalf of Partners and Staff of PKF Nigeria)

Lassa fever: Edo confirms 132 cases as fatality rises to 16

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

The Edo State yesterday recorded seven more confirmed cases of Lassa fever and two more deaths

bringing the total number of confirmed cases in the state to 132 and 16 deaths.

The Edo State Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akoria Obehi, disclosed this in a chat with journalists in Benin,

the state capital.

She said most of the deaths recorded in the state were persons who were unwell and failed to report to a proper hospital for care until they developed complications.

Obehi said the seven new cases were reported in Esan West, Etsako West, and Esan North East local governments while the two new deaths were confirmed in Esan West and Esan North East.

She said with the new data, the fatality rate in Edo was 12 per cent, which reinforced the need for residents to be cautious and comply with laid down preventive guidelines to stay healthy.

She added that 28 adults and 14 children who were confirmed of the disease were still on admission at the Irrua Specialist Teaching Hospital (ISTH) receiving treatment.

FG launches initiative against maternal, child deaths

By Ojoma Akor

The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with Rotary International, yesterday flagged off an initiative aimed at improving family health and reducing maternal and infant mortality in Nigeria.

Tagged 'Together for Healthy Families in Nigeria', the programme is implemented by the Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health (RMCH) in the country.

The programme is to reduce maternal and new-born deaths from pregnancy-related complications in the targeted states of Nasarawa, Gombe and Ekiti as well as the Federal Capital Territory,

Rotary International also handed over the

maternal perinatal child death surveillance and response MPCDSR electronic platform it developed to the federal government to for collecting, collating, analysing and disseminating data.

The Minister of Health, Osagie Ehanire, represented by Tinuola Taylor, said with the platform, Nigeria could track maternal, new born and child morbidity and mortality at the national and sub-national levels.

National Coordinator, Rotary Action Group for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health, Professor Emmanuel Adedolapo Lufadeju, said the platform had made maternal deaths in the country a notifiable condition within 24 hours.



Assistant Secretary, Coalition of Nigeria Muslim Women, Hadiza Gomina (second left), with other members during their visit to Media Trust Group (MTG) Head office in Abuja yesterday

Photo: Onyekachukwu Obi

'Hijab, mark of decency, freedom'

By Faruk Shuaibu

The Coalition of Nigeria Muslim Women says the use of hijab represents a mark of decency and symbol of freedom to follow the natural fitrah (disposition) as predestined by Allah to live according to His will and purpose.

The assistant secretary of the coalition, Dr Hadiza Gomina, said this in

Abuja yesterday during an advocacy visit to Media Trust Group, owners of Daily Trust newspapers, Trust TV and Trust radio. She said the usage of hijab by Muslim women is not an inhibitor to their lives but an enabler for success in their activities.

She spoke ahead of this year's World Hijab Day themed is 'Progression, not Oppression'

#DressedNotOppressed'. "The hijab enables its wearer to cross boundaries that normally inhibit her potential. Treat it with respect and understanding, as a tool and a vehicle for inclusiveness, a paved road to reach out to both the most remote and excluded populations of women and children and the nearest and more visible ones.

"Authorities and

institutions should create and provide services that will attract these women," she said.

While decrying the high rate of anti-hijab policies and stances in Nigeria, she said government should design health care services in maternal and child care, girl education interventions, adult education opportunities, among others.

Court grants Kanu's request for medical care

By John Chuks

A Federal High Court in Abuja has granted the detained leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra, Nnamdi Kanu, the permission to apply for an order of mandamus to compel the Department of State Service to allow him to have unfettered access to medical care.

In the suit marked FHC/ABJ/CS/2341/2022, Kanu through his legal team led by Mike Ozekhome and Ifeanyi Ejiofor said he needed an independent medical examination to ascertain his health condition.

After hearing an ex-parte application filed by the IPOB leader, Justice Binta Nyako, directed Kanu's legal

team to serve all the relevant processes on both the DSS and its Director General, who were cited as 1st and 2nd Respondents in the matter.

The IPOB leader said he would require from the DSS his admission records, medical and clinical notes, nursing notes, observation charts and documentation during treatment or stay-in-hospital, laboratory test results, pharmaceutical records, radiological scans, images and reports, blood transfusion records, physiotherapy and rehabilitative treatment records, clinical findings, as well as diagnosis and treatment prescribed records.

Dan Suleiman dies

An elder statesman, Air Cdre Dan Suleiman, died yesterday at his Abuja residence.

His daughter, Aisha, said his remains had been deposited at the morgue of NAF Hospital, Abuja, pending when the family would decide "the next

line of action."

Late Air Cdre Dan Suleiman was a member of General Murtala Muhammed's Supreme Military Council between July 1975 and March, 1976.

He was a military governor of Plateau State

from March 1976 to July 1978. After the return of the country to democracy in 1999, Suleiman became chairman of the Middle Belt Forum (MBF), a socio-political group representing the people of the Middle Belt of Nigeria.

He played a leading role

during the Nigerian Civil War (1966-1970).

He was appointed to the cabinet of General Yakubu Gowon in January 1975.

Suleiman was chairman of Allied Bank of Nigeria Plc between 1984 and 1986.

Rotary donates motorized wheelchair to man

By Seun Adeuyi

Rotary Club of Abuja Maitama yesterday presented a motorized wheelchair to a 42-year-old man, Festus Emmanuel Azike.

During the presentation in Abuja, District Governor, Rotary International District 9125, Goddy Nnadi, commended the Rotary Club of Abuja Maitama for donation.

He said: "This gentleman has been crawling on the floor for more than 32 years because of the impediment of his limbs, but with the help of Rotary

Club of Abuja Maitama, he can now use his motorised wheelchair to move around independently; things that his wife, a very supportive woman had been doing. Now he can move by himself.

"It's not really dignifying for any human being to be crawling on the floor because we are meant to stand erect. But when by an impairment we're forced into that situation nobody would like it."

President, Rotary Club of Abuja, Maitama, Yusuf Alli, said: "One of our big dreams is to lift up those challenged as part of our avowed commitment



President Rotary Club of Maitama, Mr Yusuf Alli (third left) with other members of the club, during the presentation of Wheel chair to a Polio victim in Abuja yesterday

Photo: Seun Adeuyi

to diversity, equity and inclusion. RC Abuja Maitama, by this token, is adding sustainable value to

the beneficiary's life."

The beneficiary, a polio victim, thanked Rotary for putting smile on his face.

FACTCHECK

Did Buhari say customers' deposits will be used to repay loans?

By Philip Shimnom Clement

A post has been trending on social media, especially Facebook, insinuating that President Muhammadu Buhari will utilise monies in customers' bank accounts to repay Nigeria's multilateral and local loans.

The post, which is also circulating on WhatsApp, purportedly came from the Hausa service of the British Broadcasting Commission (BBC Hausa) verified handle on Facebook.

The post, which was written in Hausa language reads, "Za muyi amfani da kudaden da ke cikin account din mutane wajen biyan bashi da ake bin Najeriya".

A direct translation of the post is: "We will use monies in people's bank accounts to pay the debts Nigeria is owing"

Verification

In verifying the post, *Daily Trust* first tried to establish if the particular verified Facebook account actually belongs to the BBC Hausa Service.

Daily Trust subjected the account to verification and found out that it was doctored.

It was further observed that

BBC Hausa has a unique style of embedding its quotes and attributions, which is missing in the alleged quote from President Buhari.

Subsequently, *Daily Trust* reached out to an official at the BBC Hausa Service who dismissed the post saying, "It did not emanate from the international media organization."

Meanwhile, the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) is charged with the responsibility of making sure that every deposit liability of every bank in Nigeria is insured and licensed.

Sections 16, and 20 of the NDIC Act ensure the safety of deposits and soundness of insured financial institutions provided they operate in the country.

Also, the corporation guarantees the payment of depositors in the banking sector.

Therefore, it is not possible for the federal government to take insured customers' deposits from their bank accounts to pay loans.

Background

Nigeria's debt stock rose to N44.06 trillion in September 2022 from N42.84 trillion in June,



Zamuyi amfani da kudaden dake cikin account din mutane wajen biyan bashin da ake bin Nigeria



according to data from the Debt Management Office (DMO).

The total debt stock comprises of total domestic and external debt stocks of the federal government, state governments and the Federal Capital Territory.

The increase in the debt stock was largely due to new borrowings by the federal government to part-finance the deficit in the 2022

Appropriation Act, as well as, new borrowings by sub-nationals.

The DMO stated that total domestic stock stood at N26.92 trillion while the external stock was N17.15 trillion as of September 2022.

The DMO said the next administration will inherit a public debt of N77 trillion if the N23 trillion loans from the Central Bank

of Nigeria (CBN) are securitised.

The Director-General of the DMO, Patience Oniha, stated this during the public presentation of the 2023 budget in Abuja recently.

Her announcement came on the heels of heated debates on the sustainability of Nigeria's debt amid shrinking revenue and mounting CBN loans.

Daily Trust recalls that President Muhammadu Buhari requested a delayed approval for the N23.7 trillion loan that had already been spent, causing an uproar in the Senate.

The lawmakers rejected the request and accused the president of violating the constitution. They also demanded details of how the money was spent.

However, the minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Zainab Ahmed, said a committee has been set up by the Senate to interface with the ministry to provide further explanations.

She added that the federal government was optimistic that the National Assembly would approve the proposal to securitise the loans.

She added, however, that should the CBN loans be added to the debt profile, the nation's debt portfolio would increase significantly.

This Fact Check is produced in partnership with the Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD)

JOB VACANCIES

We are a steadily growing indigenous company providing technological solutions. Growth and expansion has necessitated the need for us to recruit self-motivated individuals with high sense of commitment to fill the following positions:

1. SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE - ABUJA

- Qualification:** Graduate in Humanities, Law, Business Administration, etc. (MBA will be an added advantage).
- Experience:** Minimum of 3 years' experience with a busy Top Executive is required.
- Key Job Specs:** Provide administrative/secretarial support services to the CEO. Co-ordinate activities of other unit heads in the company and compile/generate Business Reports for use of the Chief Executive, and render services at top management meetings.
- Ensure proper organization of the CEO office, equipment and requisites; and attend to his official/personal correspondence, contacts, visitors, etc.
- Attributes:-**
- An excellent communicator
 - Proficiency in use of essential computer application packages
 - Pleasant and honest personality
 - Strong organizational skills, etc.

2. ACCOUNTANT - ABUJA

- Qualification:** B.Sc/HND in Accountancy or related discipline, plus Membership of ICAN.
- Experience:** Minimum of 3 years post qualification accounting experience gained in commercial or industrial environment.
- Key Job Specs:**
- Establish, maintain and co-ordinate implementation of accounting control/procedures.
 - Timely, accurately and independently prepare periodic financial reports/positions in line with accounting standards.
 - Interact with external auditors, stakeholders, etc. and carry out routine admin/management functions, etc.
- Attributes:-**
- Ability to work under pressure
 - Possession of good flair for figure
 - Must be analytical
 - Computer Literacy (Microsoft & Accounting Packages)
 - Must have Good grasp of financial reporting,
 - Honest personality, etc.

3. PROJECT MANAGERS - ABUJA

- Qualification:** Graduates in Engineering, Business Administration, etc. MBA or Certification in Project Management will be an added advantage.
- Experience:** Minimum of 3 years' experience in Project Management.
- Key Job Specs:**
- Successful management of turnkey projects via effective monitoring and co-ordination.
 - Managing works in accordance with company quality system, customers' specifications and recommended best practices.
 - Ensuring teams follow correct procedures, policies and documentation requirements across project phases.
 - Conducting regular team meetings, contacts and tracking project progress and providing timely feed back to management, etc.
- Attributes:**
- An excellent communicator
 - Proficiency in use of essential computer application packages
 - Strong organizational skills, etc.

4. IT SPECIALIST - ABUJA

- Qualification:** Graduate in Computer Science, Programming, Engineering, etc. with recognized IT Professional Certification.
- Experience:** Minimum of 3 years' experience in technology portfolio management.
- Key Job Specs:**
- Develop policies for internal and project operations
 - Manage and support delivery of software and hardware operations.
 - Drive innovations via recommendation of viable technologies
 - Enable process efficiencies and effectiveness of IT solutions, etc
- Attributes:**
- Must be analytical
 - Proficiency in use of essential computer application packages
 - Strong organizational skills, etc.

5. SENIOR ACCOUNTS CLERKS - ABUJA

- Qualification:** ND Accountancy/ICAN-ATS Certificate/ICAN Foundation
- Experience:** Minimum of 3 years audit/book-keeping/commercial experience gained in reputable organizations.
- Attributes:-**
- Ability to work under pressure
 - Possession of good flair for figure
 - Honest personality, etc.

6. TECHNICIANS - LAGOS & ABUJA

- Qualification:** ND, Technical School Diploma or Trade Tests Certificate in Electrical/Electronics.
- Experience:** Minimum of 5 years work experience as Technicians in Technicals/Engineering environment.

REMUNERATION

The above positions offer attractive and competitive remuneration packages, commensurate to qualification and experience, as well progressive career development, for the right candidates.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Applications, accompanied with detailed Curriculum Vitae, should be addressed, within one week from the date of this publication, to: hrprojectrecruit2023@gmail.com

Emir of Dutse buried amid eulogies

By Muideen Olaniyi (Abuja) & Ali Rabiu Ali (Dutse)

● Sultan, Atiku, Shettima, Bukola, others attend

A mammoth crowd witnessed the burial of the remains of the late Emir of Dutse, Alhaji Nuhu Muhammad Sunusi, Wednesday evening in Dutse, the Jigawa State capital.

The burial prayer took place in accordance with Islamic rites at the Dutse Eid ground around 3:20pm.

To avoid a stampede, the funeral prayer was observed without bringing the body out of the ambulance that conveyed it to the venue.

Daily Trust recalls that the emir died Tuesday evening at Cedar Crest Hospital, Abuja after a brief illness.

Those that attended the burial were state governor, Abubakar Badaru; former Vice President Atiku Abubakar, former Senate President Bukola Saraki; former Borno governor, Senator Kashim Shattima and former Jigawa governors: Alhaji Sule Lamido and Senator Saminu Turaki.

Also in attendance were the Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Sa'ad Abubakar III; Emir of Kano Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero; Shehu of Borno, Abubakar Ibn Umar Garbai El-Kanemi; and emirs of Ringim, Hadejia, Gumel, Kazaure, Ningi, Zazzau, Das and Rano, among many others.

Atiku, who is the PDP presidential candidate in the upcoming general elections, addressed the late emir as the father of all because of his kindness



■ Sympathizers at the burial of Emir of Dutse, Alhaji Dr. Nuhu Muhammad Sunusi, yesterday

Photo: Ali Rabiu Ali

and support to his people.

He prayed that Allah forgive him and bless his children and family that he left on earth.

Governor Badaru said Jigawa and Nigeria had lost a prominent and kindhearted personality who dedicated himself to supporting and addressing issues in the state ranging from insecurity, education mater and agriculture among many others.

Lamido said the late emir was the person that introduced tests before marriage in the state and had recorded a lot of success.

He described him as a 'Man of God' who always supported religion and people not only in Jigawa but across Nigeria and abroad.

The Sultan also described the late emir as a 'man of integrity' who had the respect of many emirs and prominent Nigerians because of his talent, faith, dedication, support, and humility.

Our correspondent

reports that before the emir died, he was taking care of more than 1,000 orphans and feeding about the same number of Almijiris every evening in his home.

Buhari's delegation attends burial

President Muhammadu Buhari on Wednesday sent a delegation led by the Minister of Water Resources, Sulaiman Adamu, to the burial.

The delegation which included the Minister of Power, Aliyu Abubakar; the Minister of State, Works and Housing, Umar El-Yakub; the Senior Special Assistant to the President (Media and Publicity), Garba Shehu; and the Presidential Protocol Liaison Officer, Shehu Usman Bello, was first allowed a view of the corpse to offer prayers before its internment.

The Galadiman Dutse, Alhaji Basiru Muhammed Sunusi, who is an older brother of the deceased, and Hajjiya Gaji Muhammad Sunusi,

senior wife of the late emir, said they were pleased with the president for identifying with the family at their difficult moment.

The state governor; the Emir of Hadejia, Dr Adamu Abubakar Maje, who is the Chairman of the state's Council of Traditional Rulers and the Sultan who all received the delegation, thanked the president for honouring the people of the state.

Buhari, in a statement issued by his media aide, Malam Garba Shehu, said the demise of the emir had deprived the nation of a formidable agent of development.

The president, in a message to the Emirate Council, said the deceased left a mark as a recognized leader in re-forestation and the restoration of the green ecosystem.

He condoled the family, the Dutse Emirate Council and the entire people of the state and urged them to sustain the worthy causes championed by the late emir.

2023: Ogun Imams warn against inciting sermons, comments

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

The League of Imams and Alfas in Ogun State has cautioned religious leaders and politicians to desist from making sermons and comments that can plunge the state into crisis before, during and after the 2023 polls.

The Directorate of Leadership and Good Governance set up by the league made this known in a communique it released after a three-day interactive session with governorship candidates in Ogun.

The communique jointly signed by the chairman of the directorate, Qasim

Sanusi, and the secretary, Tajudeen Uthman, urged religious to preach love and peaceful coexistence among the masses.

The Islamic body also urged politicians to be responsible in their electioneering activities.

Also, the body charged residents to visit offices of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) or other designated places to collect their permanent voter cards (PVCs) in preparation to vote for the best candidate.

At least seven political parties and their candidates had taken part in the interactive session organised by the Islamic leaders.

Buhari inaugurates Mallam Alu Farm Project, others in Jigawa

From Muideen Olaniyi & Ali Rabiu Ali (Dutse)

President Muhammadu Buhari on Tuesday inaugurated several projects in Jigawa State, among them, the Mallam Alu Farm Project, a private enterprise championed by a former Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, Farouk Adamu Aliyu.

The president visited four local government areas to inaugurate projects including the Hadejia Valley Irrigation Scheme at Auyo, Birnin Kudu Specialist Hospital, Malam Alu Integrated Agro-Allied Farm, Birnin Kudu; and the dualised Unity-Pentagon-Fanisau Road during his one-day official visit to the state.

At the farm, the president unveiled a 50.3 metres flag pole, described as the tallest in the country by Aliyu.

The president described

the farm as another commendable project which perfectly aligned with the administration's agricultural transformation agenda.

He commended Aliyu for championing the project, saying "I believe it will also significantly contribute to our objectives of economic diversification, food security and job creation.

"We hope to see more such private sector-led large agricultural projects, especially with the enabling environment provided by both the state and the federal government."

Buhari also charged the Jigawa State government to sustain its commitment to the agricultural sector while acknowledging the success of the cluster system introduced by Governor Mohammed Badaru Abubakar under the slogan "Farming is a Business".

NNPP reports Gombe Chief Magistrate to NJC

From Haruna Gimba Yaya, Gombe

The New Nigeria Peoples Party (NNPP) has reported Chief Magistrate Aliyu Abubakar to the National Judicial Council (NJC) over alleged abuse of office, abdication of duty and unlawful detention of its member.

In a petition to the Chief Justice of Nigeria and Chairman of NJC, Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, counsel to the NNPP, Ayuba Rabiu, accused Abubakar of unlawfully detaining a member of

the party, Ahmed Mandi Abubakar, on the order of Gombe Governor Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya.

According to the copy of the petition obtained by Daily Trust, Abubakar was arrested on January 16 over alleged injurious falsehood against the governor.

"Prior to his arrest, our client had hitherto granted an interview at Jewel FM, a local radio in Gombe, wherein he freely expressed his views about the award of contracts for the building of the Government House Fence,

a view the governor found offensive and ordered for his arrest.

"While under detention our client was denied administrative bail, even though the alleged offence for which he was being investigated upon is ordinarily bailable," he said.

Rabiu added that the accused person was charged with a one-count charge of false statement against the governor, contrary to Section 393 of the Penal Code Law.

He stated that on the adjourned day for ruling

on the bail application, the presiding magistrate and staff of the court registry of the court were absent, while the defendant was not produced from the custodial centre where he was remanded on January 20.

The party, therefore, appealed for the immediate intervention and investigation into the issues raised, and called for the investigation of activities of the chief magistrate," in order not to allow him to throw or continue to drag the judicial arm of government into the mud."

Court orders arrest of Kano APC chair

From Salim Umar Ibrahim, Kano

A Federal High Court sitting in Kano has granted an order for leave to immediately investigate, arrest and prosecute the Kano State Chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Abdullahi Abbas, over alleged threat to life, disruption of peace and hate speeches.

The plaintiff, Mahmoud Lamido, through his counsel, Bashir Yusuf Muhammad Tudunwazirchi, sought the arrest of Abbas for issuing a threat to his life via phone call, insinuating that he would kill him.

Justice S.A. Amobeda granted the order and adjourned till February 16 for the report of compliance.



Funeral Announcement

for

LATE DAME
**CAROLINE OLADUNNI
ADEBUTU KJW**
(NEE JAIYESIMI)

The burial arrangements for our **Late Matriarch - DAME CAROLINE OLADUNNI ADEBUTU -NEE JAIYESIMI** of **Odogbolu Descent and Iperu-Remo Matrimony** to **SIR KESINGTON ADEBUNOLA ADEBUTU CFR**, shall take place as follows:

7th Feb. 2023 Service of Song at Harbour Point, Victoria Island, Lagos.
Time: 5pm

8th Feb.2023 Commendation Service at Hoare's Memorial Methodist Cathedral Yaba. **Time:** 10am

8th Feb. Corpse Moves to Iperu via Odogbolu. **Time:** 11am

9th Feb. 2023 Christian Wake at Marble House Iperu. **Time:** 5pm to 7pm.

10th Feb. 2023 Burial Service at Wesley Methodist Cathedral, Iperu. **Time:** 11am

10th Feb. 2023 Entertainment of Guests at Sir Kesington Adebutu Resort,, Iperu-Ode-Remo Road. **Time:** 1pm.

As we pray for the peaceful repose of our beloved Matriarch, we wish you journey mercies. Amen.

Sir Kesington Adebukunola Adebutu OON CON CFR KJW, FISM FNIJ FAmEdS
Odole-Oodua of The Source
For : *The Adebutu Dynasty.*

Classifieds

Booking is Simple and Quick

MADE EASY

1 E-booking/E-payment
Make payment into Media Trust Account. Upon the material by using our already existing format below, attached marriage certificate/ Court Affidavit and send with evidence of payment to: **dailytrustadvt@gmail.com**
*See account details below

2 For Enquiries Call:
ABUJA: 0703005 4108, 08135550022
LAGOS: 08038600327, P/H: 07032757193
KANO: 08050455382, SKOTO: 08034275900
KADUNA: 08063479316
JOS: 070651033971
MAIDUGURI: 08060473379
e-mail: dailytrustadvt@gmail.com

3 Visit
Abuja Office: No. 20, P. O. W. Mafemi Crescent, Off Sabon Lari Way, Ujako, Abuja
Lagos Office: No. 10, Acme Road, (Textile Labour House), Agidingbi - Ibeja, Lagos
Kano Office: Plot 56, Behind Kano International Trade Fair Complex, Off Zaria Road, Kano
Kaduna Office: Abdussalam Ziza House, A9 Mogadishu City Center, Kaduna

4 Costing:
Change of Name - **N3,000**
Loss of Documents - **N9,450**
Registration of Trustees - **N15,500**

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

COMPANY REGISTRATION

CHANGE OF NAME

LEGAL NOTICE

I, formerly known as **IGWE AGATHA CHINENYE**, now wish to be called and addressed as **OKOCHI AGATHA CHINENYE**. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

BISHIR: I formerly known as **BASHIR SAIDU** now wish to be called and addressed as **BISHIR SAIDU**. All former documents remain valid and general public particularly: **UBA, ACCESS Bank, NIMC** should take note

I formerly known and addressed as **ABISHAK DIMAS** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABIGAIL DIMAS** former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

I formerly known as **KHADIIJA YAKUBU** now wish to be known and addressed as **KHADIIJA YAKUBU ABARE** all my documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should take note

SARAH*: I formerly known as ***LAMI NUHU*** now wish to be known and addressed as ***SARAH NUHU*** correct *DOB* is ***13-01-1980*** All my former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned the and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **TIJJANI USMAN TIJJANI** now wish to be called and addressed as **AHMAD USMAN TIJJANI**. All former documents remain valid Authorities concern and general public to note

I, formerly known as **ABDULKAREEM RUKAYYA ATTA**, now wish to be called and addressed as **IBRAHIM RUKAYYA ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

I formerly known as **ZAHARADDEEN BARKINDO IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and address as **ZAHARADDEEN BARKINDO**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note

I formerly known and addressed as **SALE DAHIRU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALE HUSSAINI** former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

I formerly known as **RAHA MUAZU** now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM MUAZU** my **DOB** is **8/08/1997** all my documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should take note

I formerly known and addressed as **MERCY BINIKAN MARTIN** now wish to be known and addressed as **Babuken Martin**. All former documents remain valid. Union Bank and general public should take note.

MUHAMMED, I formerly known as **MOHAMMED GARBA** now wish to be called and addressed as **MUHAMMED GARBA SURAJA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **UZOR CHINENYE EVELYN**, now wish to be called and addressed as **EMEKA CHINENYE EVELYN**. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **SAIFULLAHI SANI**, now wish to be known, Called and addressed as **SAIFULLAHI MANNIR SANI**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **HAFSAT USMAN ADAMU** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAFSAT ALKALI USMAN** former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.

OKUNOLA: I formerly known as **AJEIGBA MARY AANU** now wish to be known as **OKUNOLA MARY AANU**. All former documents remain valid. The Department of Chemical Pathology UCH Ibadan, authority concerned and general public please note.

I formerly known as **MUSTAPHA MUHAMMAD**. Now wish to be called and addressed as **MUJTABA MUHAMMAD SULAIMAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and General public should please take note.

ABDALLAH, I formerly known as **ALASAN ILIYASU** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABDALLAH ILIYASU ALASAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **KYAUTA EMMANUEL**, now wish to be called and addressed as **KYAUTA EMMANUEL YELMI**. **DOB: 17/05/1988**. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

ISAH: I, formerly known as **SHUAIBU ISAH YAURI** now wish to be known and Addressed as **SHUAIBU ISAH**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **PETER UCHECHI SAMUEL** now wish to be known and addressed as **PAUL UCHECHI SAMUEL**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

Tujja: I formerly known as **Talwa shaiff** now wish to be known and addressed as **Tujja Sherif Talba**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I was bearing **AHMED AMINU** and **AHMED AMINU FASKARI**. That since I am one and the same person, I wish to bear **AHMED AMINU FASKARI**. All documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public to take note.

HAJARAH, I formerly known as **ABOKI NI MATULLAH HAJARAH** now wish to be called and addressed as **HAJARAH UTHMAN ABOKI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **OLUSEGUN OLAOJO**, now wish to be called and addressed as **OLAOJO OLUSEGUN MICHAEL**. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

ALTINE: I formerly known as **ALTINE PAPIS ASAH** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAKUBU ALTINE KWASAU** All former documents remain valid authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **ISREAL PRINCESS ESTHER** now wish to be known and addressed as **PAUL PRINCESS ESTHER**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known as **BELLO ABUBAKAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **GARBA BELLO** and my date of birth is **01/05/1996** not **24/01/1994**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

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

FALALU, I formerly known as **FARAU MUHD** now wish to be called and addressed as **FALALU MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

HAPPY: I, formerly known as **NANRING HAPPINESS DONTUR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **NANRING HAPPY DONTURE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **AHMAD MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD AHMAD**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **OTIODA DICKSON PAUL** and Now wish to be known and addressed as **OTIODA EIMOGA PAUL**. All former documents remain valid, Bank authorities and all relevant agencies and general public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **Laban Gamba** now wish to be known and addressed as **Gambo Laban Awaje**. **DOB 1-1-1996** not **1-1-1997**. All former documents remained valid. General public should take note

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

FAITH, I formerly known as **JENNIFER EKELEKHOMHEN** now wish to be called and addressed as **EKELEKHOMHEN FAITH JENNIFER**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **OKPA EFFA PIUS**, now wish to be called and addressed as **ODEY EFFA-OKPA MICHAEL**. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

YAHAYA: I formerly known as **EIGEGE REBECCA** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAHAYA REBECCA**. All other documents remain valid. The authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

GARBA: I formerly known as **RAKIYA IDRIS** now wish to be known and addressed as **GARBA IDRIS RAKIYA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

HANZI*: I formerly known as ***HAMZIYA AHMAD*** now wish to be known and addressed as ***HANZI MUHAMMADU***. All my former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned the and general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **HAFSAT AMINU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SAADATU AMINU**, All former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known and addressed as **EMMANUEL ACHU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ACHU EMMANUEL UCHENNA MY CORRECT DOB 10-10-1989 NOT 10-10-1988** all former documents remain valid, general public to take note

OSARIEMEN: I formerly known and addressed as **OSARO I OSARIEMEN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **OSARUMWENSE I OSARIEMEN**. All other documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ATTISSO: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS EMMANUEL CHIZARAM ATTISSO**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS MICHAEL IFEOMA DORCAS**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME: That my name was wrongly inputted in the National Identity Management Commission's system as **BASHIRU SAHEED AKINTUNDE**; whereas, my name is **BASIRU SAHEED AKINTUNDE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public, please take note.

SARAH: I formerly known and addressed as **SARATU PAUL JOSHUA**, but now wish to be called and addressed as **SARAH PAUL**. All former documents remain valid. The First Bank Nigeria PLC. And the General Public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as **ALIYU USMAN MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD DANLADI USMAN**. All former documents remain valid UBA And General Public should please take note.

I formerly known as **NASIR MUKHTAR** now wish to be called and addressed as **NASIR MUKHTAR PANDA**. All former documents remain valid Authorities concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as **UCHE CHETACHI QUEEN** now want to be known and addressed as **ORJI CHETACHI QUEEN**. All former documents remain valid and the general public should take note.

ELIZABETH: I formerly known and addressed as **IBRAHIM AISHAT AISHAT**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OMOMOH ELIZABETH**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

CHANGE OF NAME: ANYOR: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **BIEM EMMANUEL**. NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **ANYOR EMMANUEL BIEM**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

HUSSAINI: I formerly known as ***USSAINI USMAN*** now wish to be known and addressed as ***USMAN HUSSAINI***. All my former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned the and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **ALIYU HAMZA 29/4/1982** now wish to be known as **ALIYU ZAKARIYYA HAMZA 15/8/1985**. All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **RUMANA ADO BAYERO** now wish to be called and addressed as **RUMANA BABA NABEGU**. All former documents remain valid Authorities concern and general public to note

I formerly known as **HIDATU SULEIMAN** but now wish to be known and addresses as **HINDU SULEIMAN** and my correct date of birth is **5/7/1972** not **1/1/1972** all my former documents to remain valid general public financial institution and all authorities concern should please take note.

ANSLEM: I formerly known and addressed as **ANSLEM GLORIA REMI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ANSLEM IKPEMINGOGENA GLORIA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

MRS. JOCENTHA: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **MISS JOCENTHA MEMSHIMA PUSAH** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **MRS JOCENTHA MEMSHIMA MELLADU**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

I formerly known and addressed as **Basiru Yakubu** now wish to be known and addressed as **Yusuf Yakubu**. All former documents remained valid. Startling Bank and general public should take note.

I formerly known as **BABAGIDA IBRAHIM** now wish to be known as **BABANGIDA IBRAHIM** All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **AHMAD SULEIMANU** now wish to be called and addressed as **AMADU SALMANA**. All former documents remain valid Authorities concern and general public to note

MUJIDAT: I formerly known as **MUJIDAT MONINUOLA FOLARIN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUJIDAT MONINUOLA OMOTOSHO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

JOHNSON: I formerly known and addressed as **AYOMONEKHI FRIDAY**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **JOHNSON FRIDAY ABEDNIGO**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known as **LIMAN YAKUBU** now I wish to be known as **ALHAJI YAKUBU LIMAN** All my documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note please.

JOCELYN: I formerly known as **JOCELYN ISOKEN ASEMOTA**, now wish to be known as **JOCELYN ASEMOTA EGBEKAI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **HADIZA MU'AZU**. Now wish to be called and addressed as **HADIZA USMAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and General public should please take note.

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

UFEDO: I formerly known as **UFEDO UKWELA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **NELSON UFEDO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MISS IGHOGBOJA MERCY EJIROGHENE** now wished to be known and address as **MRS ADESINA MERCY EJIROGHENE**. All former documents remain valid. Bank and general public should take note.

I formerly known as **YAKUBU HARUNA ABARE** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAKUBU ABARE YAKUBU** all my documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should take note

CAROLINE: I formerly known as **ONWUWANAKU CAROLINE UCHE**, now wish to be known as **OKOLI CAROLINE AMUCHE**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I formerly known as **TOYIN OBAFEMI TOLU** now wish to be known and addressed as **TOYIN OBAFEMI OMONIYI**. All former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

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

BASHAR: I, formerly known as **BASHAR AMBURSA MOHAMMED** now wish to be known and address as **BASHAR MUHAMMED**. My correct **DOB** **06/03/1979**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MURITALA ROFIAT YETUNDE** with wrong date of birth **August 21, 2003** now wish to be known and addressed as **MURITALA ROFIAT OMOYENI** with correct date of birth **August 21, 2005**. All former documents remain valid. Bank and general public should take note.

IJAI: I, formerly known and addressed as **WANADA IJAI ADAMU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IJAI ADAMU MAMZA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

HELEN: I formerly known as **WAPNAAN HELEN**, now wish to be known as **WAPNAAN HELEN TITUS**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I formerly known as **HAMBALI FATIMATU** now wish to be known and addressed as **Sadiya Umar Abdullahi**. all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

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

HALIMATU: I formerly known as **HALIMATU AHMED** now wish to be known and addressed as **HALIMATU AHMED KAFUR**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

I, formerly known as **MOHAMMED IBRAHIM HARUNA** now wish to be known and addressed as **HARUNA IBRAHIM MUHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

ADO: I formerly known as **AMINU ADAMU**, now wish to be known as **ADO AMINU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note

AMAKA: I formerly known as **AGINA AMAKA LINDA**, now wish to be known as **AGINA-EZEANYA AMAKA LINDA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **BABAGIDA IDI** now wish to be known and addressed as **BABANGIDA MUHAMMAD** all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

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

SUNDAY: I formerly known as **SUNDAY AMBASSEY AGU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SUNDAY AMBASSEY**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

I, formerly known as **SALISU ADAMU GIRO** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALISU ADAMU YAURI**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

NNENNA: I formerly known as **FATIMA NNENNA AKAMETALU**, **NNENNA MABEL OYEABOR** now wish to be known as **NNENNA MABEL AKAMETALU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.

CHANGE OF NAME: I formerly known as **NASH ALI JACOB**, now wish to be known as **NASH JACOB GYANG**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **AUWAL MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **AUWAL MUHAMMAD BABANGIDA** all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR MUHAMMED RASHEEDAT**. Now wish to be known as **RASHEEDAT ABUBAKAR JIBRIL** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

MUHAMMADU: I formerly known as **MUHAMMADU GARBA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMADU ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

ACHU: I formerly known and addressed as **EMMANUEL ACHU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ACHU EMMANUEL UCHENNA MY CORRECT DOB 10-10-1989 NOT 10-10-1988** all former documents remain valid, general public to take note.

JOHN: I formerly known as **JOHN IZO**, now wish to be known as **JOHN NYIZO**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.

CHANGE OF NAME: I formerly known as **DUNG PAM DALYOP**, now wish to be known as **DUNG ISREAL**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **RABIU MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **RABIU SALLAU** all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as **ASHIRU SANI** now wish to be known as **ALI LAWAN** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

AHMED: I formerly known as **AHMED GARBA** now wish to be known and addressed as **AHMED ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

I, formerly known and addressed as **BALA SABO IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULHAFIZ BALA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known as **AUWALU ABDU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AUWAL ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid. Bauchi State Primary Health Care Development Agency, Authority concerned and General Public should take note please.

CHANGE OF NAME: I formerly known as **ADOLPHUS CYNTHIA TARILA**, now wish to be known as **ABAKPA CYNTHIA TARILA**. All former documents remain valid. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **RURIWAN SANI, RUDIWAN SANI KATSINA, RILWAN SANI** wish to be known and addressed as **RUDWAN SANI** all former documents remain valid, General public and the authority concerned should take note

I formerly known as **SALISU LAWAN** now wish to be known as **LAWAN SALISU** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

Classifieds made easy

PUBLIC NOTICE Page 2

I formerly known as MUHAMMED MUSA21/2/1992 now wish to be known as UMAR MUHAMMED 1/1/1992 All former documents remain valid Authority concerned about and general public should please take note

IBRAHIM: I, formerly known as ALIYU ISHAQ now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM ISHAQ ALIYU All former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

I, FATIMA LAWL KHALID my date of birth was wrongly captured as 1/10/1960 in my national identity card my correct date of birth is 10/01/1966 all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

BAKO: I, formerly known as BISKILA LAZARUS BAKO now wish to be called as BAKO BISKILA all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

KESI: I, formerly known as KELECHUKWU MATHWEN NNAMOUNU now wish to be called as KESI DANLAMI NNAMOUNU all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

AISHATU: I, formerly known as AISHATU SANI, now wish to be known and addressed as AISHATU UMARU MAIGANA. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

Confirmation of name: This is to confirm that SHEHU ABBAS and ABBAS SHEHU are one and the same person. The general public should please take note.

OKWUOSA : I formerly known as OKWUOSA CHINELO CHRISTIANA Now wish to be known, Called and addressed as BENJAMIN CHINELO CHRISTIANA. Former documents remain valid. Public note.

GWANI: I, formerly known as ABBA MUSA now wish to be known and addressed as GWANI AWUAL. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as IBRAHIM MOHAMMED Now wish to be known, Called and addressed as IBRAHIM MUHAMMAD. Former documents remain valid. Public note.

HANNATU: I FORMERLY HANNATU ABDULLAHI, NOW WISH TO BE CALLED AND ADDRESS AS HANNATU SAFIYANU, FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINS VALID. BANK AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE

JAMES: I Formerly known as MOSES ALKALI Now wish to be called and addressed as JAMES ALKALI All Former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

I have been bearing NWODO ANTHONY since birth that I now wish to be known and call JOHN ANTHONY. Union bank and authority concern please take note?

CORRECTION OF NAME IBRAHIM: I, formerly known and addressed as IBRAHIM LAUWALI. Now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM LAUWALI. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

AKINTUNDE: I, formerly known and addressed as VINCENT STELLA IFEYINWA. Now wish to be known and addressed as AKINTUNDE STELLA IFEYINWA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

OYEFESO: I, formerly known and addressed as Mrs AKANBI GRACE FUNMILAYO. Now wish to be known and addressed as OYEFESO GRACE FUNMILAYO. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

JOODA: I, formerly known and addressed as AFOLABI TOYIN ABIGAE. Now wish to be known and addressed as JOODA TOYIN ABIGAE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

CONFIRMATION OF MARRIAGE/ CHANGE OF NAME OWOYEMI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss OYEDELE TEMITOPE ELIZABETH. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs OWOYEMI TEMITOPE RUKAYAT. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

ADENIJI: I, formerly known and addressed as OYEBADE ADENIJI. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADENIJI LATEEF ALABA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS ALIYU MOHAMMED. NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS ZAYYANU MUHAMMED. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINS VALID. BANK AUTHORITY AND GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE NOTE.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS COLE ISOLA. NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS GBADEGESIN AWWAL AJIBADE. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINS VALID. BANK AUTHORITY AND GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE NOTE.

AJANAKU: I, formerly known and addressed as USMAN TOYIN FATIMAH. Now wish to be known and addressed as AJANAKU TOYIN FATIMAH. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME THAT MY NAME WAS WRONGLY WRITTEN ON MY BVN AS BENJAMIN ONU INSTEAD OF ONU BEN ALOZIE. THAT MY REAL NAME IS ONU BEN ALOZIE. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINS VALID. AUTHORITY CONCERNED AND GENERAL PUBLIC TAKE NOTE.

CORRECTION OF NAME AND AGE DECLARATION I, ANI CHINYERE AKA. That my name was wrongly captured as ANI CHINYERE ABA instead of ANI CHINYERE AKA. That her/his/forth I want to be known, called and addressed as ANI CHINYERE AKA. That I was confidentially told by my parents which I verify believe that I was born on the 10th day of October, 1987. All former documents remain valid. Authority, Management and general public to take note.

ISAAC: I, formerly known and addressed as OSSE EBEL IZAC. Now wish to be known and addressed as ISAAC EBEL OSSE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

That I was formerly called, known and addressed as LATEEF ALIMAT SADIA. That I now wish to be called, known and addressed as ABDULTEEF ALIMAT SADIA. That all my former documents remain valid. General public take note.

JEMILAT: I, formerly known and addressed as JEMILAT ABDULMALKI. Now wish to be known and addressed as JEMILAT KEHINDE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME I, IKEDIASHI MICHAEL ONOCHIE. That my name was wrongly written in my Account as MICHAEL ONOCHIE instead of IKEDIASHI MICHAEL ONOCHIE. That the correct name is IKEDIASHI MICHAEL ONOCHIE. That all documents bearing my name remains valid, Authority concerned and general public take note.

OKE: I, formerly known and addressed as ADESANYA ADEWUNMI TIMILEYIN. Now wish to be known and addressed as OKE ADEWUNMI AZIZAT. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

CONFIRMATION OF NAMES That on my BVN, my name appears as PRINCE EYINNAYA ENOCH, on my NIN, It appears as OGBONNA NWAOKIOMA PRINCE. That I am the same person bearing PRINCE EYINNAYA ENOCH and OGBONNA NWAOKIOMA PRINCE. All documents bearing both names are mine and remain valid. General public should please take note.

FOJEBI: I, formerly known and addressed as EDUN KUBURAT MORENIKEJI. Now wish to be known and addressed as FOJEBI KUBURAT MORENIKEJI. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

ADEYEYE: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ADEWUNMI DORCAS KEHINDE. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs ADEYEYE DORCAS KEHINDE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

BADMUS: I, formerly known and addressed as SUNMONU RASHIDAT DAMILOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as BADMUS RASHIDAT DAMILOLA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

FAREMI: I, formerly known and addressed as Mrs ADEYEMO OLUWARANTI DEBORAH. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs FAREMI OLUWARANTI DEBORAH. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

OGUNJOBI-ASENUGA: I, formerly known and addressed as OGUNJOBI CHRISTIANA OLUFUNKE. Now wish to be known and addressed as OGUNJOBI-ASENUGA CHRISTIANA OLUFUNKE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

KUSENTAN: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss KUSENTAN RACHAEL FUNMILOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as Miss KUSENTAN BIDE MI OYINLOLA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

OPAOGUN-KUTI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss OPAOGUN ADEBIMPE ABIODUN. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs OPAOGUN-KUTI ADEBIMPE ABIODUN MARIAM. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

MERCY: I formerly known as MAKWARA JOSHUA GADZAMA, now wish to be known and addressed as MERCY JOSHUA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I, MARYAM ABDULLAHI do solemnly declare that: the names MARYAM ABDULLAHI and MARYAM UMAR ABDULLAHI are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called MARYAM ABDULLAHI with 31/07/1988 as D.O.B. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

I, FRANCIS NUNGBE GONTOR do solemnly declare that: the names FRANCIS NUNGBE GONTOR and FRANCIS NUNGBE GONTOR are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called FRANCIS NUNGBE GONTOR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

I, AHMAD MALAN ISA do solemnly declare that: the names AHMAD MALAN ISA and MALLAM AHMED are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called AHMAD MALAN ISA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

LADAN I, formerly known as USMAN MOHAMED now wish to be known and called LADAN GONI BURUM. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

ALIYU: I formerly known as ALIYU A. ABDULLAHI, now wish to be known and addressed as ALIYU ALHAJI ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MICHAEL I, formerly known as MICHAEL ABARE MAISHIDE now wish to be known and addressed as MICHAEL YAHAYA. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as SHAMSU YUSHAU ADAMU now wish to be known and addressed as SHAMSU ADAMU. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as KWAGAM AHMADU now wish to be known and addressed and as KWAGAM BUBA. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ABDULMUMINI : I formerly known as HARUNA ADAM ABDULMUMINI now wish to be known as ABDULMUMINI HARUNA. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

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

FATIMA I formerly known and addressed as FATIMA ISMA'IL MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as FATIMA ISMA'IL. All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ADAM I formerly known and addressed as MALLAM ADAM BIDA now wish to be known and addressed as ADAM BIDA All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

RAYMOND: I formerly known as RAYMOND JAMES, now wish to be known as RAYMOND MUSA ULARAMU. All former documents remain valid. With correct DOB 14/02/2006 NOT 12/02/1995. General public should take note.

ABUBAKAR: I formerly known as MOHAMMED ABUBAKAR, now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMAD ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MUSTAPHA: I formerly known as MUSTAFA UMAR, now wish to be known and addressed as UMARU MUHAMMED MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

UMAR: I formerly known as ABDULLAHI UMAR, D.O.B 25/06/1993, now wish to be known and addressed as BALA UMAR, D.O.B 01/01/1990. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

AMOO= I, formerly known as SIMIYU ADIO OLORIN now wish to be known as AMOO, SIMIYU ADIO. General public should take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as AGI NKECHI QUEEN AND AUDU QUEEN, Now wish to be known and addressed as AKPELU NKECHI QUEEN, and my Correct date of birth is 12-05-1999 not 12-08-2000. All former documents remain valid, general public take note.

That during the registration of my BVN, my name was wrongly arranged as MARITHA CHINYERE UGBEDE instead of UGBEDE MARITHA CHINYERE, now wish to be known and addressed as UGBEDE MARITHA CHINYERE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note

That during BVN Registration I used the name CHINONYELUM OWOH instead of BENNI CHINONYELUM VIRGINIA, now wish to be known and addressed as BENNI CHINONYELUM VIRGINIA. All documents bearing my former name still remain valid. General public take note

I, formerly known and addressed as THOMPSON ROSE CHITURU, now wish to be called and addressed as BENSON ROOSE NWABUEZE. All document bearing former names remain valid. General public please take note

I, formerly known and addressed as BANIGO FRANK TAMUNO AND BANIGO FRANK, now wish to be called and addressed as BANIGO IBITAMUNO. All document bearing former names remain valid. General public please take note

TOHEEBU= I, formerly known as MUTOLIBU, JELILATU TITILOPE, now wish to be known as TOHEEBU, JELILATU TITILOPE. General public should take note.

ADEDOYIN= I, formerly known as ADEDOYIN TUMININU EMMANUEL, now wish to be known as ADEDOYIN, BENJAMIN ADEYEMI. General public should take note.

OGUNDARE= I, formerly known as OLUWOLE MARIAM and DOB as 5/9/1987, now wish to be known as OGUNDARE, MARIAM ABOSEDE and DOB as 9/5/1987. General public should take note.

BABATUNDE= I, formerly known as BABALOLA, SULIYAT ABIODUN, now wish to be known as BABATUNDE, SULIYAT ABIODUN. General public should take note.

OBIECHEFU I, formerly known as *OBIECHEFU MIRACLE OTITO*. Now wish to be known and addressed as *OBIECHEFU CHINEDU MIRACLE*. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

NWAGWU I, formerly known as *NICKSONNOLUGA ONYINYE ESTHER*. Now wish to be known and addressed as *NWAGWU ONYINYE ESTHER*. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME ON MY PENSION ACCOUNT: That during the opening of my pension account, my name was wrongly written as ARIKO PRINCE EBRI OBETEN instead of ARIKO PRINCE EBRI-OBETEN. That my correct name is ARIKO PRINCE EBRI-OBETEN. All documents bearing my former name remain valid general public should take note.

MRS. AKANI: I, formerly known and addressed as MISS INYE AOAIYI ISOKARIARI, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS INYE NYECHE AKANI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note

I, formerly known RAFAT TITILAYO KADRI and KADRI RAFAT TITILAYO with D.O.B 04-06-1966 now wish to be known and addressed as RAFAT TITILAYO ABDULKADRI with D.O.B 06-04-1966. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as ALIYU MURITALA now wish to be known and addressed as ALIYU MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as MUHAMMAD AUWAL SANI now wish to be known and addressed as UMARU ALHASSAN. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as SHEHU ALIYU MABERA now wish to be known and addressed as SHEHU ABUBAKAR with D.O.B 10-10-1956. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as ABBAS ALIYU with D.O.B 08/12/1996 now wish to be known and addressed as AMINU ALIYU with D.O.B 04/08/1993. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note. or Fatia Abdulisalamibudusalami.abdulfata@gmail.com + Add to contacts

I, formerly known as SHUAIBU HABARA now wish to be known and addressed as SHUAIBU FATIMA. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as MUHAMMADU HAMZA now wish to be known and addressed as AMINCHI HAMZA. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

SHEIKH MUJTABA SALGA ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 2020.

- TRUSTEES ARE:
- MUJTABA FARUKU SALGA
 - IBRAHIM ABDULLAHI MUSA
 - MUKTAR NAZIRU ISMAIL
 - YUNUSA SANI ABDULLAHI
 - ADAM IBRAHIM ABDULLAHI
 - ALIYU DAHIRU SALGA
 - SULEIMAN LAWAN
 - ABDULLAHI MUJTABA SALGA

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

1. To engage in charitable activities such as helping person with special needs, orphans and other vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the society.

Any Objection to the Registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days from this Publication.

LEGAL NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that AP/NO 214453 INSP Tijjani Tari from 35 pmf Dutse Jigawa State police Command who died on 30/12/2022 at General Hospital Numan, Adamawa State and he has since been buried according to Christian rites, Next of Kin Liatu Elisha wife to the deceased, authorities concerned and general public to take note.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that Mr. Gabriel Ikyernum Abughdyer died on 26/08/2020 at University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, after a brief illness. We the family members of Late Mr. Ikyernum Abughdyer; who was for the most part of his life and sojourn on earth known and referred to as 'Mr. Gabriel Ikyernum Ikyanyon' have relocated from Mbausa Ute and settled and made our abode at Tse Iorndyar Atule in Mbakine Mbaatuhwa, Tsambe Vandeikya LGA of Benue State which is our original ancestral home. We so state hereby that this is where the family shall reside. This is the collective decision of the family and it is unanimously taken and formally captured. This implies that, Mr. Gabriel Ikyernum who was formerly known as Gabriel Ikyernum Ikyanyon shall now be known and referred to as Mr. Gabriel Ikyernum Abughdyer, still the same person. Henceforth, that is how the family name shall flow. Tsambe, Mbashor/Mbausa Ute all in Vandeikya LGA of Benue State, Vandeikya Traditional Council, the Gboko Community, Dangote Cement Plc and the general public to please take note and be properly guided.

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, SOKOTO STATE PROBATE DIVISION OF SOKOTO STATE

WHERE AS the person whose name is set out in the first column here under died Intestate on the date and place stated in the said column, AND WHERE AS the person(s) whose address and claim relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder has/have applied to the High Court of Justice Sokoto for the grant of "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" of the personal properties of the said deceased.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT
AHMAD BALA GUMMI OF GUIWA AREA SOKOTO STATE, WHO DIED ON 10-12-2022 AT UDUTH SOKOTO	BILAL AHMAD OF GUIWA AREA, SOKOTO. THE SON TO THE DECEASED

BISIRIYU AKINDELE OF NIGERIA POLICE FORCE, WHO DIED ON 16-10-2021 AT MANAGEMENT HOSPITAL BOARD (ASUBIARO) OSOGBO OSUN STATE.	AKINDELE BISIRIYU AKINDELE OLUFEMI OF ALI STREET ALAGBON OWOODE EGBADO OGUN STATE. THE CHILDREN TO THE DECEASED.
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DATED AT SOKOTO THIS 1st DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023
HARUNA MUHAMMAD TAMBUAL
CHIEF REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, SOKOTO STATE PROBATE DIVISION OF SOKOTO STATE

WHERE AS the person whose name is set out in the first column here under died Intestate on the date and place stated in the said column, AND WHERE AS the person(s) whose address and claim relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder has/have applied to the High Court of Justice Sokoto for the grant of "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" of the personal properties of the said deceased.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT
IBRAHIM MUHAMMED MAGAJI OF NIGERIA SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENCE CORP SOKOTO COMMAND WHO DIED ON 26-04-2017 AT SPECIALIST HOSPITAL SOKOTO	BASHAR BELLO, ABBA BELLO OF NO 28 ABRASHI ROAD SOKOTO. THE BROTHERS TO THE DECEASED.

MUAZU ABDULLAHI OF GIDAN IGWAI AREA SOKOTO WHO DIED ON 03-12-2021 AT UDUTH SOKOTO	WMARA WADA KWAKWARA SHEME OF GIDAN IGWAI AREA SOKOTO THE BROTHER TO THE DECEASED.
FARUK MUHAMMAD OF NIGERIA IMMIGRATION SERVICE ILLELA BORDER COMMAND WHO DIED ON 05-02-2022 AT UDUTH SOKOTO	GARBA MUHAMMAD LADAN OF UDUTH SOKOTO THE BROTHER TO THE DECEASED.

DATED AT SOKOTO THIS 1st DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023
HARUNA MUHAMMAD TAMBUAL
CHIEF REGISTRAR

Condolence

MESSAGE

I mourn the death of His Royal Highness, the Emir of Dutse, Jigawa State, **Alhaji (Dr) Nuhu Muhammadu Sanusi**.

The late Emir of Dutse earned the respect of people far and near for his forthrightness, exemplary dignity and visionary leadership.

Under his reign Dutse underwent unprecedented transformation which brought development and prosperity to his people.

His keen interest and investment in education would be missed and remembered for a long time.

For me it is a personal loss. I lost a good friend who followed my trajectory and progress. During my visit to him on January 21 as part of my campaign trip to Jigawa State, he revealed this much including the values and career paths we shared.

I send my heartfelt condolences to His Excellency Governor Muhammad Badaru Abubakar, the people of Dutse Emirate and the entire people of Jigawa State over this huge loss.

Late Alhaji (Dr) Nuhu Muhammadu Sanusi
Emir of Dutse

SIGNED

Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu
Jagaban Borgu

Presidential Candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC)



SPORT

High flying Bendel Insurance down El-Kanemi Warriors in Maiduguri

By Jide Olusola

Bendel Insurance of Benin have again shown their determination to stay in top-flight football after defeating hosts, El-Kanemi Warriors by a lone goal in Match Day 5 of the 2022/23 abridged Nigeria Professional Football League season.

Echeta Deputy scored the only goal of the game to see his side top of the Group A table with 15 points while condemning El-Kanemi to its third loss of the season, who are 9th with four points.

Benin Arsenal have so far won all their 5 matches played and are the 3rd NPFL team to win their opening 5 games after Kaduna United did it in 2005 and Heartland in 2015.

In other games, Nasarawa United have remained winless after losing their fifth game of the ongoing season to Plateau United. Ibrahim Mustapha had opened the scoring for Plateau United in the 20th minute but Nasarawa United got back into the game in the 38th minute through King Osanga. Their efforts to get the winning goal failed as Onyebuchi Ifeanyi killed all their hopes in the 69th minute as the game ended 2-1.

In Ikenne, Remo Stars had the best start any team could think of against Enyimba as Samuel Anaekwe scored within 17 seconds of the game, which was the only goal as the Elephants fell to a second league loss.

Kwara United won their first game of the season after



■ Remo's Stars Samuel Anakwe reaching for the skies after scoring the fastest goal of the ongoing season at Match Day 5

defeating Akwa United 2-1. Wasiu Alalade scored in the 14th minute but Olisehmah Cyril's 69th-minute goal put the Uyo side back in the game. With four minutes remaining, Muritala Dagbo ensured his team got all the maximum points.

It was a bad day in the office for Shooting Stars as they lost 2-1 to hosts, Gombe United.

Yusuf Taiye had scored the two goals for Gombe Utd in the 52nd and 61st minute while Ghali Falke's 65th goal was not enough to see the Ibadan side leave with at least a point.

Bello Lukman's 45th-minute goal was all that was needed for Abia Warriors to defeat Niger Tornados while Bayelsa United played out a 1-1 draw against Doma United with Osoboh

Osahon and Samuel Enefiok on the scoresheet.

Defending champions, Rivers United defeated visiting Wikki Tourists 2-0 with the goals from Ebube Duru while Mohammed Olanrewaju led Enugu Rangers to a 1-0 win over Dakkada FC just as Lobi Stars defeated Sunshine Stars 1-0 with Joseph Atule scoring from the penalty spot in the 93rd minute.

20 scrabble players qualified to represent Team Nigeria in USA

From Dotun Omisakin, Lagos

No fewer than twenty players have qualified to represent Nigeria in the forthcoming World English-Language Scrabble Players' Association, WESPA, World Championship in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA in July.

According to the Nigeria Scrabble Federation, NSF, the players that qualified during the trial held in Delta State were former World Champion, Wellington Jighere, two-time African Champion and head coach of Delta State Scrabble Association (DSSA), Dennis Ikekeregbor.

Others are West Africa University Games Champion, Oluwatimilehin Doko, current African Champion and West Africa Scrabble Championship runners-up, Enoch Nwali and Africa's number one female player, Tuoyo Mayuku.

Players include Eta Karo, Wale Fashina, Prince Omosefe, Olatunde Oduwale, Emmanuel Umujose, Precious Igali, Ben Quickpen, Cyril Umebiye, Ezinore George, Jimoh Abdulmumin, Oshevire Avwenagha, Emmanuel Ofidi, Nsikakabasi Etim, John Curtis and Bright Idahosa.

After the trial, Akwa Ibom State-born Nsikakabasi Etim emerged as the winner, which made him the national number one.

Etim who won 12 games in a row and won the qualifiers with 4 games to spare, promised that this squad will bring the trophy back to Nigeria 8 years ago when the country won it.

NBBF assures D'Tigers participation in 2023 World Cup qualifiers

From Dotun Omisakin, Lagos

The Nigeria Basketball Federation, NBBF has given the assurance that Nigeria men's basketball team, D'Tigers will participate in the final window of the 2023 FIBA Men's World Cup Qualifier in Luanda, Angola.

It could be recalled that Daily Trust had reported that D'Tigers' participation in the final window qualifiers billed to hold from February 20-28, 2023 was hanging in the balance.

But in a chat with the Vice president, NBBF Mr. Babatunde Ogunade, he gave the assurance yesterday that all hands are on deck to secure the D'Tiger's participation.

However, he revealed in an exclusive interview that the federation has sent a bill to the sports ministry, adding



that it has been reviewed but the federation is waiting for the release of funds.

"We are preparing, we have sent bills to the ministry, and they have reviewed it but we are waiting for them to release the funds.

"But there is an assurance that D'Tigers will play this last window," he said.

Already, out of the five slots for African countries, Cote D'Ivoire have picked the first ticket and Nigeria has 10 points which put them in a tight corner to qualify.

In his response, the VP said the hope of Nigeria getting a ticket hinged on them winning all their matches during the final window and other results going their way.

The 2023 FIBA Men's World Cup is scheduled to be held from August 25-September 10 in Japan, Indonesia and the Philippines.

AFCON U-17: Golden Eaglets drawn into tough Group B

By Jide Olusola

Nigeria's U-17 national team, the Golden Eaglets have been drawn in Group B of 2023 U-17 Africa Cup of Nations, which includes Morocco, South Africa and Zambia.

The competition, which will take place in Algeria from April 29 to May 19, 2023, will feature 12 nations competing to be crowned the continent's new U-17 champions.

At the draw ceremony conducted inside the Cercle Nationale d'Armee in Algiers yesterday, host nation Algeria birthed in Group A and must be in attrition with Senegal, Congo and Somalia. Cameroon, Mali, Burkina Faso and South Sudan make up Group C.

Nigeria, who are champions of the WAFU B zone and are coached by former Nigeria FIFA World Cup winner Nduka Ugbade, will contest their games in the city of Constantine. Group A will make home in Algiers while Annaba welcomes the teams in Group C.



All four top-placed teams at the tournament now scheduled for 29th April – 19th May will qualify to fly Africa's flag at the FIFA U17 World Cup in Peru later this year.

The Golden Eaglets enter the competition as two-time champions and will look to make it three, having won in 2001 and 2007, finished second in 1995 and 2013, and third in 2003.

Meanwhile, Super Eagles' head coach, José Santos Peseiro was on hand as the Golden Eaglets hammered Ikon Allah Academy 9-0 and Propel Sporting Academy 6-0 in two friendly sessions played within hours at the NFF/FIFA Goal Project, Abuja yesterday.

"I must say I have been impressed by a number of players in this team. They are headed for great things if they keep level heads and remain disciplined," Peseiro said as he welcomed NFF General Secretary, Dr. Mohammed Sanusi towards the tail end of the second encounter.

LINE OF SIGHT

with
Abubakar Adam Ibrahim
abubakaradam@dailytrust.com
Twitter: @Abbakar_himself

Naira scarcity and a life of queueing in Nigeria

In 1950s New York, building managers quickly realised that people queuing to use the elevators were becoming increasingly angsty and were given to intemperance. They had to find a solution and soon realised it wasn't so much the queuing but the perceived time spent in line that got people irritated. So, they came up with two ingenious solutions. One was to install floor indicators to show the progress of the elevator to those waiting. The second was installing floor-to-ceiling mirrors to keep those waiting distracted.

How one wishes that the people running Nigeria have any kind of consideration for Nigerians who spend hundreds of hours in queues for things no one should be queuing for. Some say it is part of being Nigerian, a country that requires a specific set of skills to navigate.

You see, Nigeria has certain peculiarities. Some are beautiful and unique; like the culture, the range and diversity of it, the people and their rambunctious, resilient spirit and will to triumph. The others are dark and gritty and mostly, almost always, self-inflicted.

Take for instance this torment of creating artificial scarcity and unnecessary queues that Nigerians are subjected to time and again. Queues are created by scarcity for things we have in excess, like fuel, or things that should be easily available, like voters' cards.

Except you have been living on Mars the last few weeks or months, or maybe a whole year or two, you have been queuing up for fuel, and you had to spend hours queuing to get your NIN or your voter's card. But now, of all the things in the world, Nigerians are being made to spend hours queuing to access their own money.

Let's not forget that, depending on where you live, you spend hours in a slow-moving queue just to get home. It is called a traffic jam and is a thing for people living in Lagos and Abuja and every mid-level city in this country. Sometimes, you get to the source point of the traffic jam only to discover it was some traders displaying their wares on the roadside, narrowing the road, or some cars randomly parking to drop off or pick up passengers in the middle of the road. Other times, it is two drivers stopping mid-transit to box it out because one brushed the other's car. Self-inflicted.

It is a widely talked-about rite of passage as a Lagosian to have to shop for groceries to make a soup entirely while

caught in traffic—fresh fish, ewedu and other vegetables, there will be a butcher with choice cuts of beef, mutton or goat and ponmo and there will always be the person with the tomatoes and pepper, seasoning and locust beans.

Imagine a situation where one spends two hours in traffic to get to a filling station, where one then spends five hours in the queue only to drive to the bank to spend another two and half hours to withdraw one's own money, then drive to an INEC office to spend three hours to get your voter's card only to be confronted by an INEC official who insists you have to pay her to get your card.

We all saw that trending video of an INEC official in Enugu demanding N1,000 from each individual before handing out their voter's card, didn't we? (INEC needs to have this woman arrested and prosecuted and must be seen to do so.)

The Central Bank, after much rigmarole and denial when it is clear their plans to roll out the redesigned naira notes were chaotic and unfeasible, agreed to extend the deadline to absorb the old notes by some 10 days.

That rush to transition from the old banknotes might be deliberate to catch out the big money looters and hoarders, but in the end, the people paying the price are innocent Nigerians. The CBN has bizarrely created a naira scarcity. A scarcity that has provided opportunities for some people. Some banks are accused of having sold the new banknotes to people who can afford to buy it. The DSS arrested currency traders working in cahoots with bank officials to sell the new naira notes.

In both instances of the INEC and the banks, human culpability cannot be ruled out, when some individuals or groups create the scarcity to profit from it. But these individuals cannot operate outside the chaotic system that the institutions enable and the government agencies need to admit their reprehensible failings in this constant torment of Nigerians.

Each time a government agency decides to embark on a project like this, it fails to study and learn from the failings of previous exercises by sister agencies.

In 2020, amid the pandemic, the Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy suddenly, out of the blue, announced a decision to link NINs with SIM cards and gave Nigerians an ultimatum of two weeks to register or have their SIMs blocked.

In a country of 200 million people, it was clear that the decision was ill-thought and inoperable. It would have been reasonable if the modalities had been properly worked out to ensure people don't rush to the NIMC offices all at once but that wasn't the case. Millions of Nigerians turned up and NIMC and its staff struggled to cope with the sheer numbers. The deadline was extended several times and now three years down the line and with nearly a 100 million Nigerians having linked their NIN to their SIMs, it is impossible to tell exactly what that exercise has achieved. The crime that the ministry said it would curtail by the linkages has not abated. There has been no prominent arrest of a kidnapper or terrorist to justify the suffering.

And then INEC took over with a rolling voter registration exercise that should have worked effectively. Over a longer period, Nigerians registered. Yet, when it was time to issue these cards, which technically technology allows to be printed instantly, but hey, this is Nigeria, we have to do things in stages, we ended up with hundreds of Nigerians returning to INEC offices to spend cumulatively hundreds of man hours to get voters' card that should be arriving in their mails.

Ordinarily, this should be a project that INEC should partner with the NIPOST, if it is still working. Have NIPOST deliver these cards to people's addresses and use a tracking system to update both the receiver and INEC. That way, both agencies discharge their key duties and Nigerians don't need to waste time tussling to collect these cards.

And then, perhaps the most bizarre, the Central Bank decided it is recolouring the naira, made a dog meal of the job based on the 'redesign', the sloppy cutting of the naira and worst of all, the rollout process. It gave itself a short window to pull out the old notes and gave Nigerians an even shorter time frame to access the new notes.

Even after the original deadline lapsed, many Nigerians have still not seen any of the new notes in real life and earlier on, those who had it and went to spend it were greeted with shock and accusations of trying to pull a con on store owners who were not sensitised to the new notes coming out.

Add to this fact, that we have had a fuel scarcity that has been going on for a full year now and the minister of petroleum, who happens to be the president, has not bothered to say a word to Nigerians about the situation.

No one is going to be considerate to install a floor counter or floor-to-ceiling mirror for Nigerians in perpetual queues and frustrated Nigerians have protested and pelted the president with stones in Kano and Katsina in recent visits. I don't expect that would change anything but this habitual waste of people's time and dehumanisation ought to stop. Right now.

SPORT REPORT

James moves close to breaking NBA scoring record



■ LeBron James

LeBron James moved closer to breaking the NBA's all-time scoring record as he produced his first triple-double of the season in the Los Angeles Lakers' 129-123 win over the New York Knicks.

The 38-year-old is just 89 points shy of breaking the record of 38,387 points held by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

James made 28 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds in the Lakers' overtime win.

He is now fourth on the NBA's assists list with 10,338, still way behind all-time leader John Stockton's 15,806.

Victory ended the Lakers' two-game losing streak, while the Knicks - led by Jalen Brunson on a game-high 37 points - have lost six of their last eight games.

Bekele leads stacked London Marathon men's field



■ Kenenisa Bekele

Kenenisa Bekele will lead the London Marathon's elite men's field as four of the five fastest runners in history go head-to-head in April's race.

Ethiopian Bekele, the second-fastest man in history, will be joined on the start line by Kelvin Kiptum, Birhanu Legese and Mosinet Geremew on 23 April.

Returning 2022 winner Amos Kipruto will also face competition from world champion Tamirat Tola of Ethiopia.

Britain's four-time Olympic track champion Mo Farah will also compete as he prepares to say an "emotional goodbye" at the event.

World record holder Eliud Kipchoge, a four-time winner in London, is absent from the line-up - instead targeting his Boston Marathon debut.