

DAILY TRUST

Friday, January 22, 2021
Jumadal-Akhir 8, 1442 AH

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N200
Vol. 52, No. 20

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PAGES

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SCHOOLGIRLS WERE ABDUCTED

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**NIGERIA COVID-19
CASE UPDATE**

21
JAN

NEW CASES
1,964

TOTAL CASES
116,655

DISCHARGED
93,646

DEATH
1,485

Unpaid bills: Electricity supply to Shagari's house cut off, restored P 9

2023: Low turnout as Yoruba summit pushes for Tinubu presidency P 29

Fulani free to live in Ondo – Monarchs P 38

Jega, Nwodo, Adebajo:

Restructure Nigeria now

● We also need attitudinal change to solve our problems – Jonathan

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Simon E. Sunday, John C. Azu,
Itodo D. Sule (Abuja) &
Abdullateef Aliyu (Lagos)

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When? How?" which held at the NAF Conference Centre Abuja, was chaired by former President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan who pointed out

that Nigeria also needed an attitudinal change from its citizens to make it work.

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■ From left: former INEC Chairman, Attahiru Jega; former President Goodluck Jonathan; former President-General of Ohanaeze Ndigbo, John Nwodo; Chairman Media Trust Ltd, Mallam Kabiru Yusuf; former Minister of Information, Labaran Maku and former Minister of State for Health, Gabriel Aduku at the 18th Daily Trust Dialogue in Abuja yesterday Photo: Felix Onigbinde

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WEATHER

ABUJA PARTLY CLOUDY 37 MAX 22 MIN	KANO SUNNY 33 MAX 14 MIN
SOKOTO SUNNY 34 MAX 17 MIN	IBADAN PARTLY CLOUDY 38 MAX 22 MIN
KADUNA SUNNY 35 MAX 17 MIN	MAIDUGURI SUNNY 34 MAX 15 MIN
ENUGU PARTLY CLOUDY 38 MAX 22 MIN	P/HARCOURT PARTLY CLOUDY 29 MAX 18 MIN
JOS PARTLY CLOUDY 31 MAX 14 MIN	
LAGOS PARTLY CLOUDY 34 MAX 24 MIN	

(Temperature in centigrade)

Basic protective measures against coronavirus (COVID-19)

 Wash your hands frequently with soap and water	 Maintain social distancing	 Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
 Practice respiratory hygiene	 If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early	 Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

NCDC toll free numbers
 Call 080097000010 | SMS 0809555577 | Whatsapp 07087110839


AFRICAN SAYINGS >>

The cheetah enjoys pulling others around, but when it is being pulled around, it complains that its spots get soiled **(Zimbabwe)**

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

FOOD FOR THOUGHT >>

One of the truest tests of integrity is its blunt refusal to be compromised



- Chinua Achebe

PHOTO OF THE DAY >>



■ Gabrielle Burns-Smith surveys her flooded home after Storm Christoph Lymm, England Photo: Joe Giddens/PA

PRAYERS TIMES

CITIES	FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
ABUJA	5:40	12:48	4:03	6:32	7:37
ENUGU	5:42	12:46	4:01	6:27	7:32
KADUNA	5:39	12:47	4:02	6:30	7:35
KANO	5:34	12:42	3:57	6:26	7:31
KATSINA	5:36	12:48	4:03	6:34	7:39
LAGOS	5:57	1:04	4:19	6:45	7:50
MAIDUGURI	5:17	12:25	3:40	6:08	7:13
P/HARCOURT	5:53	12:56	4:11	6:32	7:37
SOKOTO	5:47	12:56	4:11	6:38	7:45

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna

STOCK INDEX AS AT THURSDAY 21, 2021

GAINERS	MULTIVERSE	NNFM	CHAMPION	NCR	TRANSEXPR
OPEN	0.22	9.68	1.78	2.84	1.05
CLOSE	0.02	0.88	0.16	0.25	0.09
CHANGE	10.00	10.00	9.88	9.65	9.38
LOSERS	CHAMS	PRESTIGE	TOURIST	MRS	MANSARD
OPEN	0.27	0.54	2.84	12.40	1.38
CLOSE	-0.03	-0.06	-0.31	-1.35	-0.15
CHANGE	-10.00	-10.00	-9.84	-9.82	-9.80

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Jega, Nwodo, Adebajo: Restructure Nigeria now

— Contd from page 1

A former Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Prof Attahiru Jega, who was one of the Guest Speakers at the occasion said there was an urgent need to restructure Nigeria to proactively block what he referred to as “irredentist tendencies” and facilitate stable socioeconomic development in the country.

Jega, a Professor of Political Science at the Bayero University, Kano (BUK), argued that it was necessary to find practical ways of restructuring Nigeria before the 2023 general election, saying that the country operates one of the worst models of a federal system of government in the world today.

He said: “Technically and substantively, Nigeria is a federation and operates a federal system with states as the federating units. However, among the federations that currently exist in the world (according to the Forum of Federations, about 25 countries, representing 40 per cent of the world population); Nigeria is one of the worst models of

political accommodation of diversity as well as power and resources sharing.”

Jega said the necessity of redressing the imbalance and inequities embedded in Nigeria’s current federal system had been ignored for too long, adding that “any further neglect may imperil the efficacy and viability of the Nigerian federation.”

Another Guest Speaker and leader of the Pan-Yoruba socio-cultural group, Afenifere, Pa. Ayo Adebajo, said restructuring was necessary because the constitution currently being used is fraudulent and not people-oriented.

According to him, “Restructuring is to say we want the constitution that everybody agreed to, that gives peace and unity in the country. And when we talk of federalism, there is a political philosophy behind it. It is not just a philosophy that you just receive from the air.

“It is a well-known principle that in a heterogeneous society like Nigeria, the unitary form of government that we are using now will not work and it cannot work. Restructuring is important now; we should go

back to federalism.”

On his part, the immediate past President of the Igbo socio-cultural organisation, Ohaneze N’Igbo, John Nnia Nwodo said there was no alternative to restructuring Nigeria because oil revenue was a fast-drying resource for foreign exchange earnings as many countries had set deadlines for the use of alternative energy sources.

He warned that Nigeria would never have a country that commanded the loyalty of its citizens because it had no constitution agreed upon by the people, stressing that the proliferation of states and the high recurrent expenditure of running the federation “is not beneficial to anybody in creating quality life for the people.”

According to him, “You cannot build on quicksand; the country cannot live on falsehood. Owners of the country as represented by the various socio-cultural groups that formed the desire to be one country have to be constituted into the kind of conference that President Jonathan summoned,” Nwodo said.

Eliminate disunity, tribalism,

before restructuring - Jonathan

Former President Goodluck Jonathan in his address at the occasion called on leaders and the citizens to first address fundamental issues of disunity, nepotism and patriotism, which he said were necessary towards restructuring Nigeria.

“We cannot restructure in isolation without tackling the challenges that polarise our nation. These include nepotism, ethnic and religious differences as well as lack of patriotism.

“My conviction is that discussion on restructuring will not help except we restructure our minds because some of the challenging issues at the national level still exist at the state and local levels,” he said.

Jonathan, who led Nigeria between 2010 and 2015, pointed out that it was not easy for some persons to win an election in some states because of the area they come from, the language they speak, or their religious belief.

He also cited cases of local government elections where it was difficult for an opposition party to win a chairmanship or councillorship seat even when such party may have won some

seats in the state and National Assembly elections organised by the federal electoral body.

“This shows that restructuring alone may not solve all the anomalies in the system. I believe that restructuring for a better nation is good but there are other fundamental issues we should also address,” he said. In charting a way forward, the former president gave the case studies of Ghana and Tanzania, which he said had excelled in their democratic process because they embraced reforms that tackled the problems of diversity, bigotry, nepotism and other fundamental issues at independence.

He said: “Both Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana emphasised strong national governments to promote national unity and patriotism, which departed from our regional approach, which was based on strong regional parties and political competition for power between regions.”

Almost all those that spoke at the event agreed that Nigeria required some restructuring even though their perspectives as to how to achieve it differed.

Restructuring: ACF rules out return to regional government

By Idowu Isamotu

Despite growing calls for restructuring, the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF), on Thursday, said it was very unlikely for the country to return to regional governance as was the case in the past where each region controlled the resources of its domain. ACF President Audu Ogbah, who stated this in Abuja at the 18th *Daily Trust* Dialogue with the theme ‘Restructuring: Why? How?’, maintained that the shape by which restructuring would take was still unclear even if it was a necessary thing to be done.

“In dealing with the problems confronting us, restructuring is absolutely necessary. In what shape is the question to ask. Will states surrender their autonomy as Professor Jega said? Very unlikely. Are we returning to the regions of 1960? It is very unlikely. That is where the problem lies,” Ogbah said.

The former Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, who had earlier protested the exclusion of the ACF among other speakers at the programme, also lamented the extinction of standard factories

in droves across all regions of the country, saying Kano alone lost 126 factories in a few years.

He said: “The economy of this country is dying so fast, and that is where the tragedy is coming from. And that is why our children and grandchildren, the young ones coming behind, should realise they have no future.

“What we say influences the opinions of those who have no opinions of their own. We are too hot and too angry. The big issue is the economy of this country. How many of us can count the number of factories that have died in this country? From the South West to the North, and to the East.

“Kano alone, 126 factories have gone down. We are talking about creating jobs. You cannot take a loan from the bank. That is a 5% interest rate. Even if you are trading in cocaine, you can’t make it.”

Full transcript of what Audu Ogbah said

Let me first protest against the organisers of this programme. How can you invite Afenifere, Ohanaeze Ndigbo and completely omit ACF. You are trying to solve a problem by



■ ACF President Audu Ogbah

creating another one. You are telling us we don’t exist or we have no opinion? That is unacceptable!

Having said that, let me commend those who have participated so far and the views you heard. We are in a country where the only big company today is government, the only viable one. Nwodo made a very important point.

The economy of this country is dying so fast, and that is where the tragedy is coming from. And that is why our children and grandchildren, the young ones coming behind should realise they have no future.

Somebody mentioned India

to illustrate. We say the 1960 Constitution was very good. If it was so good, why was there a coup on January 15, 1966, with those bloody massacres of leaders, military and civilian?

Then, six months later, there was a counter-coup. And then the civil war in which nearly two million people died mainly in the East. So, what was the cause if that constitution, was that perfect?

Then, you talk of India; India became independent on the 15th of August 1947. The British said India had no chance of being a country, that they would need an army with the efficiency of the German army under Adolf

Hitler to keep the peace.

They said India was too ethnic, too tribal, too religious and so on. Between then and now, there had never been a coup in India, not once. Why are we so hot-headed? We should calm down when we, the leaders, express feelings about Nigeria’s problems.

What we say influences the opinions of those who have no opinions of their own. We are too hot and too angry. The big issue is the economy of this country. How many of us can count the number of factories that have died in this country? From the South West, to the North, and to the East. In Kano alone, 126 factories have gone down. We are talking about creating jobs. You cannot take a loan from the bank. That is a 5% interest rate. Even if you are trading in cocaine, you can’t make it.

My answer to whether restructuring is the solution

In dealing with the problems confronting us, restructuring is absolutely necessary. In what shape is the question to ask. Will states surrender their autonomy as Professor Jega said? Very unlikely. Are we returning to the regions of 1960? Very unlikely. That is where the problem lies.

Discipline, sincerity, security will rescue Nigeria – North Central Forum

By Olayemi John-Mensah

Nigeria can be rescued with sincerity and discipline, the representative, Northern Central People’s Forum, Mr. Gabriel Yakowa, has said.

Mr. Yakowa, who said everybody knows the country is at a crossroad and there must be rescue effort because we cannot continue dialoguing, was speaking during the 18th *Daily Trust* Dialogue with the theme, ‘Restructuring, why? How?’

yesterday in Abuja.

He said there are enough materials in the cabinet of government, even from what has been discussed at the conference so far, to restructure the country, adding that we must begin to create a situation whereby Nigerians, whether young or old, need to keep this country together.

“What is pleasing now is that 85 per cent of Nigerians believe we must keep Nigeria together, they love Nigeria wherever they are and now we have to fix it.”

Mr. Yakowa also said Nigeria cannot move forward unless we all imbibe discipline, sincerity and security. “Without these three it will be difficult to move forward. Let us think of discipline which begins from home.

“Secondly, sincerity of purpose is important and thirdly security as whatever we do, we ourselves must be secure in our country because if the country is not secure, we will not have investors coming to join us. We have

too much for the world around that we shouldn’t be playing around with it.”

Yakowa further said, if we must recall, the president we have today, Muhammadu Buhari got his popularity from discipline.

He added that the act of indiscipline and insincerity is what has led us to the world of insecurity and we must rescue our country and develop on the positive contributions we have made to preserve it.

Let's fix fundamental issues first – Jonathan

By Simon Echewofun Sunday

The immediate past president of Nigeria, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan, has called on leaders and the citizens to first address fundamental issues of disunity, nepotism and patriotism before any move to restructure Nigeria.

The former president stated this when he presided as chairman of the 18th Daily Trust Dialogue which was held in Abuja on Thursday.

Dr. Jonathan, who was president of Nigeria from 2010 to 2015 spoke on the theme, 'Restructuring: Why? When? How?'

He said, "My conviction is that discussion on restructuring will not help except we restructure our minds because some of the challenging issues at the national level still exist at the state and local levels."

He said at Independence in 1960, Nigeria had a 45 million population and the British colonial government decided that the young nation was too vast and complex to be governed centrally from Lagos and introduced the federal system which changed to a Republican Constitution in 1963.

He added that 61 years after independence, the population has exploded to an estimated over 200 million people.

"In the same vein, the call for restructuring has continued to grow louder. Within these six decades, our political space has assumed many colourations. We have gone from three regions to 36 states and 774 local councils.

"Yet, all that did not seem to have provided the answers to the questions on the administrative structure of our country and how best it should be governed," said Jonathan.



The ex-president, however, opposed a one-party state and unitary system of government to solve ethnic and cultural diversity as was used in other countries.

Jonathan commended Daily Trust for sustaining the dialogue series for 18 years, noting though that some of the newspaper titles' editorials are sometimes tough on leaders.

"I had my fair share during my time as president. I understand that all was in a bid to guide the efforts towards building a greater country for us all."

He also lauded the calibre of discussants at the dialogue who included Afenifere chieftain and elder statesman Chief Ayo Adebajo; Chief John Nnia Nwodo, the immediate past President-General of Ohanaeze Nd'Igbo; and Prof. Attahiru Muhammadu Jega, a professor of Political Science at Bayero University Kano and a former chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Former President Jonathan said Nigeria is a project in progress and the people should confidently discuss her experiences and fashion out solutions to improve on her performance and the wellbeing of all citizens,

"This cannot be achieved without deliberate effort to promote national unity and love of country by all our leaders and citizens.

"We owe ourselves and the coming generations a duty to reduce the bile and embrace one another so that restructuring for a better and greater Nigeria can be meaningful and guarantee the nation's economic development and citizen's welfare," he urged.

Jonathan also recommended that the present National Assembly can champion the process for a new constitution.

"All the issues, the National Assembly can still do them. A new constitution can be developed based on what Nigerians want. I just came back from Gambia, they have their national assembly now and they are working on a new constitution," Jonathan submitted.

Implement Jonathan's confab report – Adebajo

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Leader of pan-Yoruba socio-cultural group, Afenifere, Pa Ayo Adebajo, yesterday asked President Muhammadu Buhari to change the 1999 Constitution.

He said the constitution is not working and it would not work because it is not the constitution agreed upon by the founding fathers of Nigeria.

Speaking during the 18th Daily Trust Dialogue holding in Abuja with the theme 'Restructuring: Why? How?', Adebajo, who joined the event virtually, also tasked the president to either implement recommendations of the 2014 confab conducted by former President Goodluck Jonathan or conduct his own.

He asserted that Jonathan did his best when he was there "only he did it late."

"If he had set up the commission at the right time, he could have implemented it," Adebajo said. He also said those clamouring for 2023 elections do not love the country.

He said what is more important now is how to keep the country united which can only be achieved by changing

the present constitution which he described as "fraudulent".

He called for a truly federal constitution that gives each region of the country freedom and autonomy and propel their development.

He urged "progressive elements in the North" to prevail on President Buhari to change the constitution.

Adebajo said: "If he doesn't want to follow the 2014 confab, let him set up his own so that we can agree on the constitution and move on. And if he believes that is too much you can set up a committee to examine it, take away what you don't want there,



put what you want there and move on from unitary system."

Explaining the concept of restructuring, he said, "Restructuring is not a political philosophy. People want to confuse it by saying what we meant by it. Restructuring is to restructure the country back to federalism as we had it at independence because that is the constitution that the founding fathers of this country agreed to.

"Restructuring is to say we want the constitution that everybody agreed to, that gives peace and unity in the country. And when we talk of federalism there is a political philosophy behind it. It is not just a philosophy that you just receive from the air.

"It is a well-known principle that in a heterogeneous society like Nigeria, the unitary form of government that we are using now will not work and it cannot work. Restructuring is important now, we should go back to federalism.

"It is not the constitution our founding fathers gave us. It is not the constitution that Sardauna of Sokoto, Nnamdi Azikiwe, Obafemi Awolowo agreed to at Independence.

ministry was supposed to pay for the printing. And Obasanjo was sworn-in on a constitution that had not been read by him. And the National Assembly could not be constituted until four days after his swearing-in because there was no clean copy of the constitution," he said.

"You cannot build on quicksand; the country cannot live on falsehood. Owners of the country as represented by the various socio-cultural groups that formed the desire to be one country have to be constituted into the kind of conference that President Jonathan summoned," Nwodo said.

Nigeria's federalism defective - Prof Jega

By Itodo Daniel Sule

A former chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Prof Attahiru Jega, yesterday said it is necessary to find practical ways of restructuring Nigeria before the 2023 general elections.

He said the country is operating one of the worst models of federal system of government in the world today.

He said there was an urgent need to restructure the country to proactively block irredentist tendencies and facilitate stable socio-economic development in the country.

Jega said the core objective of any federal system is to ensure "non-conflictual management of diversity and sharing of power and resources for stable societal progress and socioeconomic development."

"Therefore, for its stability, progress and development as a modern nation-state, Nigeria's federal structure needs refinement and improvement, or some form of what can be called restructuring," he said.

He stressed the need for "elite consensus" and good democratic governance to nurture and entrench political accommodation of diversity as well as equitable power and resources sharing to bring about restructuring, adding that "the near absence of the two intervening variables has obstructed the attainment of the aforementioned desirable objective of a federal system."

"The way things are going, Nigerians in general and the elite in particular, need to engage with the issue of restructuring more seriously and purposefully and begin to address it. I say 'begin to address it' because, regrettably, we have allowed things to be so bad for so long that it would require concerted, systematic



effort over a carefully defined time-frame, to be able to successfully, permanently solve the challenges, which bedevil Nigeria, especially those, which have given rise to the intense demands and agitations for restructuring.

"To my mind, there is no doubt that, understood properly, without grandstanding and brinkmanship, restructuring is necessary and the time to begin concretely, is now. But there should be no doubt, also, that although restructuring is necessary, it is not a sufficient condition for the stability, progress and socio-economic development in Nigeria," he said.

Jega also said there must be good democratic governance predicated on justice, equity and equality of opportunity for all citizens.

He said the continuous and vociferous demands for restructuring were largely due to deep-rooted perceptions of marginalisation and inequities in the management of the affairs of the country; bad governance driven by incompetent, inefficient and self-serving leadership; political brinkmanship by some elite, especially politicians and/or ethno-religious war 'lords' and failure of governance to satisfy the needs and aspirations of citizens, among others.

We need people-oriented constitution – Nwodo

By John Chuks Azu

The immediate past President-General of the Igbo socio-cultural organization, John Nnia Nwodo, has warned that Nigeria would never be a country that commands the loyalty of its citizens because it has no constitution agreed upon by the people.

Speaking at the 18th Daily Trust Dialogue with the theme 'Restructuring: Why? When? How?' on Thursday in Abuja, Nwodo said the proliferation of states and the high recurrent expenditure of running the federation "is not beneficial to anybody in creating quality life for the people."

Nwodo, who was Minister of Information in the General Abdulsalami administration of 1998-1999, when the present constitution was enacted, said the document was promulgated by 40 persons in the Supreme Military Council after 49 people were selected to produce it.

"I was in the Executive Council, I never saw the draft constitution. And I was Minister of Information, it was my responsibility to publicize the constitution. On the day of swearing-in of Obasanjo, we didn't have a copy of the constitution. I didn't know who was printing it. My



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Northern Elders Forum backs restructuring

By Taiwo Adeniyi & Vincent A. Yusuf

The Director of Publicity of the Northern Elders Forum, Dr Hakeem Baba-Ahmed, has said the North is never against restructuring but desires concerted effort at fixing 'what is not working in Nigeria.'

Dr Baba-Ahmed during his comments at the 18th *Daily Trust* Dialogue held in Abuja yesterday said: "We are Nigerians and we think Nigeria is not working

for the North, it is not working for everybody. We believe it has to be fixed and it has to be fixed by all Nigerians on the basis of respect, and understanding of what works for all."

He said the North is not opposing, and will not oppose restructuring, rather it agrees with others that there is a need to fix Nigeria.

"We are willing to engage anybody, anywhere and anytime to discuss the issue. What we will not accept is a situation where the

North is made defensive so that it agrees with everything else other people contribute," he said.

He also stated that Nigeria needed to be fixed, adding the situation should be well analysed and approached with the best interest of all Nigerians.

"That is why I won't get involved in any discussion on whether we should maintain the 36 states structure. Let us put Nigeria on the table and find out what is not

working for all Nigerians, I think that is the way to go," he said.

Dr Baba-Ahmed explained further that there are two basic problems about Nigerians in understanding restructuring, saying that some people weaponise it without understanding the concept, practice, and ideals while some elite peddle falsehood against the North.

"Northerners have never opposed anything on the basis of ignorance," he said.



Slow decision-making fuels agitation - Kabiru Yusuf



By Chidimma C. Okeke

Protracted delays in taking actions by government on national issues fuel agitation for the restructuring of the country, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Media Trust Limited, publishers of the *Daily Trust* titles and Aminiya, Malam Kabiru Yusuf, has said. He stated this at the opening of the company's annual dialogue in Abuja on Thursday with a theme 'Restructuring: Why? How?'

Malam Yusuf noted that while Nigeria was not the only troubled country in the world, it stands out with "no sense of urgency from the government" even when "the natives are permanently restless."

He quoted a former governor of Ogun State, Chief Segun Osoba, a leading member of the All Progressives Congress, as confirming that the report of the Kaduna State governor, Malam Nasir El-Rufai-led committee on restructuring had been reviewed and approved by the party's organs. He lamented that the total silence on the implementation of the report which was meant to put to life the electoral promises of the party to "introduce constitutional changes that will establish what was called true federalism" among others was adding to the disaffections being experienced across the

country."

The committee's recommendations which were accepted by the APC organs on restructuring included state police, revised formula of revenue sharing and the abolition of the local government tier.

He said the opposition, on the other hand, often "waits for events, issue press statements and repeat promises of different things to come but in the seeming absence of systematic planning and diligent follow-up, small gains are lost and progress is destroyed."

As another general election looms in the next two years, Malam Yusuf noted that "APC has to decide what to do with this hot potato (restructuring)."

He assured that "we at Daily Trust are making our own contribution to this by putting together this exceptional panel which has got both depth and breadth to offer such insights."

The chairman concluded by asking, Was Nigeria really ever a great place to be? Can it be made great again?

"I am not asking the panelists to answer, but sure they will raise relevant issues and we will hear words of wisdom. We may leave here as better citizens, the question is whether that will translate into a better collective result to build a better Nigeria," he said.

Set up technical c'ttee for restructuring - NRF

By Olayemi John-Mensah

The Northern Reawakening Forum (NRF) has called for the setting up of a technical committee that is inclusive where a discussion can be held to come up with a citizen document for restructuring.

The Chairman of NRF, Umara Kumalia, who was contributing to the 18th *Daily Trust* Dialogue held in Abuja yesterday with the theme, 'Restructuring, Why? How?' said, the document is very important to make the discussion valid.

"Because when we talk of a concession, and you discuss the lack of it and then leave, we wait for another 19th dialogue of *Daily Trust* or another occasion to address it."

Kumalia also said NRF supports restructuring but the how is the issue, adding that they support restructuring based on the challenges they have experienced in the system, particularly in the past 19 to 20 years since the coming of democratic dispensation.

"I am talking about good governance because one of the reasons why we are in support of restructuring is because of bad governance. Look at the 36 states of the federation, the problem we have is that power is given to one person to decide the future and the fate of everyone. Take for instance in Borno, a state of about six million people, the governor in power and the party in power decide everything for everybody.

"The House of Assembly we have, the quality of representation and the way money is sent to respective states

is such that it is common in all the states. The principle of check and balance which is supposed to be the underpinning of having democratic governance is not happening across the country."

He also said they want restructuring and a return to the six geo-political zones because when you talk of state, even if you increase the states from 36 to 42 for instance, there will still be states or a portion of a state that may not be able to present a representative.

"Take for instance in Borno State where I come from, southern Borno, they call them the minority, they

have never provided a governor.

If you create a northeast region, out of the 27 LGAs we have in Borno, create seven to eight provinces and let them have their own administrative structure and let everybody report to the regional sector, it will help."

Kumalia also said one of the reasons why they are calling for restructuring is because of the issue of security in the country, adding that he was never a supporter of decentralisation of the police but he started supporting it when he saw what was happening in Borno with the Boko Haram insurgency.

"What I saw civilian JTF doing, the sacrifice they made by laying their lives to protect the people, what the police would have done but they couldn't do when they came to the terrain. Secondly, there wasn't that motivation and again the size of the police is not enough to tackle what is happening in the community.

"Therefore, we need regional police and if possible, provincial police. Let every zone go, if the South East wants to create 100 provinces and South West 200, let everyone do that. Let there be good revenue formula between the federal government and regions."

Govs disown Yahaya Bello over COVID-19 vaccine claim

•Pledge \$700m to support water supply, sanitation, hygiene

By Muideen Olaniyi

The Nigeria Governors' Forum on Wednesday distanced itself from Kogi State Governor Yahaya Bello's claim that the COVID-19 vaccine was meant to kill Nigerians

Bello had also earlier in his New Year broadcast said Kogi would not respond to the second wave of the virus with "mass hysteria".

The NGF, in a communiqué



■ Gov Yahaya Bello

at the end of their virtual meeting on Wednesday, described Bello's pronouncement as ill-fated.

The communiqué, released yesterday by the forum's secretariat, quoted NGF Chairman and Ekiti State Governor Kayode Fayemi, as saying that the forum's decisions and actions in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic would be guided by science and would retain public and professional trust

"and are not compromised by conflicts of interest"

"On the ill-fated pronouncement made by a member of the forum regarding the COVID-19 vaccine in a national daily, the forum totally and categorically dissociated itself from the statement," Fayemi said.

The NGF set up a team of experts led by Prof. Oyewale Tomori to advise state governors on the procurement and administration of

coronavirus vaccines in the country.

It resolved to increase budgetary allocation to the health sector with the collaboration of the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning and the World Bank through the \$700m to support and incentivize infrastructure investments and strengthen government policies and institutions in the water supply, sanitation and hygiene sector.

127 soldiers resign

By Idowu Isamotu

No fewer than 127 soldiers have exited the Nigerian Army following a formal approval by the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Tukur Buratai.

Their resignation came few days after Buratai told recruits undergoing training in Falgore forest camp in Kano that they would be deployed to Sambisa forest.

A top military officer

confirmed the development to Daily Trust.

Also, a memo signed by Brig. Gen. T.A Gagariga directed all the 127 soldiers to submit all military property in their possession.

The exiting soldiers, according to the memo, cut across various formations of the Nigerian Army across the country.

The list of resigning soldiers did not distinguish between those embarking

on voluntary retirement and those leaving the army on medical grounds.

The personnel consist of 1 Master Warrant Officer, 3 Warrant Officers, 22 Staff Sergeants, 29 Sergeants, 64 Corporals, 7 Lance Corporals and 1 Private, who will finally be disengaged in May.

The memo read: "In compliance with the provisions of section A, the COAS vide reference B has approved the voluntary discharge of the above named NWO and 126 others listed in annex A. The soldiers

are to proceed on terminal leave WEF 26th April, 21 while their disengagement date takes effect from 26th May 21 in accordance with the NA administrative policies and procedures No. 27 paragraphs 3 and 4," the memo read.

"Accordingly, I am directed to request you relate to their respective units to release the affected soldiers to report to HQ CAR with their unit service documents for documentation NLT 5th January 21 and ensure that:"

"a. All forms of military

controlled items, arms, ammunition and items of combat kits are recovered from the soldiers prior to their disengagement date and certified that they are properly de-kitted."

"b. They complete all necessary documentation for withdrawal from: 1. NAWIS contributions 2. DENFUND contribution 3. National Mortgage Contributions."

Brig. Gen. Sagir Musa, the army spokesman, did not respond to calls and a text from our correspondent seeking comment.



Save the Children

TENDER NOTICE

Save the Children believes every child deserves a future. In the UK and around the world, we give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm. We do whatever it takes for children – every day and in times of crisis – transforming their lives and the future we share.

Save the Children International in Nigeria is extending the submissions time for the following services, following the earlier invitation to tender that closed on the 12th of January 2021.

S/N	Description	Tender Reference Number
1	Prequalification of Construction Service Providers in Borno	ITT/MAID/2020/001
2	Supply of Printing Services for Abuja Office	ITT/NIG/ABJ/2020/006
3	Supply of Non-Food Items, WASH and Hygiene items for Abuja Office	ITT/NIG/ABJ/2020/007
4	Supply of Clearing and Forwarding Service for Abuja Office	ITT/NIG/ABJ/2020/008
5	Provision of Third party Haulage and Logistics services.	ITT/NIG/ABJ/2020/009
6	Prequalification of Consultants (Individual and firms) that can be drawn from for assessments, baselines, mid-terms, and end line studies, and evaluations for the Nigerian Office	ITT/NIG/ABJ/2020/010

Detailed technical specifications are included within the tender documents.

If you are interested in submitting a bid, please access the tender document by following the link below:

<https://www.savethechildren.net/about-us/our-suppliers/tenders?country=NG>

It is recommended to request / collect the tender documents as soon as possible. For any queries: Nigeria.tender@savethechildren.org

Completed tender documents are due to be submitted by 29th January 2021.

Save the Children International reserves the right to accept or reject the entire or partial part of this bid.

INTERSOS

CALL FOR PREQUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR SUPPLY/PROVISION OF GOODS, WORKS AND SERVICES REF: (PRE-QUALIFICATION/INT/NIG/2021)

- Number of Submission:** Only one submission per category is allowed, e.g. if your company is dealing in more than one category; you MUST submit individual profile of the different categories; maximum of three categories.
- Prequalification criteria:** The prequalification will be done on the basis of category. (Supplier can submit ONLY upto maximum of three category)
- How to obtain the Prequalification Document:**
 - The prequalification document is available from the Contracting Authority's website (<https://www.intersos.org/en/tender/>) and
 - By Requesting it via email at the following address: supplierprequalification.nigeria@intersos.org
- Prospective suppliers with questions regarding this pre-qualification document should send them in writing to: supplierprequalification.nigeria@intersos.org** (mentioning the publication reference shown above) at least five calendar days before the deadline for submission of tenders. The Contracting Authority must reply to all interested parties with questions at least three calendar days before the deadline for submission of the prequalification document. Eventual clarifications or minor changes to the prequalification process shall be published at the latest, three calendar days before the submission deadline.
- Deadline for submission of complete set of prequalification document:** The deadline for submission of the prequalification document is on **FRIDAY, the 5th of February, 2021 at 17h00**. Any submission received by the Contracting Authority after this deadline will not be considered. All submissions must be submitted to below address on or before the deadline clearly marked with the category reference number in a sealed envelop.
- Address: No.30, Kinshasha Street, off Gombole road, Old G.R.A, Maiduguri OR Plot 882, Awotesu Street, off Idris Ibrahim Street, Jabi, Abuja.**
- ESSENTIAL CRITERIA FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION:**
 - Special experience and capability to organize, supply and deliver items or services at short notice.
 - Financial capacity and have met the mandatory requirement specified in the category list.
 - Physical address of suppliers (Offices and shops)- stock level, etc.
- Language of the procedure:** All written communications and contract must be in English.

18TH DAILY TRUST DIALOGUE

COMMUNIQUE

THEME: 'RESTRUCTURING: WHY? WHEN? HOW?'

HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021 AT THE NAF CONFERENCE CENTRE AND SUITES, ABUJA

PREAMBLE: The question over the political structure of Nigeria is almost as old as the country itself. Over the years, calls to revisit the existing political configuration of the country have remained persistently rising only in pitch and urgency. At various Constituent Assemblies and political conferences, convened to discuss the national question, the issue of the political structure of the country led to hot debate.

Since the return to democracy in 1999, almost every administration was confronted with the agitation for convening a national conference to 'renegotiate' the terms of existence among various nationalities. Former Presidents Olusegun Obasanjo and Goodluck Ebele Jonathan convened constitutional conferences to provide the opportunity for that dialogue. Yet, those conferences did not address the contentious issues as the recommendations were not implemented. The restructuring debate was a major campaign issue during the 2015 elections, with the then opposition All Progressives Congress (APC) promising to restructure the country if elected into office. In 2017, the APC set up a committee on restructuring whose recommendations have joined those of previous national efforts on the subject.

It is in this context of the seemingly endless debate for and against restructuring, and how to go about it, that the Board of Media Trust Limited decided to focus the 18th Daily Trust Dialogue on this important national issue. Themed "Restructuring: Why? When? How?", the dialogue was held in Abuja, as a continuation of a tradition started by the newspaper since 2002.

Unlike in the previous years, the 18th Trust Dialogue had a mix of physical and virtual convergence, due to the inevitable restrictions imposed on physical human interactions by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event was presided over by former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan and moderated by renowned media entrepreneur and founder of Daria Media, Kadaria Ahmed.

The three main speakers at the event were elder Statesman and Afenifere Chieftain, Chief Ayo Adebajo, immediate past President-General of the Ohanaeze Nd'Igbo, Chief John Nnia Nwodo, and renowned Political Scientist and former Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Prof. Attahiru Jega.

The Dialogue was attended by prominent Nigerians, representing various shades of opinion.

Among those who attended the event physically and virtually, were: the Chairman, Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF), Chief Audu Ogbeh; Publicity Secretary of the Northern Elders Forum (NEF), Dr. Hakeem Baba-Ahmed; Chairman of Northern Reawakening Forum, Hon. Mohammed Umara Kumalia; President of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), Comrade Ayuba Wabba; Chairman of the North Central States People's Forum (NCSPF), former Minister of State for Health, Chief Gabriel Aduku, and a representative of the Chairman of the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF), among others.

OBSERVATIONS:

In the course of the Dialogue, the following general observations were made:

1. Nigeria, like many other countries around the world, has its peculiar challenges of nation-building and the country needs to devise means of solving those genuine concerns of its various components for a fair, just and progressive federation.

2. There is widespread dissatisfaction about governance and the nation's political structure by a majority of the citizenry. This is further exacerbated by mutual suspicion among Nigerians along ethnic, political and religious divides, which is passed from one generation to another. These issues need deep and honest conversations to resolve.

3. There is consensus among participants that the federal system, as currently constituted, is defective. A long history of military rule and the defective 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria are pointed as causes of some of these defects. The Dialogue noted that there are 25 countries, constituting 40 per cent of the global population which practice federalism, but Nigeria's structure of federalism ranks low. This is at the heart of heightened mobilisation of ethnic and religious sentiments and divisive politics by the elite.

4. That although there is no ideal federalism in the world, the Nigerian federation is hindered by poor management of diversity, imbalance in sharing of power and resources and lack of good democratic governance.

5. The consequences of prolonged military rule, corruption, youth restiveness, over-reliance on the central government for the allocation of oil revenues and threats of secession, are some of the dangers facing the Nigerian federation as it is presently constituted. Resolving these issues is identified as requiring urgent action.

6. Speakers agreed that there is the need to immediately, and holistically, set in motion machineries to ensure restructuring of the current political structure through an avenue that is mutually agreed on and a process that is honest and transparent. Continuous dialogue is suggested as a way of deepening the conversation around the details of the process.

7. In view of the urgency and importance of the issue for the continuous existence of the country as one entity, it was agreed that the process of restructuring should be set in motion before the next general elections in 2023.

8. However, it was also emphasised that restructuring alone cannot solve the problems of the country. A good mix with the restructuring of the political structure is a reorientation of the mindset of citizens, as well as selfless services.

9. Participants recommended revisiting the report of the 2014 National Conference convened by former President Jonathan, as well as the report of the APC Committee on Restructuring headed by Kaduna State Governor Malam Nasir el-Rufai.

10. For greater equity, fairness and justice for all Nigerians, participants agreed that Nigeria should continue to deepen its current multi-party system.

11. Participants commended the management of Media Trust Limited, publishers of Daily Trust titles, for sustaining the Annual Trust Dialogue as a veritable platform for dispassionate discourse on critical national issues.

COVID-19: Buhari approves release of N6.45bn for oxygen plants

President Muhammadu Buhari has approved N6.45bn for the setting up of gas plants in 38 locations nationwide to enhance the treatment of COVID-19 patients who need oxygen.

This was disclosed yesterday at the first National Economic Council meeting of the year presided over by Vice President Yemi Osinbajo. Finance Minister Zainab Ahmed said the approval for the release of the fund for the production of oxygen was necessitated by the increased number of patients needed oxygen due to the surge in coronavirus infections in Nigeria.

Health Minister Osagie Ehanire said sequel to Buhari's decision to activate the Basic Healthcare Provision Fund based on the National Health Act, N55.1bn was approved in 2018 and that 50% of the sum had since been released to the states and the FCT.

Unpaid bills: Electricity supply to Shagari's house cut off, restored

From Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

The Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company yesterday restored power supply to former President Shehu Shagari's house on the Sama Road, Sokoto.

It was learnt that despite pleas by family members, electricity supply was cut off from Shagari's residence on Wednesday over non-payment of N6m bills. The Sokoto State Government, it was gathered, had been paying the electricity bills of the late ex-leader's house. A staff member of the electricity company told Daily Trust that a commitment was made before electricity was reconnected to Shagari's house. He was, however, silent on who made the commitment. The Sokoto State Commissioner for Energy, Aliyu Mahe, said he was in a meeting when our reporter called him. The spokesman of the state branch of the electricity company, Malam Umar, also declined comment.

The federal government is constitutionally empowered to cater for the general wellbeing of former presidents, heads of state, their deputies, as well as their families, contrary to beliefs in some quarters that this responsibility lies with the states of origin of the ex-leaders.

Investigations have shown that at least since 1999, the federal government, in line with Decree 32 of 1999, has been spending billions annually to cater for the upkeep of Nigeria's former leaders. In 2001, the decree however, became the Remuneration of former Presidents, heads of Federal Legislative Houses and Chief Justices of the Federation (and other Ancillary Matters) Act. This newspaper's findings revealed that when the National Assembly further amended the law in 2008 and 2010, the Revenue Mobilisation, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC), was thereby mandated to fix the remunerations of the former leaders from time to time in line consonance with economic realities on ground.

RMAFC draws its mandate from Sections 70 and 84 (4) of the 1999 Constitution, under the Certain Political Public and Judicial Office Holders (Salaries, Allowances, etc) Act, 2002 and the Amendment Act of 2008.

One of such leaders is former President Shehu Shagari, who died some years back. There are reports that Shagari's residence in Sokoto has been disconnected by the Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company (KAEDCO) over unpaid power bills.

AUCTION! AUCTION!! AUCTION!!! ONLINE PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

ON the instruction of the African Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEJ), there is going to be a catalogue online Public Auction Sale of various boarded items of Vehicles, Generators, Air Conditioners, Mobile Phones/ Intercom, Office Equipment/Furniture, Computers/Accessories, Window Blinds, Inverters, Decoders and Refrigerators.

INSPECTION

Starts on Friday 22nd and ends on Wednesday 3rd February, 2021. Will strictly be subjected to wearing of nose mask, distancing and other Covid-19 preventive measures as may be provided at each location. The items involved can be inspected during working days between the hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm Mondays to Fridays.

LOCATION

The items involved are at the following locations:
BENIN-CITY OFFICE
 African Network for Environment and Economic Justice (ANEJ)
 39 Oyaide Avenue,
 Off Benoni Street, GRA Benin-City-Edo State.
 ANEEJ- Contact person: MR. KELLY UUMUKORO - +2348033607269
ABUJA OFFICE
 Plot 477, 41 Crescent, Gwarimpa, Abuja.
 ANEEJ- Contact person: MRS. JOY IGWE-OKOYE - +2348059880550
 AAN- Contact person: MR. OMOH GOODLUCK - +2347039182398
LAGOS OFFICE
 1A Adeboye Solanike Street,
 Off Allen Avenue (Behind Zenith Bank), Ikeji-Lagos.
 AAN- Contact person: MR. GABRIEL AREGAN - +2348056083051

SALE DATE

The Auction bidding commences Monday January 25th, 2021 at 12:00 am and ends Thursday 4th February, 2021 at 11:59pm.

CONDITION FOR SALE

The Auction is subjected to Online bidding **ACCESSIBLE THROUGH THIS LINK:** www.benbentonassociates.com as to offer bidders/buyers opportunity to view the catalogued inventory list of the items involved and also to enable bidders/buyers bid accordingly.

MODE OF PAYMENT

Strictly wire transfer or cash lodgment of the successful auction bid price plus 7.5% VAT into ANEEJ designated account by successful bidders at the end of the Auction sale and showing proof of lodgment and date, within one (1) day of notice of sale. All items bought must be removed two (2) days from the date issuance of receipt and gate-pass. Non-compliance attracts storage/demurrage fees as may be determined by ANEEJ. Auctioneer has the right to withdraw any item from the Auction without notice.

NOTE

Bidders must comply strictly with the Auctioneers directives as specified at the link site. All items involved are sold "AS-IS AND WHERE-IS" without any Guarantee or Warranties expressed or implied by ANEEJ or AUCTION FIRM. Enquires or any questions during inspection, contact Auction Firm Representatives or the contact persons mentioned at the locations involved or call the telephone numbers.

DECISION OF AUCTIONEERS WILL BE FINAL

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PHOTO NEWS

photonews@dailytrust.com

18TH DAILY TRUST DIALOGUE AT NAF CENTRE ABUJA



■ Chairman, Media Trust Limited Mallam, Kabiru Yusuf (left) welcoming former President Goodluck Jonathan



■ Former INEC Chairman, Attahiru Jega; former President, Goodluck Jonathan; former President General of Ohanaeze Ndigbo, John Nwodo and Chairman Media Trust Limited, Mallam Kabiru Yusuf at the event



■ Front row, from left: Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) President Ayuba Wabba and other personalities



■ From left: Oba of Gbomina Ekiti Tapa Kingdom, Olarewaju Ajayi; former House of Reps member, Sani Zorro and others



■ A cross-section of participants at the dialogue

Photos: Felix Onigbinde

18TH DAILY TRUST DIALOGUE AT NAF CENTRE ABUJA



■ Former Minister of Agriculture, Chief Audu Ogbeh (left) and Hon Mohammed Kumalia



■ Daily Trust Editor-in-Chief, Naziru Mikailu Abubakar, welcomes former President Goodluck Jonathan



■ A cross-section of participants



■ From left, Chief Audu Ogbeh; former DG National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS), Kuru, Prof. Ahmed Danfulani and former President General of Ohanaeze Ndigbo, Chief John Nwodo



■ From right: Former INEC Chairman, Prof. Attahiru Jega; Chief John Nwodo and the moderator, Kadaria Ahmed

Photos: Felix Onigbinde & Ikechukwu Ibe

GLOBAL CONNECTION

Tope Fasua
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The citizens and nation building (II)

So, in thinking about how to build a nation, we go back to the type of people we need to be, to be tooled to build a nation. Remember, a full, ready and exact people. It cannot be everybody that will be in the forefront, in the frontlines doing battle. You will have to have point-men and women, and leaders from among the youths, but as many as can, should be full, ready and exact. This, I believe is the strategy of #EndSARS; the leaderless revolution, sans the underhand infiltration by entities with sinister agenda for everyone. The youths must, however, remain active, positive and engaged. I recall another clip I saw recently where the guru explained how success is a series of positive outcomes and failure, a series of negative ones. A successful person will fail sometimes but keep going, thereby his positivism will bring good things his way and he will become successful in the end. A failure will win sometimes, but negativity ensures that good tidings, what we call good luck, fortune, people, continue to give such a person a wide berth, resulting in back-to-back and overall negative outcomes; failure. Therefore, stay positive, constructive, innovative. No matter the discouragement from society, always keep putting in your best for God and country... and for yourself. Take advantage of the goodness around you, and indeed, the opportunity to add value and be part of the solution. Nigeria is indeed an open sesame. This is where so many things have not been done that should have been done. Let me tell you a secret. Tell no one. But it is far easier for you to attain prominence for service and sacrifice here than if you were living abroad. Think about it. This is why many Nigerians living abroad still get very concerned with the motherland, and after sorting out the basic survival issues, many diaspora Nigerians express deep pain at Nigeria's current state. Home is where the heart is.

Politics

Perhaps the greater challenge is politics. It is murky they say, but it is the most legal and most constitutional way of engaging the system. You can form NGOs and CSOs, but they may remain nice advocacy platforms, or at best become thorns in the flesh of every government. We need a constant culture of protest and citizen oversight, but we need leadership even more. Political parties are written into the Nigerian constitution and also protected by it, irrespective of the occasional shenanigans of people who govern. The recent deregistration of 74 political parties come to mind. It is what it is; a shoddy, underhanded and silly travesty of justice powered by elements in the ruling party and those who see themselves as the principalities and powers of Nigeria. INEC lent itself cheaply to that abuse of institution and process. My concern is, the future is now, and we need to see more and more of our young people, so long as they are not statute barred, contesting for elections. Note that you don't have to win the moment you start. Remember, failure is a part of success; a necessary

lesson in the appreciation of success.

The challenge before Nigerian youths today is what to do. If they join the old parties, will they not become subsumed in the old, corrupt ways? If they choose not to join the old parties, can they rev up enough political velocity to torpedo the old order or will any new party just be like another child's play, easily swatted away by the powers-that-be like the 74 I mentioned above? Guess what! I think the youths have the numbers to do everything. Let some go to old parties and shake them up if they can. Let some form new parties. Let some remain as activists; putting everybody on their toes. This way, Nigerian youths will emerge, everywhere. How is that?

EndSARS

Old politicians are afraid. Very afraid. The youthful revolution was something formidable and remarkable. The protests needn't be perfect, but it happened and the world got the message. Every strategy has a downside. A protest with leaders can be easily dissipated, with leaders bribed or intimidated. One that is leaderless can go on forever, lose direction and be hijacked by crazies. The choice is for the youths. Their time has come. No matter the case, it is very important to have an intellectual revolution going side-by-side, wherein the demands of the youths will be well-articulated and painstakingly pursued until they are achieved. Off the cuff, and for starters, I think SARS should become something like Police Tactical Service (PTS), a name that shows that policing is a service to the people and that elicits citizen cooperation. However, the last time I checked police was still training SWAT. There is a need for the youths to bank their gains, to continue to be in the labour room as a new Nigeria is being born. Being present in the labour room, the child will be born into your arms. You will have to name the child and nurture her into greatness. This is what it takes, to build a nation.

COVID-19 keeps intervening rudely in the affairs of men and threatens to take the shine off the efforts of the youths as expressed in EndSARS. The inability of the youths to bank some gains should not be seen as a weakness by government because if further mismanagement of national affairs cause the youths to rise once more, the situation may prove unmanageable. We have started hearing of new cases of police harassment and SWAT has replaced SARS, with basically no input on modus operandi from the youths. Still, I urge that the youths press on intellectually. The intellectual space is still occupied by tired old men... men especially. This space offers a platform bigger than street protest. It offers a platform for the painting of a new picture of what you want your country to be. Vision. The intellectual space is where we will be able to prove that we have Nigerian youths with such large minds and brains that can secure the future of the country. It is the place where the roots of the recent protests will be given a sound grounding that will torpedo the mediocrity that has defined our existence as a people.

Mohammad Qaddam Sidq Isa

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Hopes, worries of post-Trump world

As much as one tries not to bother unnecessarily about the United States (US) politics, one simply cannot ignore it at least to the extent to which it directly or indirectly interests one and one's primary audience.

Since the end of World War II, the US foreign policies, actions and inactions have always had positive or negative impacts on global economic conditions, peace and stability more than any other country. This is primarily thanks to its sheer military power and economic size which remain the world's strongest and largest respectively, and which it has always leveraged on in pursuit of its legitimate and illegitimate interests.

And until it is outpaced and overshadowed by another country, which is inevitable since, after all, it is not the first world's superpower and would not be the last either, the US would continue to be the most influential country in international politics.

Until then, therefore, US politics, including the identities and underlying philosophical inclinations of major players in, particularly, the White House, the Congress, the State Department, the Pentagon, the Federal Reserve and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), would remain of huge interest not only to the US citizens and residents, but also to most, if not all, foreign governments and major multinational corporations, albeit to various degrees.

That explains why lobbying in Washington's corridors of power on behalf of foreign governments, multinational corporations and international organisations remains a multibillion-dollar industry.

In addition to traditional US allies in Europe, Asia and the Middle East, many non-US allies like Russia and China, and even some purported US enemies like Iran, maintain dedicated firms in Washington who lobby for their interests.

With the inauguration of the new US President, Joe Biden, last Wednesday, such governments and entities are already strategising to secure US cooperation in pursuit of their respective interests. This is even though President Biden, unlike his predecessor, Trump, is already a typical Washington establishment politician, which makes him quite predictable in the light of his political antecedents over the decades. Yet, that does not downplay the need to have a clear picture of his administration's direction on various issues involving foreign interests, especially after years of unprecedented unpredictability of the Trump administration.

Though the direction of any US administration is always primarily determined by the US strategic interests, the particularly inconsiderate approach of the former President Trump under his "America First" policy had made many foreign governments miss the pre-Trump America and wish that President Biden would revert to the status quo anyway.

China, for instance, which has been particularly hit by Trump's largely protectionist international trade policies, is certainly pursuing an increased US commitment to international trade liberal policies under the Biden administration.

Iran also, being arguably the worst-hit country by Trump would want to see the Biden administration reverting to the Obama era situation in US-Iran politics, for, after all, he was Obama's deputy

who supposedly played a key role in the formulation of Obama's Iran-friendly policies in the Middle East.

Trump's "maximum pressure" policy against Iran had devastated the Iranian economy after it had begun to recover following the ratification of the 2015 Nuclear Agreement between it, the US, Germany, France and Britain, China and Russia. Trump's withdrawal from the agreement rendered it effectively ineffective and signalled the beginning of America's harsh measures against it that have significantly lessened the impetus of Iran's geopolitical expansionist adventures in the Middle East.

Even the US traditional European allies would equally want to see it back to its full commitment to their collective security under the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in the face of the Russian geopolitical ambition with its attendant security implications on the continent.

Former President Trump always blackmailed NATO member-countries for, according to him, not contributing enough in the organisation's budget thereby leaving the US with the burden of protecting them. He equally blackmailed US Far Eastern allies like Japan and South Korea and demanded that they paid the US for "protecting" them from the aggressive North Korean regime.

Other US allies elsewhere like the Arabian Gulf countries in the Middle East have equally been repeatedly blackmailed by Trump for "protecting" them from the belligerent Iranian regime on the other side of the Gulf.

Now, notwithstanding the foregoing, President Biden is assuming office after exactly 10 years from the eruption of violent protests that swept across many countries in the Middle East and North Africa purportedly to bring about democratic change.

However, the ensuing confusion degenerated into anarchy and bloody civil wars causing huge loss of lives and displacement of millions of people in addition to extensive devastation. Some countries are still unable to even stop the wars let alone recover.

Given the roles that the Obama wing of radical democrats played in the instigation of that overwhelming chaos, there are concerns in the region that President Biden, being Obama's deputy then hence supposedly involved in that strategy, may consider pursuing the same policy.

Already, beneficiaries who rode the wave of the protests to achieve their political ambitions, eg, the Muslim Brotherhood, are particularly excited that the protests would come back now that Biden has been inaugurated. For instance, when, in the course of a chat I recently had with a staunch Muslim Brotherhood apologist Egyptian friend of mine, I referred to Biden's appointment of some of Obama's team members, he (my friend) could not disguise his excitement that President Biden might end up adopting Obama's Middle East policy.

Though people across the region have learned a lesson albeit the hard way, which makes the repeat of similar protests quite unlikely, it remains to be seen whether or not President Biden would follow the footsteps of his former boss, Obama, in his reckless determination to impose "liberal values" on nations regardless of their respective peculiarities.

EDITORIAL

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

As Biden steps in

On Wednesday, Joseph Robinette Biden Jr. was sworn in as the 46th President of the United States of America (USA). This ended President Donald Trump's tumultuous tenure which was capped with never-proved allegation of rigged election and the violent storming of the U.S. Capitol by his mob of supporters to stop the 117th Congress from validation of Biden's election on January 6, 2021.

With the insurrection failure, the twice-impeached Trump reluctantly surrendered power but refused to either concede or participate in Biden's inauguration.

Today, Biden must rebuild a devastated economy and restore faith to a country reeling from over 406,000 COVID-19 deaths.

Biden must help rebuild faith in U.S. after Trump's chaotic presidency, which embraced division and racial discord, which railed against a "deep state" within his own government, praised autocrats and attacked allies, politicised the administration of justice, monetised the presidency for himself and family and presided over a tumultuous, turnover-ridden administration via impulsive tweets.

And he must do this without an overwhelming national mandate as there is a 50-50 Senate and the smallest House majority Democrats have experienced in nearly a century and a half (221-211). His margin of victory of 65,009 votes in Arizona, Georgia, Wisconsin and Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District made him the Electoral College winner as he garnered 81 million votes or 51.3 percent of total popular vote.

Also, on ground, precedent shows that recoveries from the pandemic-induced recession may take longer. It took only 11 months for the job market to recover from the 1980 recession but 77 to recover from the Great Recession of 2007 to 2009. With this trend, it could be 2027 before the job market fully recovers.

But to send a signal that he's hitting the ground running, on his first day in office, President Biden issued 17 executive orders, memoranda, and requests on issues pertaining to COVID-19, Immigration, Economy, Environment, Equity, Ethics and Regulation.

Nine of the 17 directly reverse Trump's policies, a head start that sets off an aggressive push to undo many of the former president's policies in the coming days and weeks.

Expectedly, more executive actions are coming in the next 10 days in a blitz of unilateral authority that would thrust Biden's agenda into motion.

On COVID-19, Biden issued three executive orders on nationwide mask and physical-distancing mandate on all federal grounds and the creation of Coronavirus-Response coordinator to oversee his administration's distribution of vaccines and medical supplies. It also revived a global health unit in the National Security Council that Trump had disbanded.

He also cancelled Trump's withdrawal from the World Health Organisation (WHO), appointing Dr. Anthony Fauci, the government's top infectious-disease expert, to head the U.S. delegation to the body.

The president also reversed Trump's most contentious immigration including restrictions on travel ban from seven Muslim-majority nations, overhauling immigration enforcement, ceased construction of the border wall and nullified Trump's directive to exclude non-citizens from the census count.

Further, Biden issued a memorandum for the Department of Homeland Security to "preserve and fortify" the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) programme, which protects undocumented immigrants brought into the country as children, and to suspend deportations for "certain non-citizens ordered deported" for the next 100 days.

Separately, Biden has introduced an ambitious bill to Congress on Immigration, among other provisions, proposing an eight-year path to citizenship for about 11 million people living in the U.S. without legal status.

More importantly for the rest of the world, Biden's executive action rejoins the Paris climate accord, which will take 30 days to go into effect. He cancelled the Keystone XL pipeline by revoking the permit as part of an ambitious pledge to address the existential climate crisis that Trump spent much of his term denying.

Biden's work is clear as he told his appointees: "We have such an awful lot to do." This knowledge should help him restore and give proper U.S. leadership in world affairs.

ECOWAS, Nigeria and the way forward

By Peter Johnson

Keen watchers of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) would have noticed a silent but revolutionary action taken recently by Nigeria, the economic and political powerhouse in West Africa, as part of efforts to counter a rather disturbing public perception that the regional organisation is losing focus and relevance.

Analysts have described ECOWAS of today as lacking in visionary leadership and political will, and that it has become a club of leaders engaged in the protection of their enlightened self-interest to the detriment of the community citizens. This flows from the organisation's lethargic responses to conflicts and a growing tendency in the legitimisation of incumbent governments and subtle acquiescence to the third-term presidency and indiscriminate change of national constitutions for tenure elongation.

At a recent ECOWAS virtual summit on the political crisis in Mali, Nigeria's President Mahamadu Buhari was emphatic, in warning his peers against the dangers of third-term syndrome and tenure elongation in Africa. But that warning would appear to have fallen on deaf ears. Third-term induced violence marred recent elections in Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea. It is therefore no surprise that Abuja had to withhold the traditional congratulatory messages for Alassane Ouattara of Côte d'Ivoire and Alpha Conde of Guinea who were declared winners of the December 2020 elections in the two countries, respectively.

When ECOWAS was formed in May 1975 to foster regional integration, military dictatorships held sway in many countries in West Africa. But Nigeria's former Head of State, Gen. Yakubu Gowon, and his Togolese counterpart, Gen. Gnassingbe Eyadema, ordered their Ministers, Prof Adebayo Adedeji (Nigeria) and Edem Kodjo (Togo) on the difficult diplomatic shuttles that resulted in the signing of the 25th May 1975 Treaty of Lagos that birthed ECOWAS. This was achieved against strong opposition from then President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Cote d'Ivoire, a staunch ally of France, the former colonial power in Francophone Africa.

However, France, which has always preferred a France-Afrique or France-African Union, has never relented. To attract Houphouet-Bogny into the ECOWAS fold, Nigeria facilitated his transportation to participate in the signing of the Treaty of Lagos and ensured that Cote d'Ivoire's Aouabakar Ouattara emerged as the first Executive Secretary of ECOWAS.

The undying crave by France for political influence

in West Africa has continued to undermine ECOWAS' regional integration agenda. For instance, the establishment of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) is in accentuation of that rivalry. UEMOA's eight members belong to ECOWAS, and are using the West African Franc (CFA), which is bankrolled by the French Treasury. Beyond competing with ECOWAS for international development support, it is believed that UEMOA was solely set up to counter ECOWAS or even destroy it.

It would be recalled that late last year, France and UEMOA members, led by Cote d'Ivoire, had attempted to hijack ECO, the ECOWAS' proposed common currency to replace CFA, a move stoutly rejected by Nigeria and other ECOWAS member States.

ECOWAS has since evolved into Africa's leading regional power bloc, particularly with exemplary credentials in preventive diplomacy, intra- and inter-state conflict management and resolution among its 15 member States. ECOWAS' interventions ended the civil wars in Liberia and Sierra Leone and have facilitated democratic processes in many other countries in the region.

The organisation has continued to rein in authoritarian and dictatorial tendencies of some of its leaders. A typical example was in 2009 when ECOWAS took a principled stance to stop former President Mamadou Tandja of Niger from extending his tenure. Also, in 2011, while the African Union, which has the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights based in Banjul, could not call dictatorial President Yahya Jammeh to order on his chain of human rights violations, ECOWAS made a bold statement by refusing to send a Mission to observe what was destined to be an undemocratic election held in the country that year.

ECOWAS did not recognize the outcome of that vote. When Jammeh held another election in 2016 and refused to concede defeat, ECOWAS sent a military mission to The Gambia and led international efforts to ease Jammeh to exile in Equatorial Guinea.

Today, the ECOWAS leadership, which is heavily influenced by Paris, is sleeping at the wheel, lacking the courage to speak truth to power. The leadership deficiency has crept into the management of various ECOWAS institutions, the ECOWAS Commission and Specialized Agencies. There is division along linguistic lines (French and English) with the distribution of key statutory positions in favour of the Francophone bloc and against Nigeria, which shoulders more than 60 per cent of the ECOWAS annual budget through payment of the Community Levy.

According to official financial statement presented to the

ECOWAS Parliament in 2019, Nigeria paid more than \$1.177 billion to ECOWAS as Community Levy contribution in the last 16 years. This represented 40.42 per cent of the \$2,913,088,908 payment made by all the 15 member States, and higher than the payments made by 12 other countries put together, except Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire, which contributed 17.45 per cent and 11.9 per cent, respectively. Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Gambia, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo paid a total of \$879,711 million. Guinea Bissau paid the lowest amount, representing 0.2 per cent of total community levy proceeds in the 16 years under review.

Nigeria, with an estimated 200 million population accounts for about half of ECOWAS' estimated 400 million people. Apart from the community levy, the country also plays a leading role in the contribution of troops and financial resources for regional, continental and international peacekeeping missions. Nigeria spent more than six billion dollars on peacekeeping efforts in Liberia and Sierra Leone, which was not refunded, excluding the human losses.

Nigeria usually bails out ECOWAS, including in the payment of staff salaries and bilateral supports to other member States, especially towards ensuring peaceful elections in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, Niger, to name a few. But the country is often treated with disdain, or regarded as a spendthrift. Nigeria's long-standing sacrifices do not square up with its under-representation and influence in most international organisations, especially ECOWAS and the AU. For instance, while Nigeria respects the host country instrument in not seeking the two prime positions at the ECOWAS Commission – President and the Vice President – the country has only one Commissioner at the ECOWAS Commission today. Also, junior-level positions normally reserved for a host country are often taken up by other nationals at the Commission.

The situation is not any better in other ECOWAS Institutions and Specialised Agencies, such as the Community Court, Parliament, ECOWAS Bank for Industrial Development (EBID), or in the appointment of Special Representatives to countries and international organisations such as the United Nations, ACP/EU in Brussels or senior-level positions at the ECOWAS Commission's Directorates and Divisions.

Indeed, is it not ironic that ECOWAS, which struggles with financial challenges could decide to increase the number of its highly paid Commissioners from nine to 15, based on an

— Continued on page 14

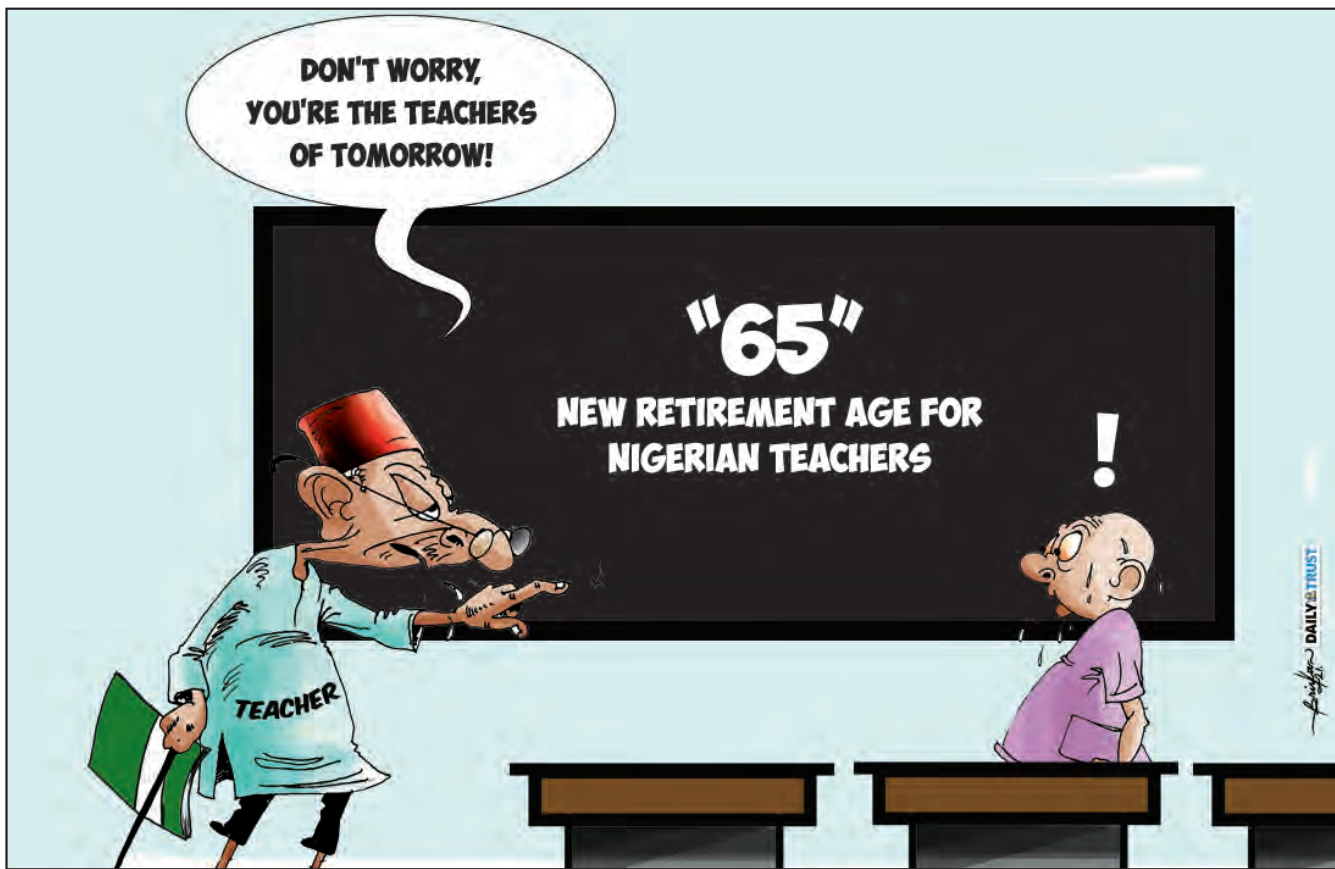


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Letter to the Editor

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CARTOON by AKILA JIBRIN



Arresting the impending collapse of education

It is unjust and an act of irrationality to blame government alone for the collapse of education in our dear country. People need to look at this with eagle-eyes. Everyone contributes his or her own quota to the worsening standard of education in the country.

I am not saying that government has no share of the blame, but things need to be taken into cognisance before condemning government on that.

In those days, education had an integral image. The population was less, the students were curious to learn and teachers were full of keen interest to teach. Presently, the standard of education and the poor performance in our schools have become serious.

The students of nowadays are shiftless, indolent and unfocused when it comes to learning. They are no longer enthusiastic about their studies and hardly read their notebooks not to talk of their textbooks.

The distractions of modern technologies contribute immensely,

although, negatively to students' concentration. Most of them prefer watching television, listening to music, watching either sports or movies or attending parties to reading their books.

Teachers too are not to be exempted from contributing to the mess the education sector is in. Many are not qualified to teach. Some accept it because they could not get a better job.

Parents also contribute their quota to this serious problem. Negligence especially on the part of illiterate parents contributes a lot. Some send their children because they disturb them at home. At times, parents scold their wards when they open their bags to read or do some homework.

Such habits are also found among literate parents. They allow their wards to watch different movies on satellite TV up to midnight instead of reading books.

However, it is unfair for me to exclude government from having a hand in this calamity. Indeed, education is being

poorly managed by all the three tiers of government in the country.

First and foremost, teachers' welfare is not given due attention or priority. This makes the most industrious teachers, who have the zeal of teaching, become demoralised.

Many schools are without proper equipment or instructional materials. Students sit on bare floors in dilapidated classrooms with no windows, cracked blackboards and leaking roofs. Such students suffer a lot during either raining or harmattan season.

Education desperately needs absolute attention for its survival; all hands must be on deck to restore its dignity.

Parents should know that government alone cannot provide qualitative education to their children. Individuals and old boys' associations should contribute their quota in educating the children so that the challenges facing education should be addressed.

Usman Usman writes from Kano

Text us on 08131800030 & 08112661608



Re-appointment of Hadiza Bala to NPA

I welcome the reappointment of Mrs Hadiza Bala Usman as the Managing Director of Nigerian Ports Authority. She has performed very well on the job in the last three years. I appeal to her to continue with the work she has been doing.

*Mukhtar Ibrahim Saulawa - 07066434****

Re: 18 unclaimed Gombe missing children

Please, is there no Ministry of Social Welfare, Women and Children Affairs in Gombe? Why would the children be taken back to Anambra State. If their own state of origin will reject them, what do you think will be their fate in Anambra? The governor of Gombe State should immediately take responsibility of those children.

*Ibrahim - 08098647****

Akeredolu's quit order

This action is disastrous. When people are power drunk,

they emit dangerous things that can cause problem to the country. This is a sitting governor serving a second term with the mandate of people who voted for him, including those he is threatening to expel from the state. Again, this governor was the President of Nigeria Bar Association but is exhibiting such behaviour when the nation's unity is being threatened. It is quite unfortunate. The nation's constitution guarantees freedom of residence. Mr Governor, you are cautioned.

*Abdulkadir Mamman - 08035890****

FEC approves 65 as teachers' retirement age

This is a piece of good news. The government deserves commendation. Nigerians are hoping that the National Assembly will tow the same line.

*Comrade Bishir Dauda Katsina - 08165270****

ECOWAS, Nigeria and the way forward

— Continued from page 13

unreasonable argument that every member must produce a Commissioner? Nigeria has kicked against this wasteful move, but Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana which are enjoying better role allocations are adamant. Apart from their hefty remunerations and allowances, more Commissioners mean an expansion of the bureaucracy - directorates, divisions and red-tape. When President Buhari raised the issue few years ago, he was assured that the budget for nine Commissioners would be used to finance the 15-Commissioner structure. But it proved to be a subterfuge as the situation has not changed amid lack of funds for Community projects.

Nigeria must prevail on the leaders of the organisation that if every ECOWAS Member State desires a Commissioner beyond the manageable nine, such a member should bear the costs and the accompanying administrative overheads for such appointment. This position must be strongly insisted upon, especially as the economic climate in the world demands effective resource management that calls for a lean and nimble structure.

Similarly, Nigeria should ensure that the current selection of the Chair of ECOWAS Authority based on alphabetical order and the zoning of statutory positions must be reviewed to produce a more qualitative outcome. For instance, as in the AU and EU, the recruitment process should be much more rigorous and transparent involving independent and proven external management experts.

Some development partners have also complained about frustrations with the lack of proactivity by the ECOWAS leadership which has remained in the main self-consuming, to the extent that it pays scant attention to the sustainable absorption of funds or burning rate, to the greater benefit of Community citizens. Nigeria must spearhead reforms that will ensure that the community does not continue to lose out on donor funds and projects.

Another area that requires Nigeria's urgent attention is an investigation into the selection or composition of ECOWAS election observers, and the strange activities of top officials of the Community. Unlike in the past when observers were selected from a database of trained and experienced specialists, the lack of merit and competence as criteria for current selections has negatively impacted the quality of ECOWAS election observation missions. Similarly confounding is the series of meetings and missions which the staff are involved in, with some Commissioners spending one to two months away from their duty stations, attending back-to-back meetings. Meanwhile, the same organisation complains about lack of capacity, even when available personnel are not fully utilized.

These problems and the administrative laxities in ECOWAS can be blamed at least in part on the fact that Nigeria had hitherto failed to assert its leadership, until recently. It is therefore, imperative that Nigeria acts consciously, consistently, and very fast too, to refocus ECOWAS on the goals set by its founding fathers and prevent the erosion of the gains of over four decades. The danger in Nigeria not asserting itself in ECOWAS' governance ecosystem is huge and could be very costly. Given Nigeria's strategic position, there can be no ECOWAS, ECO, monetary union or regional integration in West Africa without Abuja's major input.

Peter Johnson, a foreign affairs analyst, writes from Abuja.



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL (NCDC)
REGIONAL DISEASE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS
ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (PHASE II)
(WORLD BANK ASSISTED)
CREDIT IDA 5970-NG

PROCUREMENT OF PROJECT VEHICLES

RFB No. REDISSE-GDS-RFB-01-2020

1. The **Federal Republic of Nigeria** has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the **Regional Disease Surveillance Systems Enhancement Project (Phase II)**, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for **Procurement of Project Vehicles**.
2. The **Nigeria Centre for Disease Control** now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the following vehicles:

Lot No.	Description	Quantity	Bid Security	Delivery Period	Location
1	4x4 - Double Cabin Pick-Up Trucks	52	At least 3% of Bid Price	60 days	NCDC - Abuja
2	2x2 -15-Seater Bus	3	At least 3% of Bid Price	60 days	NCDC - Abuja
3	Hospital Ambulance	15	At least 3% of Bid Price	60 days	NCDC - Abuja
4	4x4 -Double Cabin Veterinary Ambulatory Vehicle	7	At least 3% of Bid Price	60 days	NCDC - Abuja
5	4x4 SUV Cars	1	At least 3% of Bid Price	60 days	NCDC - Abuja

NB: Bidders may bid for any or more lots and discounts offered for the award of combined lots will be considered in bid evaluation. Domestic preference is not applicable.

3. Bidding will be conducted through open, National competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "**Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers**", **July 2016, revised November 1, 2017 and August 1, 2018** and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from the **Nigeria Center for Disease Control, Regional Disease Surveillance Systems Enhancement Project (REDISSE II)**, **Mrs. Kemi Ladeinde, E-mail: kemi.ladeinde@ncdc.gov.ng** and inspect the bidding document during office hours from 0900 to 1700 hours local time at the address given below. Qualifications requirements include:
 - Documentary Evidence of two contracts of similar nature and magnitude during the last five (5) years
 - Audited Financial Statements for the last three (3) years to demonstrate the financial capability of the Bidder in terms of Profitability and adequate working capital.
 - A Manufacturer's Authorization for vehicles not produced by the company.

Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.

5. The bidding document in **English** may be purchased by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of **Twenty Thousand Naira (N20,000.00)** only. The method of payment will be through **REMITA Platform via Account Name: NIGERIA CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL/WORLD BANK PROJECT TSA**. The document will be sent by courier or collected by hand.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **12.00 noon, Thursday 18, February, 2021**. 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 chooses to attend at the address below on **12.00 noon, Thursday 18, February, 2021**.
7. All Bids must be accompanied by a **Bid Security of at least three percent (3%) of the bid price denominated in the Nigerian Naira**.
8. The address referred to above is:

Nigeria Center for Disease Control
Mrs. Kemi Ladeinde
Project Coordinator,
Plot 804 Ebitu Ukiwe Street, Jabi-Abuja, Nigeria
+234 706 315 0801
kemi.ladeinde@ncdc.gov.ng



GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Federal Republic of Nigeria
Covid-19 Preparedness And Response Project (CoPREP)
Health Sector
Credit No. **6766-NG/PEF** Grant No. **TF0B3550**
Project ID No. **P173980**

The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a Credit and Grant financing in the amount of US\$ 114.28 equivalent from the World Bank toward the cost of the Covid-19 Preparedness And Response Project (CoPREP) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods, works, non-consulting services and consulting services to be procured under this project. This project will not be jointly financed by any agency.

The project will include the following components:

Component 1: Emergency COVID-19 Response
Component 2: Project Management, Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation

No goods, works, non-consulting services and consulting services shall be procured through open international competitive procurement.

Procurement of contracts financed by the World Bank will be conducted through the procedures as specified in the World Bank's **Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (July 2016, revised November 1, 2017 and August 1, 2018) (Procurement Regulations)**, and is open to all eligible firms and individuals as defined in the Procurement Regulations. After project negotiations, the World Bank shall arrange the publication on its external website of the agreed initial procurement plan and all subsequent updates once it has provided a no objection.

Specific procurement notices for contracts subject to open international competitive procurement will be announced, as they become available, in UN Development Business online, on the World Bank's external website and www.ncdc.gov.ng and a newspaper of national circulation in the Borrower's country and official gazette i.e. the Federal Tenders Journal, www.eternders.com.ng.

Prequalification/Initial Selection of suppliers and contractors will be required for the following contracts: **NA**.

Interested eligible firms and individuals who would wish to be considered for the provision of goods, works, non-consulting services and consulting services for the above-mentioned project, or those requiring additional information, should contact the Borrower at the address below:

REDISSE Project Coordination Office (PCU)
Mrs. Olukemi Ladeinde/Project Coordinator
Plot 804, NCDC Annex I Building,
Ebitu Ekiwe Street, Jabi – Abuja, Nigeria.
07063150801
[Kemi.ladeinde@ncdc.gov.ng](mailto:kemi.ladeinde@ncdc.gov.ng)
www.ncdc.gov.ng

BUSINESS

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

	US DOLLAR	Pound STERLING	EURO	YUAN/ RENMINBI	RIVAL	CFA
Buying	379	514.22	464.57	58.57	101.02	0.69
Central NGN	379.5	514.90	465.07	58.65	101.15	0.70
Selling NGN	380	515.58	465.69	58.73	101.29	0.71

COMMODITIES PRICE (Jan. 18, 2021)

CRUDE OIL BRENT	\$56.36
GOLD	\$1,848.88
SILVER	\$25.43
NATURAL GAS	\$2.70

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

	Dollar	Euro	Pound S.
BUYING	N460	N560	N620
SELLING	N470	N573	N630

Buhari directs foreign, local coys on strict tax payment

By Muideen Olaniyi

President Muhammadu Buhari on Thursday issued a directive to the operators of foreign and local companies to ensure strict compliance with the payment of taxes for their operations just as he tasked revenue generating agencies to improve the automation of tax payment.

President Buhari spoke virtually at the first National Tax Dialogue held at the State House in Abuja. He said the government had “inevitably resorted to deficit budgeting as a result of declining revenues for some years” resulting in an increase in Nigeria’s debt profile.

“As we might expect, this has led to an increase in Nigeria’s debt profile which stood at about N32 trillion in September 2020. This funding gap created by the dwindling government revenue therefore underscores the importance of the national tax dialogue we are holding today.

To this end, the Federal Inland Revenue Services (FIRS) is mandated to do all that is required in order to efficiently collect tax revenue due from transactions carried out using local and foreign online platforms.

● Nigeria’s economy to grow by 1.5% this year – Adesina



■ From left: Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), Mele Kolo Kyari, and the Governor of Lagos State, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, during a technical session chaired by Sanwo-Olu during the 1st Annual National Tax Dialogue at the State House in Abuja yesterday.

The government has made relevant statutory amendments to tax laws in the Finance Act 2020,” he said.

According to a statement by his spokesman, Femi Adesina, the President directed the foreign and local companies to ensure strict compliance with the payment of taxes.

He ordered all government agencies to automate

operations and ensure more synergy in advancing the interest of the nation in revenue generation.

He also pledged to block leakages.

Buhari said: “This was clearly demonstrated by the provisions in the Finance Act 2019 whereby the government exempted small companies from tax and reduced the

income tax rate for medium companies from 30% to 20%.

“In the Finance Act 2020 which I signed into law at the tail end of 2020, we went further to cushion the burden of tax on the low-wage workers by exempting minimum wage from personal income tax.”

In his keynote presentation, President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Dr Akinwunmi Adesina, projected a rebound of the Nigerian economy from recession with a 1.5 per cent growth rate in 2021, and two per cent growth in 2022.

The AfDB president, who said youths should be incentivised to grow businesses with appropriate tax regimes, added that Africa loses about 60 billion US dollars annually from taxes.

The Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Hajiji Zainab Ahmed, said the government will improve its template for tax collection, especially in the face of dwindling revenues due to the coronavirus pandemic. She described 2021 as a year of recovery for the economy.

The FIRS chairman, Muhammad Mamman Nami, called for a new, comprehensive tax payment culture.

FG, states, LGs shared N619.343bn in Dec

By Chris Agabi

The Federation Accounts Allocation Committee (FAAC) shared to the three tiers of government the sum of N619.343 billion as federation allocation for December 2020.

From the amount, inclusive cost of collection to Nigerian Customs Service, Department of Petroleum Resources and Federal Inland Revenue Service, the federal government received N218.3bn, states N178.3bn, the local government councils N131.8bn while the oil-producing states received N31.8bn as derivation (13 per cent of mineral revenue) and Cost of Collection/Transfer and Refunds got N59.1bn.

The total revenue distributable for the month was augmented with the sum of N6.9bn and N3.4bn drawn from the forex Equalisation Account and Exchange Gain Difference, respectively.

The communiqué, issued by the Federation Account Allocation Committee (FAAC) at the end of the meeting, showed that the Gross Revenue available from Value Added Tax (VAT) for December 2020 was N171.4bn as against N158.7bn distributed in November 2020, resulting in an increase of N14.5bn.

The distribution was as follows: federal government got N23.9bn, states N79.6bn, local government councils N55.7bn, while Cost of Collection, FIRS and NCS, got N6.8bn and Allocation to NEDC project received N5.1bn.

The distributed Statutory Revenue of N437.2bn received for the month was higher than the N436.4bn received for the previous month by N0.799bn, from which the federal government received N189.4bn, states N96.1bn, LGCs N74.1bn, Derivation (13% mineral revenue) N30.5bn and Cost of Collection/ Transfer and Refund N47.1bn.

FG approves guidelines for Executive Order 5

By Zakariyya Adaramola

The federal government has approved the guidelines for the implementation of the Executive Order 5, the Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Ogbonnaya Onu has disclosed.

The Order places Nigerian professionals at the centre of economic and social development of the country.

Dr. Onu said this when he received the Association of Computer Village Technology Merchants of Nigeria in his office in Abuja, noting that the Order is a right step in the right direction

in repositioning Nigeria’s economic fortunes.

“With the recent African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement, Nigerian businesses have access to not just 200 million Nigerians, but 1.2 billion people in Africa. Nigeria needs to be a global superpower”, he said.

He assured the association of the ministry’s partnership, adding that the collaboration between them would increase the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

President of the Association of Computer Village Technology

Merchants of Nigeria, Prince Tony Nwakeze, said his association wanted to collaborate with the ministry in creating an enabling environment.

He said the enabling environment requested include; reduced import tariffs, financial grants, training and the establishment of a technology hub to facilitate their activities.

He further added that his association has created employment for over five million youths and has positively impacted on the economy by enhancing Internally Generated Revenue (IGR).

NIGERIAN RAILWAY CORPORATION ABUJA – KADUNA TRAIN SERVICE (AKTS) TIME TABLE

SUNDAYS – TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS - SATURDAYS								WEDNESDAYS (ONLY)																			
From ABUJA	DEPARTURE				ARRIVAL				From KADUNA	DEPARTURE				ARRIVAL													
	AK 1	AK 3	AK 5	AK 7	AK 1	AK 3	AK 5	AK 7		KA 2	KA 4	KA 6	KA 8	KA 2	KA 4	KA 6	KA 8										
IDU	07:00	09:50	14:20	18:00	-	-	-	-	RIGASA	06:40	10:35	14:00	18:00	-	-	-	-	From ABUJA	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	From KADUNA	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL				
KUBUWA	07:17	10:07	14:41	18:15	07:14	10:02	14:36	18:16	KUBUWA	08:31	13:04	16:03	20:07	08:28	12:59	15:58	20:04	IDU	07:00	18:00	-	-	RIGASA	06:40	18:00	-	-
RIGASA	-	-	-	-	09:15	12:01	17:00	20:02	IDU	-	-	-	-	08:43	13:20	16:16	20:20	KUBUWA	07:17	18:15	07:14	18:12	KUBUWA	18:31	20:07	08:28	20:00
																		RIGASA	-	-	09:15	20:20	IDU	-	-	08:34	20:20

NEWS

Africa remains fertile for investment – Adesina

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Akinwumi Adesina has said Africa remains a fertile ground for investment but that depends very much on its ability to boost its healthcare sector.

He disclosed this during the Africa Investment organised by the UK Department for International Trade.

The conference brought together the UK and African business and government leaders to discuss investment and partnership opportunities.

Four critical sectors were spotlighted as follows: sustainable infrastructure, renewable energy, financial and professional services, and agriculture and agri-tech.

Adesina said: "Africa still possesses the same fundamentals that had driven the continent's phenomenal growth over the past decade.

"The fundamentals in those phenomenal growth rates in Africa are still there... Africa still leads in terms of ease of doing business...It's very exciting, the digital explosion that you see in Africa today."

According to Boris Johnson, UK Prime Minister, "many things have changed since last year, there is one thing I can tell you that has not changed: that is my ambition for the UK to be Africa's investment partner."

Firm, FCDO to train 1,000 persons in Nigeria

From Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos

Technology for Social Change and Development Initiative (Tech4Dev), a non-profit organization has signed an agreement with the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) for the Basic Digital Literacy training for 1,000 beneficiaries across rural areas in northern Nigeria.

The firm said the training is part of efforts to empower vulnerable groups and equip them with the basic digital knowledge required to succeed in the 21st-century and the emerging new normal from the COVID19 pandemic.

Training will last for 12 weeks in 10 rural clusters across 10 states in the north comprising 50 per cent vulnerable women and girls, 30 per cent Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and 20 per cent individuals of other vulnerable groups.

The Executive Director at Tech4Dev, Diwura Oladepo who spoke at a virtual media briefing stressed the need to increase the number of digital literate vulnerable populations and people living in under-served communities in northern Nigeria.

The Head of the UK Government's Digital Access Programme and Country Adviser, Idongesit Udoh, said various policies in Nigeria have identified digital skills as key to economic prosperity for all Nigerians.

"With COVID-19, digital literacy has become a must-have. Hence, the UK Government is demonstrating timely support not only for Nigeria's inclusive economic development but also in building effective COVID-19-related resilience," Udoh said.

According to the International Finance Corporation (IFC), about 230 million jobs in Sub-Saharan Africa will require digital skills by 2030. This figure is due to the increasing use of technology and automation of jobs.

FG reappoints Hadiza Bala NPA MD, okays TCN board

By Muideen Olaniyi

President Muhammadu Buhari has approved the re-appointment of Hadiza Bala Usman as Managing Director of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) for another five year tenure.

The reappointment was announced on Thursday in a statement issued by the Special Adviser to the President on Media and Publicity, Femi Adesina.

Also approved is the reconstitution of the Non-Executive Board of the NPA,

with Mr Emmanuel Olajide Adesoye (from South-west) as chairman.

Other members of the board are Prince Ekenyem Nwafor-Orizu (South-east), Akinwunmi Ricketts (South-south), Ghazali Mohammed Mijinyawa (North-East), Mustapha Amin Dutse (North-West), and Abdulwahab Adesina (North-Central).

President Buhari also approved board members for the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN), who will oversee the selection of a new managing director for the organisation.

The board members are Muhammad K. Ahmad (chairman), Chief Henry Okolo, Imamudden Talba, Ambassador Usman Sarki, Ali Haruna, Engr. Simeone Atakulu, Zubaida Mahey Rasheed, Dr Mustapha Abiodun Akinkunmi, Engr. Oladele Amoda, and Dr Nkiru Balonwu.

Other members of the TCN Board are representatives of the Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Ministry of Power, Bureau for Public Enterprises, FGN Power Company Limited, and the executive management of TCN.



■ From left: Category and Brand Manager, Devon King's PZ Wilmar, Toyin Popoola-Dania; Managing Director, Maxima Media Group, Mr Oluwafemi Ogundoro, and the Assistant Brand Manager, Devon King's PZ Wilmar, Omofolarin Omobolanle at the Street Foodz Naija Season 2 briefing in Lagos recently.

France among top 10 export destinations – Minister

By Francis Arinze Iloani

The Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, Otunba Richard Adeniyi Adebayo has said France is among the top 10 export destinations for Nigeria and that the country has been one of France's largest trading partners in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Minister made this known during a recent working visit of the French Ambassador to Nigeria, Amb. Jarome Pasquier to the minister in Abuja.

Adebayo commended French companies in Nigeria saying their operations have brought a massive inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) while contributing to the job creation of the youths.

Adebayo further revealed that President Muhammadu Buhari's led Administration is doing a lot in the area of Ease of Doing Business (EODB) while improving in the World Bank's ranking.

He, therefore, urged the firms to leverage on Nigeria's

investment opportunities to invest more in agro-allied industries, mining sector, information technology, transportation, energy, among others.

"Government is creating a lot of Industrial Parks, which France and other countries can further leverage on to improve economic ties with Nigeria."

Ambassador Pasquier in his remarks said France is determined to woo more investors to Nigeria to take advantage of Nigeria's economic

diversification process and other infrastructural developments.

He mentioned them to include the development of Free Trade Zones, agro-industries, livestock, ranching activities, tropical agriculture, and geographic information so that Nigeria's products would get international recognition.

He also said the France minister of trade will visit Nigeria with more French companies to boost trade bilateral relationship between the two countries.

Polaris Bank launches SMEs' loan scheme

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

Polaris Bank has introduced a cash flow lending product for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) tagged, Polaris Business Loan.

The facility offers both existing and new SME customers of the bank the opportunity to access quick loans for stock replacement, equipment finance, working capital and business expansion to sustain and scale-up in their business.

This forms part of the lender's continuous efforts to support the growth of small and medium scale businesses.

The bank noted that the loans can be used for a wide range of purposes such as stock replacement

and purchase of raw materials, renovation and expansion, asset acquisition etc.

SMEs who take the business loans are also eligible to access free tailor-made capacity building training, which is offered periodically by the Polaris Business Advisory Academy.

In a statement issued by the Bank, the Group Head, Products & Market Development, Mrs. Adebimpe Ihekuna, said: "The difficulty, which used to characterize one of the challenges faced by SMEs in accessing funding for their business is now a thing of the past, adding that the bank does not only offer loans but financial advisory; as well as empowerment programs on business intelligence."

Kano firm launches product, targets 3,000 jobs

From Zahradeen Yakubu Shua'ibu, Kano

Aspira Nigeria Limited, a home care product firm in Kano has launched a product line, which it said will lead to the doubling of its current workforce of about 3,000 people.

The company's Head of Marketing, Santhosh Kumar Nair, while unveiling the product, Viva Plus Laundry Sanitizer Detergent Powder, said the product has passed through all the checks and produced to promote a more hygienic and healthier society, especially with the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our commitment to the society and to health care has expanded our product range to sanitizers, dish-washers and dental healthcare products.

The Personnel Manager of the company, Alhaji Bala Adamu in his remarks said:

"Aspira was established in 2009, since then we have expanded to 12 manufacturing facilities as of today. As I speak, we have created over 3,000 jobs, and with our upcoming facilities, we hope to create more job opportunities with a vision of youth empowerment and to reduce unemployment rate."

On his part, the Chairman of the firm, Alhaji Ahmadu Danzago, stated that the product could not have entered the market at a more auspicious time, given the present global push for improved personal care and hygiene, including the need for a cleaner and safer environment.

He appreciated the people of Nigeria, the company's customers in particular, for their unshaken patronage and loyalty to their various range of products, while promising them a happy and prosperous relationship ahead.

NEWS

Equities market loses N25bn

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

Trading on the equities market dipped yesterday with a N25 billion loss, occurring a day after the market recorded a rebound of N50bn gain.

At the close of trading on the floor of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) on Thursday, the local bourse posted a bearish performance as the All-Share Index (ASI) fell by 12 basis points (bps) to close at 41,099.15 points due to sell-offs in Mansard (-9.8 per cent), UBA (-1.7%) and Dangote Cement (-0.2%).

As a result, the year to

date return moderated to 2.1% while market capitalisation declined by 25.4bn to settle at 21.5 trillion.

Activity level improved as volume and value traded rose 72.6% and 38.7% to 1.1bn units and 6.4bn respectively.

The most traded stocks by volume were Transcorp (428.3m units), Guaranty (62.1m units), and Sovrenins (61.4m units) while Guaranty (2.0bn), Zenith (708.1m), and Wapco (620.5m) topped by value.

Performance across sectors was largely bearish as 4 of 6 indices under review closed southward.

KEDCO to improve services with complaints data

By Zara Idris

The Managing Director of Kano Electricity Distribution Company (KEDCO), Dr Jamil Isyaku Gwamna, has reiterated the company's commitment to improving services through complaints received from customers.

In a statement by the spokesman of KEDCO, Ibrahim Shawai, the MD said the DisCo remains a customer-centric organization which prioritizes the satisfaction of their customers in Kano, Katsina and Jigawa states.

"Our focus is to give maximum satisfaction

to our customers and that's why we always train our staff to continually remain diplomatic in their approach to customers whenever they bring their complaints.

"In KEDCO, we see these complaints from customers as our tool towards improving on our services and delivering on our priorities for a better relation between us and our customers," said Gwamna.

He also emphasized on respect for customers while ensuring that all customers are given the necessary platforms to report complaints and we treat those complaints with the needed urgency."

Nasarawa to use IGR, others for N115bn budget

From Ibraheem Hamza Muhammad, Lafia

The Nasarawa state Commissioner of Finance, Mr. Haruna Adamu Ogbole has said the N115 billion budget for this year will be funded through Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) and other revenue sources.

He made the disclosure while giving a breakdown of the budget in Lafia.

Ogbole said, "The budget size for this year is N115.7bn which was signed into law on December 30, 2020. The budget is to be funded from the following anticipated revenue sources from the Federation Account which includes statutory revenue allocation of N37bn; Value Added Tax (VAT) N15bn, Exchange

gain N2.1bn and special allocation N3bn.

"Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) N26.43bn, aids and grants N16.28bn and a deficit financing (borrowing) of N14.46bn," he said.

According to him, the expenditure estimate for the year is recurrent N53.8bn or 46.55 per cent; capital expenditure N54.8bn or 47.38 per cent; and consolidated revenue fund charges is N7bn or 6.21 per cent.

The budget allocation to sectors in percentages include, Education (30 per cent), Infrastructure (14.5%), Governance (12.9%), Finance and Investment (11.3%), Health (10.4%), Agriculture (5.9%), Law and Justice (3.7%), Legislation (3%) and Environment (2.8%).

Nigeria's telecom subscribers hit 208m – NCC

By Zakariyya Adaramola

Nigeria's active telephony subscribers have increased from 203 million to 208m with teledensity standing at 108.92 per cent, the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) has said.

NCC's Executive Vice Chairman (EVC) Prof Umar Garba Danbatta, who disclosed this in a statement on Thursday, added that active internet subscriptions also increased to 154.9m with broadband penetration hitting 45.07%.

Danbatta also disclosed that the

third generation (3G) and fourth-generation (4G) base transceiver stations (BTS) deployment in Nigeria have increased from 30,000 to 53,460 while Fibre Optic Transmission cables expanded from 47,000km to 54,725km in the last five years, resulting in improved broadband/telecoms service delivery to Nigerians.

"The BTS, fibre optic cables and other related infrastructure are central to the provision of improved service experience for Nigerians by their respective telecoms service providers," he said.

He added that the licensed Infrastructure Companies (InfraCos) are also expected to add 38,296km to optic fibre cables when they are fully operational.

He also talked on various initiatives undertaken by the commission to ensure consumer protection and empowerment.

The EVC disclosed that the number of subscriptions to Do Not Disturb (DND) service has hit over 30 million as the service empowers Nigerians to be able to protect themselves from the menace of unsolicited text messages.

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FOCUS ON KATSINA

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EVERY FRIDAY

NIN: Katsina donates 34 laptop computers, printers to NIMC



■ Hon. Gwajo-Gwajo (left) presents the donation to the representative of NIMC, Malam Isah Gusau.

In its efforts to facilitate the ongoing National Identification Number (NIN) registration in order to bring succor to its teeming population, Katsina state government has donated laptop computers and printers to the National Identity management Commission (NIMC).

The registration gadgets were handed over to the representative of NIMC at the Katsina Ministry for Local government and Chieftaincy Affairs on Wednesday.

In his address during the presentation ceremony, the state Commissioner for local governments, Rt. Hon. Ya'u Umar Gwajo-Gwajo, said 34 laptop computers

and equal number of printers were procured by the state to be used by NIMC in each of the 34 LGAs of the state.

Hon. Gwajo-Gwajo said the donation was aimed at ensuring a hitch-free registration for NIN by the Katsina residents and called on the recipients of the gesture to make the best out of it.

"This donation of computers and printers to NIMC is born out of our desire to facilitate the work of the commission in order to improve its services to our people. You will agree with me that this good gesture is coming in very handy and appropriate in this time.

"It is therefore my hope and prayer that this effort will enhance the operation, coverage and activities of the commission in order to improve its service delivery to our people," he said.

He urged the management of NIMC to deploy the facilities appropriately and ensure their maintenance in the interest of the people of the state.

He further disclosed that Dutsi LGA area on its part, as donated an office to the NIMC to facilitate their activities in the local government.

He thanked the Katsina state governor, Aminu Bello Masari for his commitment

in ensuring the procurement of the registration facilities.

He however lamented that only 20 out of the 34 LGAs' offices of the NIMC were functional, hence called on the commission to expedite action towards renovating the non-functional offices in order to put them back to use within the shortest possible time.

In his response, the representative of the commission, Malam Isah Gusau, expressed his profound gratitude to the Katsina state government on behalf of his commission.

"Honestly, it is not in all the states that you see this kind of gesture in which the state government is giving all the required support and contribution to facilitate our activities.

"On behalf of our Director General, Engineer Aliyu Abubakar Aziz, te commission and our supervising ministry, we express our highest appreciation to the Katsina state government for this great gesture," he said.

He promised that all the nukes and crannies of the state would be covered curtsey of the facilities donated by the state.

Masari's wife supports physically challenged persons in Daura zone

The wife of the Katsina state Governor, Hajia Zakiya Aminu Bello Masari, has distributed 80 tricycles to physically challenged persons in 12 local government areas of Daura zone.

The gesture organized under her Non-Governmental organization, Women Youths and child Improvement Support Initiative in collaboration with Bruder Highlife Foundation, was to assist and impact positively on the lives of the poor people especially the vulnerable and less privileged in Katsina and Daura senatorial Districts. "It is my hope to transform and enhance the society through empowerment and touching the lives of the most vulnerable class to be role models which I sincerely hope that this class will one day serve as role models, by making positive impact and



■ the tricycles donated by the wife of Katsina state governor, Hajia Zakiya Aminu Bello Masari to PWDs in Daura zone

meaningful contributions to societal development.

"It is my belief that the mobility carts (tricycles) would no doubt give a helping hand to the beneficiaries who are physically handicapped to enable them to move around, discover their environment as well as find means of livelihood like any other person," the wife of the governor has said.

Also speaking the Speaker Katsina State House of Assembly, Hon.

Tasi'u Musa Maigari thanked the foundations for the gesture given to the physically challenge in the zone. He called on the beneficiaries to utilize the mobility carts and avoid selling them.

The Emir of Daura Alhaji faruk Umar Faruk, represented by Sardaunan Daura, commended the governor's wife and the state government, noting that the Daura emirate would continue to support government policies and programmes



■ Wife of Katsina state governor, Hajia Zakiya Aminu Bello Masari.

for the development of the state.

Katsina National Talent Hunt: Committee mobilizes Katsina indigenes

In continuation of its tour across the state, the Katsina National Talent Hunt Challenge committee has visited Kankia, Ingawa, Kusada, Musawa and Matazu LGAs to distribute forms to interested candidates in the area.

Speaking and Kankia local government secretariat yesterday, the national coordinator of the programme, Faisal Ja'afar Rafin Dadi, said the rationale behind the

challenge was to boost the ability of youths in the state.

He said all arrangement have been concluded to start the challenge across the state with the aim of addressing challenges facing the youths in the 34 LGAs of the state.

According to him, governor Aminu Bello Masari was committed to assisting youths with special talent so that Katsina state would be proud in the future,

saying that all Katsina state indigenes from 7 to 40 years are entitled to register for the challenge.

Responding on behalf of local government administrators of the area, the head of Kankia local government administration, Alhaji Nura L. Isah, said they would work hand in hand with the members of the committee as well as traditional rulers of the area to search for people with special talent for

their own benefit.

He expressed optimism that governor Masari would move the state to the next level of development despite the economic, security and covid-19 pandemic challenges.

He ten urged the participants to look in to the nook and crannies of the area to search for talented people and register them for the challenge.

Katsina inaugurates committee on orphans, widows' welfare

Katsina state Government has inaugurated an executive council committee on improvements of welfare for orphans and Widows of the victims of insurgency in the state.

This was contained in a statement issued by the Chief Press Sectary to the Deputy Governor, Katsina state, Ibrahim Musa Kallah.

"The deputy Governor, QS Mannir Yakubu, who is the chairman of the committee, said the executive council during its 6th regular meeting has noted with concern the impact of the activities of bandits on the socio-economic well-being of the affected communities, particularly orphans and widows.

As a result the council constituted a committee led by the deputy Governor to advise the government on how to improve the lives of orphaned children in the eleven frontline local governments ravaged by bandits," the statement read in part.

Other terms of reference of the

committee, according to the statement, include to identify orphans and widows in the affected local government areas and to suggest the kind of assistance to be provided to the victims by government.

Others are determining the source of financing the project and also coopt any other individual that may assist in the conduct of the committee's assignment.

"Composition of the committee include commissioners of Budget and Planning, Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Special Duties and Women Affairs. Other members are Special Advisers on Community Development, Higher Education, Economic Empowerment and Social Intervention, as well as that of Political Matters," the statement added.

The rest are representatives of NGOs, Ulama and Governor's office as secretariat, and the committee immediately swung into action after its inauguration.



■ Gov. Masari yesterday swears in six new Permanent Secretaries. A source in the government House said, the newly sworn-in PSS would assigned to their ministries later by the state Head of Service.

MOTORING

Kia Nigeria plans another electric vehicle

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Kia Nigeria may soon unveil another brand of electric vehicle as countries intensify the shift from the Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) to Electric Vehicles (EV).

The company said it will focus on expanding sales of highly innovative internal combustion engine vehicles, while reviewing the selective entry of EVs depending on demand in our market.

The new EV would come more than five years after the Kia Soul EV, the first electric vehicle in Nigeria, launched in 2015.

The Kia Soul EV, also known

as the Kia e-Soul, is an all-electric subcompact crossover Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV).

The Marketing Manager, Kia Nigeria, Olawale Jimoh, while presenting Kia outlook for 2021, said, "We plan to provide an innovative fit-for-purpose, Purpose Built Vehicles [PBVs], particularly for our fleet customers, offering a differentiated product appeal, such as an EV-specialized design, user experience, and quality."

According to him, 2020 was a very challenging period for the industry in view of the economic realities worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic.

He stated that in 2021, "our collective resolve in Kia



Nigeria is to be bold, evolve, and transition into a more fit-for-purpose brand aligning with the specific needs and requirements of our customers in the country.

"Locally, we will also relaunch the brand and harp on the new brand strategy to align our model range and service offerings to the needs of our car owners and transform Kia into a

ceaselessly innovative brand by accelerating its bold and pre-emptive transition to future businesses," Olawale noted.

Last week, the firm introduced a brand purpose and slogan 'Movement that inspires' to reflect Kia's new purpose of inspiring consumers through products and services.

President and CEO of Kia

Corporation, Ho Sung Song, in his remarks said: "At Kia, we believe that transportation, mobility, and movement represent a human right. Our vision is to create sustainable mobility solutions for consumers, communities, and societies globally. Today we start putting this vision into action with the launch of our new brand purpose and strategy for the future."

Transport sector needs strong regulation - NITT DG

By Chris Agabi

The director-general of the Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology, Zaria, Dr. Bayero Salih Farah has said all modes of transportation, especially road transportation, must be well regulated to significantly contribute to economic development.

He said for this to happen, the proposed National Transportation

Commission (NTC), of which the Bill is still in the works at the National Assembly, must become feasible.

Dr. Farah also told our correspondent in a chat in Abuja that the effective regulation of the sector will weed-off unprofessional and guard against unqualified persons to hold sensitive transportation positions.

"We are in full

support of the proposed National Transportation Commission. It is our belief that the Commission has an important role to play in the transportation and logistics sector. Like other components of the economy where you have the National Communications Commission, the National Broadcasting Commission and others, the transportation sector

need that body to play its role in regulating the transportation sector.

"Similarly, we are doing a lot to enlighten the public on who they should engage as transportation adviser or consultant. Because if the transport sector generally is unregulated especially the road transport sector. We need to bring in regulation to have sanity in the system," he said.

Firm, dealers partner on vehicle loans, sales

By Chris Agabi

Autochek Africa has partnered with the Association of Motor Dealers of Nigeria (AMDON) to make cars more affordable in Nigeria while providing vehicle financing services.

The firm is an automotive technology company that aims to build solutions for the African market.

The partnership will also ensure a digitized platform for vehicle dealers to showcase their ware.

Chairman of AMDON, Prince Ajibola Adedoyin after signing the pact said it offers the members the opportunity to drive more sales by taking advantage of the online marketplace which increases the visibility of their inventory to potential car buyers.

He said this partnership introduces a standardized inspection and rating system for cars thus enhancing customer trust in completing the vehicle purchase process.

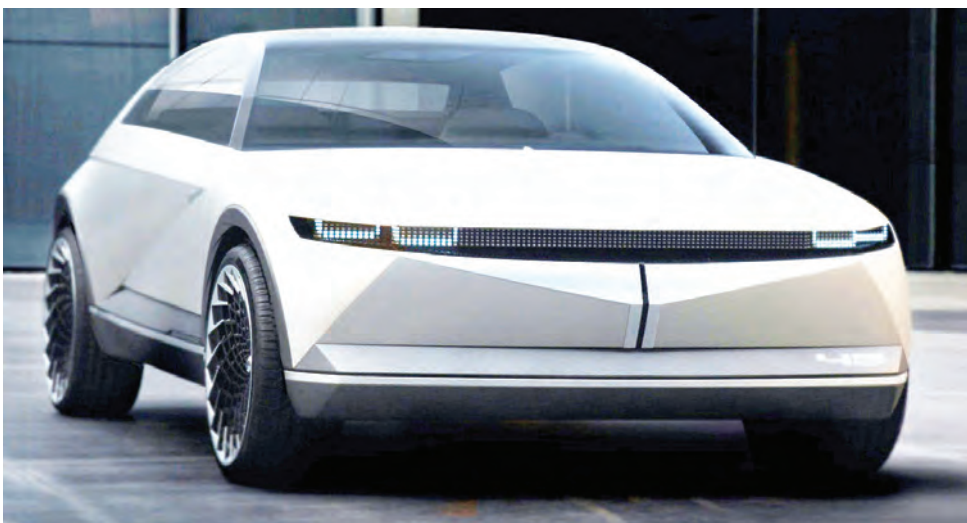
Etop Ikpe, the CEO of Autochek Africa stated that: "The automotive sector is a highly traditional sector but AMDON with this move is wholesomely adopting technology and preparing itself for the future."

He said partnering with AMDON allows them to drive scale across all registered dealers in Nigeria. "With this partnership, we expand the ecosystem available for sales for all dealers."

He also said car buyers have access to select from a large pool of cars and can also get access to multiple car loan offers from finance partners to drive access to vehicle and financing tools.

"This increase in automotive commerce has cascading benefits all along the value chain with one of the major benefits being increased job opportunities as we see more dealer empowerment and liquidity in the ecosystem," said Ikpe.

How iconic is Hyundai Ioniq 5?



From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Hyundai Motors is redefining the future of mobility with its eye-catching and mouth-watering Electric Vehicle offerings.

The Hyundai Ioniq 5 electric car will be Hyundai's second EV SUV when it arrives in 2021 and it is expected to go on sale before 2022. It will have a greater range than

the current Hyundai Kona Electric which is the first EV by automakers.

The Kona landed in Nigeria late last year courtesy of Stallion Motors.

But the much anticipated Ioniq 5 which would be revealed in February 2021 has stunning specifications which have been revealed by the manufacturers. It would retain the concept-car design with single and dual-motor options. It has

310-mile range expected, Pared-back interior, 220V interior plug.

Hyundai is yet to reveal the new Ioniq 5's interior but it is expected to take inspiration from the 45 Concept.

Hyundai has confirmed it'll fit the Ioniq 5 with a conventional household plug implying that the owner can charge up more than just the phone on the move.

The back seats will be able to slide forward and backward, so you can choose to prioritise legroom or boot space.

The Hyundai Ioniq 5 will be built using all-new underpinnings (called a platform) designed specifically for electric cars. Hyundai hasn't confirmed exact figures for the Ioniq 5, but its new platform will feature 800 volt batteries capable of powering it for 310 miles on a single charge.

The batteries can also be charged using 350kW fast chargers, which will be capable of boosting the car's range from zero to 80 per cent full in less than 20 minutes.

Unlike the existing Kona Electric, the Hyundai Ioniq 5 will come with a rear-mounted motor driving the rear wheels.

Hyundai has also confirmed the Ioniq 5 will accelerate from 0-60 miles per hour (mph) in 5.3 seconds



You will face many defeats in life but never let yourself be defeated.
- Maya Angelou

Friday, January 22, 2021

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...young at heart

Group to raise 3,000 emerging leaders in 3 yrs

From Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos

School of Politics, Policy and Governance (SPPG), a platform by a reform group, Fix Politics, said it targets raising 3,000 emerging leaders that will be interested in running for elective office before December 2023.

Fix Politics is a citizens-led movement to structurally change and innovative politics in Nigeria, Africa and the rest of the world. The target includes 1,500 women and 1,500 young people.

The Executive Director of Fix Politics, Anthony Ubani who spoke during a virtual media chat, said the platform is a strategic response to the research outcomes of Dr. Oby Ezekwesili's fellowship research at the Robert Bosch Academy in Berlin, Germany, that seeks to promote functional democracy by empowering electorates, among others.

The interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SPPG, Mrs. Alero Otobo stated that the platform will reach out to 10,000 political leaders at the grass root through the school alumni over a decade to design curriculum that addresses empirical socio-economic challenges.

Applications for the first cohort with fee waiver and full scholarship is open since January 4, 2021 and closes today while the school session begins on March 1.

Graduates of the school are expected to start SPPG in their constituencies so as to share knowledge.

"We want leadership to become a very important discussion in the public space as we train new cadre of leaders that will have a sense of value and integrity," she said.

NDE trains 420 youths on skills in Kebbi

The National Directorate of Employment (NDE) on Wednesday started training 420 unemployed youths on various skills under its Basic National Open Apprenticeship Scheme.

Its Acting Director-General, Malam Abubakar Fikpo, who spoke at the orientation programme for the trainees in Birnin Kebbi, said the youths would be trained on computer programming, tailoring, motorcycle repairs and hairdressing, among others.

He said that the aim was to enable the youths to acquire skills and become productive members of the society.

Fikpo, who was represented by the State Coordinator of NDE, Alhaji Abdullahi Danjuma-Machika, said the youths would be trained for three months.

He urged the trainees to pay attention to their area of chosen field to justify the Federal Government's investment in them.

Earlier, Malam Mamman Abubakar, the Representative of NDE Vocational Skills Development Department, enjoined the youths to be focused and observe COVID-19 protocols during the training. (NAN)

How I converted my school project to business venture – Tailor

Mahmud Bashir Ahmad is the Chief Executive Officer of ArewaWears, a clothing line in Minna, Niger state capital. In this interview, the graduate of Computer Science from Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University, Lapai (IBBUL) shares tales of his early start.

By Simon Echowofun Sunday

What's the story behind creating your venture?

ArewaWears is my project. I am actually eating from my final year project. I started ArewaWears with N2,500 that I borrowed from my elder sis when I first made a post and a customer saw the cloth and he picked interest in the cloth. But guess what, my first client had issues as he didn't trust me to send me his money for the cloth and I don't trust him to send him cloth without seeing my money.

I wasted that cloth and there was no money to pay my sister her money that I borrowed. So I lost the client and business and I have to pay my sister. I just went home and slept in anger and I said to myself I will do it again. So I took the risk and began massive media campaigns for myself.

What challenges did you encounter while starting up?

Challenges I encountered while growing the business was basically finance; nobody was willing to give me a loan. Not my family members, no bank. So basically it's finance. That's our bigger challenge if the government can help us with finance we don't need to look for white collar jobs.

What have you done differently from others?

Among my peers, I am the first company to send goods to customers free of charge. I created the free delivery service



for my products within Nigeria as an incentive to encourage patronage.

My packaging is also unique. There was this day I took clothes to a customer and he tried it, he removed his clothes to put mine. I noticed his singlet was dirty and so since then, I began to add singlet to my products that are worth N10,000 and above. We have reviewed this and now add singlet to products above N30,000.

How many persons has the business engaged?

Now my project has employed at least 10 staff and many apprentices. As for me I have created a job I don't need to suffer myself to work for the government. I am my own

government.

On the sustainability outlook, how would you expand the business in the next five years?

The Business has engaged more than 30 people and we are planning to open a branch in Kebbi state. With more capital, my plans are to open branches in Abuja, Lagos, Kano, Kaduna and Delta state.

Is there any profiteering in this venture?

Yes it's profiting. Entrepreneurship is the only way out of our problem in the country.

What is your advice to Nigerian youths on finding prospects in entrepreneurship?

They must be consistent in their doings. Loss is a constant disappointment but you must move on by not allowing those things to weigh you down.



British College launched in Akure, pioneers online learning

From Bola Ojuola, Akure

A British International College (BTC) has been launched in Akure, Ondo State with full online secondary education facilities and personnel.

In a statement by a Nigerian born British academic and leading school business professional, Dr Joe Obe, the college is a British-Style school aiming to rival Eton College – UK's best-known private school.

With take-off in January 2021, the College is focusing on online General Certificate of Secondary Education (iGCSE), A' levels and a nine month International University

Foundation Programmes specifically for students who desire to study and live in the UK and abroad.

Aside from the traditional classroom study mode, the College said it is offering virtual classroom study mode, where students can study entirely for their GCSE and A' Levels, live-online at the comfort of their home.

This development, according to him, will make the British Transatlantic College the first college in Nigeria to offer online exclusive secondary education to students.

It said the online education study option is necessitated

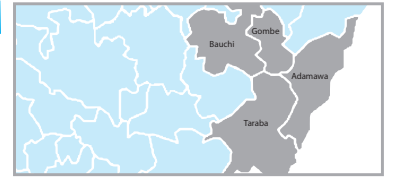
by the 'new normal' created by COVID-19 and other associated challenges of 21st century have necessitated a new vision for digital education from 2021 and beyond.

"The College's core values are encapsulated in her commitment statement which is: Nurturing potentials; Creating global opportunities; developing every student into a 'Total Man' and provision of Lifelong Learning," Obe said.

The College also said there are plans to offer free adult literacy for people over 60 years old and IT/cyber security and digital mobile skills for the unemployed youths.

NORTH-EAST TRUST

DAILY TRUST PUBLICATION



Vol. 1, No 113

Institute sensitises Gombe IDPs on peaceful co-existence

From Haruna Gimba Yaya, Gombe

The Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) has held a three-day sensitisation workshop on peaceful coexistence for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) living at camps in Gombe State.

North East Trust reports that there are no fewer than 39,202 IDPs living in various communities across the 11 LGAs of the state.

Speaking at the workshop, the Head of Internal Conflict Resolution and Prevention, Mrs Ladi Hepzibah Achanya, said the training was organised for the IDPs on peace education - abiding by the law and living peacefully with host communities.

She said the participants were provided with psychological healing training because of their trauma of being removed from their ancestral home and having to

share facilities with others at their respective camps.

She said: "We are here to bring the message of peace, trust and relationship cultivation so that they can live together peacefully with the host communities as IDPs to avoid re-occurrence of conflict.

"We also talk to them about stigmatisation to encourage them to live comfortably with their new identity. In a nutshell, we are trying to

promote the culture of peace and peaceful coexistence between the IDPs and the host communities," she said.

Mrs Achanya added that IDPs, currently taking refuge in three communities of Balanga LGA, were selected for the pilot project.

She said a Pilot Peace Clinic was constituted at the end of the training, "for them to have synergy and be able to step down the training to the other IDPs".

She said the IDPs were targeted because they could constitute a problem having come from different communities with cultures and ideologies different from that of their host communities.

"We are trying to reduce the issue of fighting or retaliation, so we are encouraging them to be peaceful wherever they are. Being a pilot project, we would soon extend it to other segment of the society," Achanya added.

COVID-19: Bauchi special needs school appeals to govt

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

Management of the Special School Bauchi has appealed to the government to build more classes and hostels in the school.

It said that would help in decongesting the classrooms and hostels and control the spread of diseases.

The principal, Malam Muhammad Ibrahim Yarima, made the plea at the commissioning of hand-washing facilities at the school donated by Heineken African Foundation in collaboration with WaterAid Nigeria.

"We don't have enough classes and we don't have enough accommodation for our students. We need our feeding to be a special one because our students have peculiar conditions.

"The food given to us by the government in the school is same with all the boarding schools in Bauchi State, so we are appealing to the government to add to what is given to our school so that our students will be well fed."

He thanked the donors for their intervention and assured that the management had already selected teachers and students (prefect) to monitor the use of the facilities.

"All our staff and students are observing physical and social distancing, every student and staff is wearing facemask and today the hand washing facilities have been commissioned."



■ Principal of special school Bauchi Malam Muhammad Ibrahim Yarima, demonstrating the use of hand-washing facilities while State Commissioner of water resources Jidauna Tula Mbami watch.

55 orphans, vulnerable children to benefit from varsity intervention

By Amina Abdullahi, Yola

At least 50 orphans and vulnerable children are to benefit from the 2021 American University of Nigeria (AUN)'s Feed and Read programme.

The programme is sponsored by the university in collaboration with Friends of Nigeria, Adamawa State government and the Atiku Institute for Development.

AUN President Dawn Dekle said the beneficiaries would be made up of 30 vulnerable girls and 25 boys.

She explained that in 2015, the Irish government granted the university \$20,000 to

support a Feed and Read programme for girls, as young girls who had also lost their parents were increasingly seen begging on Yola's streets.

According to her, the university has struggled to support the young girls, but that more than 100 showed up daily for food and learning.

The Head of Atiku Centre and Administrator of Grants, Audu Liman, said the idea of learning by providing food to vulnerable children was to encourage them to come and study.

The proprietress of AUN Primary and Secondary School, Hajiya Ladi Atiku, said the programme was

halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Free uniforms, school bags and books were given to the beneficiaries whose further education Hajiya Ladi promised to sponsor if they performed well in the programme.

A sum of N500,000 was donated to the vulnerable kids by the President of North-East Commodity Association, Sadiq Daware.

A parent, Malama Maimuna Lawal, applauded AUN's effort to enrol her child, Halima Aminu, who was kicked out of a private school after the death of her father.

Northeast farmers get N6.4bn CBN loan to boost cotton production

From Haruna Gimba Yaya, Gombe

Cotton farmers in three Northeast states of Adamawa, Gombe and Taraba have been allocated N6.4 billion as loan by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to boost production.

The National Vice President of National Cotton Association of Nigeria (NACOTAN), Alhaji Musa Yahaya, disclosed this during an inspection visit to Cotton Aggregation Centre in Gombe State.

He said the intervention by the CBN was to enable members of the association to embark on massive production of cotton in the three states, thereby boosting cotton production in the country.

According to him, 28,000 farmers are expected to produce 1000 tons of cotton each at the end of the farming season.

"The N6.4 billion allocated to the three states in the Northeast sub-region, is to strengthen 28,000 members of NACOTAN across Gombe, Adamawa and Taraba states," Yahaya said.

The vice president added that the intervention programme by the CBN has encouraged cotton farmers in the three states and created jobs for thousands of youth as well as resuscitated cotton ginneries in the three states.

Yahaya, who is superintending the CBN's intervention, commended members of the association for gearing up toward meeting the goal of the apex bank to boost cotton farming in the country.

BENUE/PLATEAU TRUST



DAILY TRUST PUBLICATION

Vol. 1, No 113

Benue court orders WAEC to release 52 candidates' results

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

A High Court sitting in Makurdi has ordered the West African Examination Council (WAEC) to release the results of 52 candidates of the Benue State Special Science Senior Secondary School who sat for the examination in May/June 2020.

Justice Martins Ikpambese, handed the ruling in a matter brought before his court between the school and WAEC.

The respondent (WAEC)

shall release the results of the 52 candidates within 14 days or the court will frown," the judge ruled.

Benue/Plateau Chronicles reports that following alleged malpractices during the May/June 2019 WASSCE in the school, the examination body had slammed a two-year punishment on the special institution by not recognising it.

The examination body had also insisted that until the school complied with the 2019 punitive measures against it, WAEC would not register it for another

examination.

Based on that, the school as well its Parents Teachers Association (PTA) went to court to compel WAEC to register its candidates for the 2020 May/June examination and got judgment in their favour.

The examination body, therefore, complied with the earlier court judgment by registering 52 candidates of the school for the 2020 May/June examination, which they (candidates) equally sat for but it refused to release their results on account that the school must face

their penalty before the results are released as well as pending the determination of the substantive matter in court.

But, the presiding judge held that the branch controller of WAEC in the state should comply with the court directive by releasing the results as he stressed that the 52 candidates should not suffer for what they knew nothing about or for sins of the previous set of students.

"The children (candidates) under the circumstances can't advance in their educational

pursuits. I'm talking to WAEC that you don't have to take laws into your hands and judge people. No institution should be a law unto itself. What is fair is that the respondent should be led by the rule of law.

"The school will survive at the end of this matter so the dispute should not concern the children because if the school is found guilty, they will pay the penalty," the judge ruled.

Meanwhile, the substantive matter has been adjourned to March 15, 2021.

How business can thrive in Plateau - PLACOBPA

From Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos

The Plateau Coalition of Business and Professional Associations (PLACOBPA), says the only way business and development can thrive in the state is when the state government engages business communities in decision making.

According to the group, if the communities would be included in issues like budget drafting and other decisions making processes, their input would make a great impact on the development of the state and thereby bringing external investment.

Cyril Ogboli, President of the group disclosed this during an interview with journalists in Jos.

While calling for inclusion in decision making, the chairman advised the government not to be increasing tax as such policy would be unfavourable to all kinds of businesses and would discourage investors into the state.

"Pay attention to areas of concern and see how the business would thrive. Reduce tax and make it simpler and all these would encourage more business establishments in the state because the environment is favourable. Added to that, the government should increase partnership with private sectors. Involve professionals in decision making. Open doors for them to tap more ideas."

Ogboli also advised both the state and federal governments to change their ideas of giving palliatives or loans to people, explaining that it was better to give mentoring than a loan. He explained that mentoring would give jobs that people would hold on till the end of their lives.



Members of Jos Peace Vanguard with some youths of Congo-Russia community of Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State during a sensitisation campaign against drug abuse

Muslim group urges Plateau communities to adhere to COVID-19 protocols

From Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos

The Islamic Medical Association of Nigeria (IMAN), Plateau State chapter, has urged communities in the state and beyond to obey COVID-19 protocols.

The group said the call became necessary following the realisation of how people were reckless about the dreaded disease in many communities of the state.

Discussing the rates of infections at a one-day symposium it organised, Mr. Shehu Sani, a member of the group and a staff of the

Aids Prevention Initiatives in Nigeria (APIN), Jos University Teaching Hospital, said it was necessary for all and sundry to adhere to all protocols of COVID-19.

Sani, who expressed concern over the nonchalant attitude of some people, added that people, most especially children and the elderly, needed to be properly looked after and ensure they observe the protocols to ensure their safety and control of the disease.

In his remark, the IMAN Secretary, and a community health expert, Malam Tijjani

Ibrahim, said the association will continue to embark on sensitisation of communities, on the importance of geriatric as well as infectious diseases.

He said, "It is part of IMAN's objectives to sensitise, the general public as we have done it today, and we will continue to do it with the aim at seeing to the prevention of infectious diseases and their control.

The IMAN Chairman, and a lecturer with the University of Jos, Prof. Muhammad Sabo, said it was the responsibility of the younger ones to ensure that the living standard of the elderly was adequately taken

care of.

"Not only that we should be able to provide them with food, but that we must also know what type of food the old people need as nutrients to their body," Dr. Sabo said.

He said, besides nutrition, elderly persons also needed special care and attention by identifying some of their common problems.

"Social, physical, psychological, mental, medical as even surgical related diseases, need to be identified and provided as geriatric management, mostly amongst Muslim ummah," he added.

NDE trains 50 unemployed women on spice making in Plateau

From Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos

The Plateau State Chapter of the National Directorate of Employment (NDE), has trained no fewer than 50 unemployed women across the state on spice making.

It said the programme was designed to engage poor women

in their respective communities.

While flagging off the training, the state NDE Coordinator, Ibrahim Hardo Andul'azeez, said the programme was part of the Directorate's initiative to eradicate poverty in the country.

He explained that the training "will provide them with the necessary and practical skills to

be applied when they want to start such a business and become entrepreneurs. When women are trained, the nation is empowered."

Earlier, the Minister of Women Affairs, Dame Pauline Tallen, represented by the state APC Women Leader, Mrs. Nandak Go'at, commended the initiative and called on the participants to

be serious and ensure the success of the programme

In his welcome address, the Head of Department, Small Scale Enterprise, Uztaz Suleiman Ahmad, urged the participants to use the opportunity of the training to build themselves, adding that no knowledge was wasted.

KANEM TRUST

DAILY TRUST PUBLICATION

Vol. 1, No 113



Borno girls obtain job skills to 'live with dignity'

From Misbahu Bashir, Maiduguri

Succour has come the way of at least 250 youths in Borno State as a non-governmental organisation trained them in vocational skills to enable them become self-reliant.

The NGO, Guwori Foundation, conducted the training in collaboration with the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) in Borno State.

Kanem Trust reports that two secondary schoolgirls, Hafsat Goni and Halima Abba Bukar from Gori, Maiduguri, were among those who benefitted.

The girls, who apparently had an entrepreneurial spirit, were given starter packs in addition to the much needed startup business grants, alongside other trainees at a short graduation ceremony in Maiduguri recently.

With the skills they learnt in cosmetology, the girls said they would set up business ventures and be their own bosses. They hoped to earn enough money to build savings and live with dignity, they noted.

Bukar and Goni said the skills they obtained would certainly be a 'powerful' weapon against hunger and poverty because they would make and sell cream, liquid soap, insecticides, deodorant and hand sanitisers from the



■ Umar Kyari of Guwori Foundation presents certificate to a female trainee while the Secretary, Abdullahi Kyari, looks on

comfort of their homes.

Another beneficiary, Mohammed Abubakar, an SSS2 student of Customs Secondary School, Maiduguri, said he was selling popcorn to earn money and pay his fees at a private school.

He, however, said his business failed because of the COVID-19 restrictions and he could no longer continue schooling, which forced him to enrol for the vocational training facilitated by the

foundation.

"I sold popcorn to take care of my needs and pay my school fees but the business collapsed. I could not make profit to cover my expenses. I acquired sewing skills with the help of the foundation and hope to open a tailoring shop to fund my education. We have been given starter kits to start business," he said.

Similarly, Hassan Bukar Goni said he obtained practical knowledge on

livestock production including the latest practice in breeding, fattening, fishery and poultry.

"I took time to learn the tricks of poultry farming during the training and the foundation gave those of us who obtained livestock training skills N50,000 each to start our business. I will soon start poultry business," he said.

The secretary of the foundation, Barr. Abdullahi Kyari, said during the

graduation ceremony of the trainees that so far, over 250 youths in the state have obtained skills under its Sustainable Agricultural Development Training Scheme (SADTS).

"The ultimate aim is to make people self-reliant through vocational training and provide them with some assistance in that regard," he said.

He said the foundation would continue to conduct skills development training to build the capacity of the youth in insurgency-ravaged Borno State with the aim of creating more job opportunities and self-reliance. He stated that with massive youth empowerment, poverty would be reduced.

The foundation, according to him, also strived to provide quality education for the less-privileged kids and women.

"The centre has more than 300 pupils studying at the regular section now, and more than 400 learners at the Tahfeez and women sections. The foundation has also acquired and built more classrooms to accommodate more pupils in the new academic year."

In her remarks, State Coordinator of NDE, Hajiya Mairo Aliyu, called on the trainees to use the starter packs and grants given to them to turn ideas into successful businesses.

Child without anus yet to undergo surgery –Father

By Ibrahim Baba Saleh, Damaturu

Little Saidu, a five-year-old boy from Potiskum, who was born without anus, is yet to undergo surgery, his father has said.

Saidu has been passing excreta with the help of tubes inserted by doctors since he was four weeks old.

The case was first reported on December 13, 2019, after which some good Samaritans offered to pay his medical expenses.

The surgery, which was slated earlier for January last year at Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital encountered some postponements because of one challenge to the other.

The child's father, Mohammed Babi, told our correspondent that some restrictions during the second wave of the

COVID-19 also affected their appointment with the medical doctors.

He said an unknown person has also approached him with an offer to support the child's medication.

"But I told him that someone had already promised to pay for the surgery that the child is about to have and the initial donor has never relented in supporting us.

"Our donor is in the picture of all that is happening and I remain grateful for all the concerns.

"We will be going back to the hospital on Sunday next week for another appointment the following Monday.

"I solicit for prayers and anyone that can support us to ensure the child is fit," he said.

COVID-19 safety awareness improves in Maiduguri

From Misbahu Bashir, Maiduguri

There is improved awareness on measures to prevent contracting the coronavirus awareness among the populace in Maiduguri metropolis, a health officials has said.

This, according to the official, is in spite of the fact that there is an increase in the number of people who contracted the virus in the current second wave.

Thus, deaths associated with the disease and severity of symptoms such as shortness

of breath, runny nose and chest pain have decreased, as confirmed by authorities, the Head, Case Management Team, University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital (UMTH), Dr Ibrahim Kida, stated.

He said COVID-19 death rate at the end of the first wave in September 2020 had reached a sobering 17 per cent due to lack of awareness.

Conversely, the death rate in the second wave of the pandemic had approached zero even as the transmission rate was seemingly higher.

Commission to donate food items to 200 IDPs in Yobe

By Ibrahim Baba Saleh, Damaturu.

The National Commission for Refugees Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCRFMI), in collaboration with Yobe State Emergency Management Agency, has donated food items to 200 internally displaced persons in Yobe State.

Flagging off the distribution

in Damaturu, the Federal Commissioner, NCRFMI, Senator Bashir Garba Mohammed, said the donation was meant to alleviate the suffering of the beneficiaries.

The items donated consisted of 200 bags of 50kg rice, 100 bags of 100kg each of beans, maize and millet and 152 bags of Semovita.

Others were 42 cartons of groundnut oil, 61 jericans of palm oil and 52 cartons of maggi.

The Executive Secretary of Yobe State Emergency Management Agency, Dr Mohammed Goje, thanked the commission and urged it to include Yobe in the next phase of its housing project.

NIGER-DELTA TRUST



DAILY TRUST PUBLICATION

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Police urge politicians to intervene in A/Ibom land crisis

From Iniabasi Umo, Uyo

The Akwa Ibom State Police has called on politicians to intervene in the communal land crisis involving Enwang and Uko Nteghé communities in Mbo Local Government Area of the state.

Unconfirmed reports say about five persons have so far been killed, while 17 others are in critical condition in the dispute involving boundary farmland in Uko Akai.

It was gathered that the Clan Head, Ovong Bassey Atabia II, is among those who have sustained injuries while one of his sons was among the dead.

Traditional rulers and elders

of Enwang community have reportedly met to resolve the matter.

Speaking on Thursday in Uyo, Police Public Relations Officer, Odiko Macdon, said policemen were on ground to ensure normalcy returns to the communities, and urged the political class and other stakeholders to also intervene in the matter for peace to reign.

"We are aware of the crisis in Okobo and Mbo. The Command has taken steps; our men are on the ground ensuring that normalcy returns.

"We call on the political class and other critical stakeholders to intervene too.

"However, all parties must as a matter of urgency, for the good of the inhabitants and the state at large, sheathe their swords and give peace a chance to prevail.

"The Commissioner of Police, Amiengheme Andrew, has deployed more men and we will continue to dominate the affected space until normalcy is fully restored," he stated.

According to Moses Tom, a source from a neighbouring village, the land dispute has been a long standing one, which normally erupts during the planting season.

He explained that the land in dispute, Uko Akai, is a farmland cultivated by

indigenes of the community now residing in both Enwang and Uko Nteghé communities, but has now been extended to other lands.

He stated that the land, which is usually allowed to fallow for five years, is due for cultivation this year, adding that some youths instigated the crisis.

"Uko Akai is the farmland under dispute and no houses are there. But now the crisis has spread to other boundary lands not owned by Uko Akai. In fact, that particular land is mostly owned by my community, Uyi Akai.

"This year, the land will be cultivated because it is allowed to fallow and be planted after

every five years, but this time it has spilled into seven years because of the crisis.

"The process of planting the land portion owned by Enwang is the cause of the current crisis. I don't know the actual origin of this current dispute.

"Uko Nteghé and Ewang communities have been living together and are part of Uda. The crisis is instigated by the youths. Ewang has been cultivating the bigger part of the land over the years. Apart from the one they struggled with Uko Akai, they are using this opportunity to claim the land.

"I learnt two persons have so far died but it has not been confirmed," he said.



■ Damaged houses and electric poles in Oyigbo community in Rivers State after a heavy rainfall

Photo: Victor Chuks

Community commends Ayade for demolishing ancient houses

From Eyo Charles, Calabar

The Becheve community in Obudu Ranch resort community in Obanliku LGA of Cross River State has commended Governor Ben Ayade for pulling down many of their ancient houses to build modern ones for them.

They have also hailed him for embarking on the building of his own mansion in one of the eight surrounding communities of the Ranch Resort.

The Secretary of the Ranch community, Mr Oyulu Godwin, in an interview with Niger Delta Trust, said that when the governor had at an earlier visit to the community said he was ashamed that members of

the community were living in dilapidated muddy huts.

The governor had said that such was not befitting the neighborhood of the globally famous Obudu Mountain Resort.

Also speaking, a youth leader, Ikpeh Festus Apah, also commended the governor and confirmed that the governor was building nine flats already to replace the ones demolished.

"The governor pulled down several ancient houses and has started building 60 housing units of two bedroom flats. As we speak, the construction has reached lintel level.

"The governor has also started to build his own personal house near the Ranch

just like Donald Duke did for himself and for his successor and friend, Senator Liyel Imoke, when he was minister."

Apah said the governor told them that his 'charity will end at home', meaning that upon completion of his second term as governor of the state, he will return home.

Ayade hails from neighbouring Obudu LGA, whose native community is a stone throw to the Ranch.

According to the youth leader, they are very pleased with the governor for making his presence felt in the community by resuscitating the Obudu Mountain Resort, which he said has ignited more economic activities in the communities.

Bayelsa women decry herders' destruction of farmlands

From Bassey Willie, Yenagoa

Women of Okutukutu-Epie community in Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State have appealed to Governor Douye Diri to come to their aid over threats on their lives by suspected herdsmen in the area.

They alleged repeated destruction of their crops and farmlands by the herdsmen.

Arising from a meeting at the Okutukutu-Epie town hall in Yenagoa, Mrs Tina Etime, who spoke on behalf of the women, said there has been constant harassment and threats of rape from the herdsmen.

Etime stated that because of the repeated destruction of the crops and farmlands, the women decided to report the matter to the police in company of the paramount ruler of the community, but to their greatest surprise, the police instead detained some of their leaders but freed the herdsmen.

She said: "For over 10 years now, these herdsmen have been eating and destroying our crops until November last year, we reported the matter to the police.

"But on taking one of the herdsmen to the police for destroying our crops, the herder was released and the three women that reported the matter were instead detained and asked to pay N100,000.00 as bail for refusing to report to the police a week earlier.

"What is most annoying is that after we have cultivated our crops in the morning, these herdsmen with their cattle will

invade our farms in the evening and destroy what was.

"As it is, we the women are even afraid to go to our farms, because we do not know what will happen to us if these herdsmen confront us as they normally bear weapons.

"We want the government to come and help us as we are helpless and do not know what to do to stop these people from destroying our farmlands. Our source of livelihood is being threatened and if we don't go to farm, what will we eat? So we want government to do something about our plight," she stated.

Chief Bonus Wumbo, the Provost Marshall, Epie-Atissa Developmental Assembly, accused the police of looking other way when matters that concern the destruction of crops and farmlands by herdsmen are reported.

When contacted, the police spokesman in Bayelsa State confirmed the lawyer to the community had already written a petition to the state police command and the area commander had dispatched some men to assess the level of damage in the affected farmland.

He said though the case was reported to the area command in Yenagoa, and the state Criminal Investigation Department (CID) invited the two parties, after the invitation, none of them showed interest in the case again.

Secretary of Cattle Rearers Association, Mr Ali Maiwada, declined comments on the matter.

NORTH-CENTRAL TRUST



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Vol. 1, No 113

Pastor links communities with bridge

A pastor, Batholomew Agbochenu, has built a bridge worth N9 million to link two villages in Ajitata community in Ankpa Local Government Area of Kogi State.

The bridge was inaugurated by the Commissioner for Rural

Development, Mr. Daniel Ejigbo.

Pastor Agbochenu said he decided to construct the bridge to ease the hardship his people were being subjected to by gully erosion that divided the villages.

He said that Ojokweje and

Ofobobo, who are among the six villages that constituted Ajitata community, became aliens to each other because of the devastating effects of gully erosion that made life unbearable.

The pastor, who spoke to our North Central correspondent

in Lokoja said the people were being forced to travel five kilometres through other villages for them to cover a distance of about half a kilometer, because of the bad state of the road, to reach their destination.

Agbochenu said the road

was the only access to the main local market where farmers from the community take their farm produce to sell.

He said the lack of access roads has heightened the poverty in the area due to reduced commercial activities.



Chairman of the Implementation Committee on Ilorin Rainstorm Disaster and Chairman, Civil Service Commission, Hajia Habeebat Yusuf (middle) in a group photograph with beneficiaries of the state government's N92.5m relief funds to victims of the recent rainstorm in Ilorin; during the flag off exercise, in Ilorin, the state capital, on Wednesday.

Kwara disburses N92.5m to Ilorin rainstorm victims

From Romoke W. Ahmad

The Kwara State Government has begun the disbursement of N92.5m to 2,300 victims of the recent rainstorm in Ilorin, the state capital, with victims in each of the three categories getting between N25,000 and N100,000.

Addressing newsmen during the flag off of the exercise, the Chairman of the Implementation Committee on Ilorin Rainstorm Disasters, Hajia Habibat Yusuf, said

the gesture was in line with Governor AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq's commitment to cushioning the effects of the disaster on the victims.

She said: "This disbursement is about giving succour to the victims of last year's rainstorm in Ilorin. It is the state government's way of alleviating their sufferings.

"About 2,300 victims will benefit from the state government's relief fund to assist the victims. We have three categories. Each victim

will receive N25,000, N50,000 and N100,000, depending on the extent of the damage suffered. So, we are starting the disbursement today with those collecting N25,000.

"There was an initial rainstorm committee, which did the evaluation of the damage. The committee visited all the victims and submitted their reports to the government. It is their recommendations that we were tasked to implement after further due process

was conducted to ensure transparency."

Hajia Yusuf said that preloaded ATM cards were being presented to each beneficiary in which they could make instant withdrawal from any ATM point.

One of the beneficiaries, Soliu Afeez Kayode, who spoke with newsmen, commended Governor AbdulRazaq for the support to the victims, which he said would serve as a relief.

2, 139 Niger households affected by 2020 flood get FG relief materials

From Romoke W. Ahmad, Minna

A total of 2,139 households in Niger State, affected by flood in 2020, have received relief materials from the federal government.

The items, which include food, non-food items and building materials, are meant to assist those households deeply hit by the flood in six

local government areas of the state.

Speaking during the commencement of distribution of the items in Minna, the Head of National Emergency Management Agency, (NEMA) Minna operation office, Wagami Lydia who represented the NEMA DG, said the materials were approved by President

Muhammadu Buhari to be distributed to affected persons across the country.

She said Emergency Operation Centres (EOC) were established by NEMA to elicit information from the field where the disasters made various magnitude of the impacts.

The items distributed include; 2,139 bags of rice,

2,139 bags of maize, 2,139 bags of beans and 214 kegs of 20-litre vegetable oil. Others are 4,278 pieces of mattresses, 1800 bags of cement, 1,800 bundles of roofing sheets, 1,200 pieces of ceiling board and 600 bags of zinc nail among others.

Some of the beneficiaries commended the federal government for identifying with them during their plight.

Kogi Council of Ulamas tasks council boss on infrastructure

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The Kogi State Local Government chapter of the Council of Ulamas has charged the newly elected Chairman of the Council, Alhaji Isah Abdulkarim, to give priority to providing viable infrastructure that will have an impact on the lives of people of the area.

The Chairman of the Council, Ustaz Muhammad B. Ibrahim, made the call when he led his members on a congratulatory visit to the council boss.

He said the only thing the council chairman would do to impact on the lives of the masses was for him to embark on the provision of social amenities such as health centres, the opening of rural roads, sinking of boreholes, scholarships for indigent students and security of lives and property of the people.

Ustaz Ibrahim, maintained that the council was an institution concerned with the responsibility of nurturing the young ones to become religiously equipped and strongly built with foresight in the service and worship of Allah.

He stated that the Council of Ulamas has performed well with the support of the previous administrations and hoped that the present administration will strive to do the same.

Responding, the Chairman of the local government, Alhaji Isah Abdulkarim, thanked the Council of Ulamas for the visit.

The chairman assured them that his administration has put in place a five-point agenda, which is comprised of infrastructural development, security, education and health care services delivery as well as youth/women empowerment.

Ex-IGP Jimeta dies, for burial today

A former Inspector General of Police, Alhaji Muhammadu Gambo Jimeta, is dead.

A younger brother of the deceased, Abdulrahman Adamu, confirmed Jimeta's death to *Daily Trust*.

Jimeta, who was the seventh IGP was appointed in 1986 to succeed Etim Inyang and was succeeded by Aliyu Attah in 1990 died yesterday in Abuja, after a brief illness.

The late IGP was also

a National Security Adviser (NSA) to President Ibrahim Babangida, under whose administration he served as the IGP.

Adamu, a former minister of Interior, said Jimeta's funeral will take place today at the National Mosque, Abuja.

Meanwhile, President Muhammadu Buhari has expressed sadness over the death of Gambo Jimeta.

Buhari, in a statement released after the announcement of the

death of the former IGP Thursday evening, said Nigeria had lost a great son who lived for the nation and served with all his strength.

The President, in the statement issued by his spokesman, Garba Shehu, described the late crack police detective as "a man of great courage, intellect and a true Nigerian statesman".

Buhari commiserated with his family as well as the government and people of Nigeria over the loss.

Blasphemy: A/Court sets aside death sentence, orders retrial

From Habibu Umar Aminu, Kano

A Kano High court (Appeal Division) has ordered for the re-trial of the case of one Aminu Yahaya Sharif that was sentenced to death by an Upper Shari'a court for alleged blasphemy.

In his ruling, Justice Nasiru Saminu said the whole proceedings at the lower court were characterised by irregularities hence the

need to set aside the judgement and ordered for a fresh trial under a new Judge.

He said the accused was continuously entered 'guilty' in the proceedings despite the fact that the state Administration of Criminal Law provides that a 'not guilty' plea should have been entered for him.

The court also found out that the accused was not duly represented

nor guided during the proceedings that led to his sentence.

In the case of Umar Faruk, a 13-year-old boy who was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, the court completely set aside the judgement of the lower court as it discharged and acquitted him.

It ruled that Faruk's judgement was done in error as the accused was not provided with legal counsel during his trial.

COVID-19: El-Zakzaky's wife tests positive –Son

Hajiya Zeenah Ibraheem, wife of detained Shiite leader, Ibraheem El Zakzaky, presently detained at Kaduna Correctional Center, has tested positive to the COVID-19 virus, raising fears that the virus may have hit the prison.

This revelation was made by her son, Mohammed, who claimed that tests were conducted on his mother and she tested positive.

Mohammed said, "Six days ago after a routine visit to the Kaduna State prison by my parent's

doctors, my mother complained of fatigue, fever and a complete loss of the ability to smell. The doctors decided to carry out a number of standard tests in order to understand what the problem was.

"Among the tests that were carried out was a test for the novel corona virus also known as Covid-19. This was a routine procedure and it is important to understand that she has been denied treatment for acute medical conditions including severe arthritis of the knee for years now.

"The Covid-19 test came back positive. I imagined that due to the diligent way in which the prison management had been conducting and managing the facility, a Covid-19 outbreak would be extremely unlikely. Because we have been doing our own due diligence and taking all possible measures at all times, we imagined that they were safe from the clear and present danger of Covid-19. To the best of my knowledge the prison authorities have also been doing the same," he said.

Gunmen abduct many in Zamfara village

● Buhari orders speedy response

From Shehu Umar, Gusau & Muideen Olaniyi, Abuja

Suspected armed bandits Thursday stormed Nahuche village in Bungudu Local Government Area of Zamfara State and abducted residents including women.

Residents told our correspondent that the armed men stormed the village and started firing shots into the air.

"We were all scared and there was pandemonium in the community as everyone was running

helter-skelter. The armed criminals came on motorbikes but stationed them at the outskirts of the community and marched into the village"

"We can't give the exact number of people kidnapped now but some of our women are also among the victims and we have alerted the security operatives to go after them," a resident said.

Meanwhile, Governor Bello Muhammad Matakwal who spoke at a stakeholders' meeting in Gusau said he received a text message on the

attack.

President Muhammadu Buhari yesterday ordered the National Security Adviser, Babagana Monguno, to coordinate an immediate response to rising cases of bandit attacks on communities in Zamfara State.

Buhari, in a statement by his spokesman, Garba Shehu, said there must be a clear pathway to ending the resurgent banditry that had continued to cost lives and the displacement of thousands of families from their towns and villages.



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
The University Village, Plot 91 Cadastral Zone, Nnamdi Azikiwe Exp. Rd, Jabi, Abuja
(OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR)

NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA (NOUN) 9TH AND 10TH VIRTUAL CONVOCATION CEREMONY

The National Open University of Nigeria is pleased to announce its 9th and 10th Virtual Convocation Ceremony holding on **Friday, 29th and Saturday, 30th January, 2021** for the information of graduands, their parents/guardians, friends of the University and the general public. Please note that the combined Convocation Ceremony will be held virtually.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS:

Friday, 29th January, 2021

Convocation

Lecture by: Prof. Olumide Babatope Longe

Chair-Department of Information Systems,
American University of Nigeria, Yola, Adamawa State.

Theme: What if we are not Alone?: The Intensification of Surveillance and its Impacts on the Economics of Cybercrimes.

Venue : Virtual
Join the virtual convocation at
<https://www.convocation.nouedu2.net>

Time : 10.00 a.m.

Saturday, 30th January 2021

i) Award of Bachelor Degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas,
Master and Doctorate Degrees.

Venue : Virtual
Join the virtual convocation at
<https://www.convocation.nouedu2.net>

Time : 9.00 a.m.

Information to Graduands

A) All those who have completed their programmes and have been cleared for convocation are to sign for and receive academic gowns and hoods from their respective Study Centres with effect from Monday, 25th January, 2021.

They are required to present the following for sighting at the points of collection of the items:

- Evidence of payment of a fee of **Fifteen Thousand (N15,000.00)** via remita for the use of Academic gowns and Convocation Register.
- A duly completed and authenticated clearance form issued at the Study Centre.

Please note that Academic gowns and hoods must be returned to **the respective Study Centres**.

The sum of **Five Thousand (N5,000.00)** Naira will be refunded upon the return of the Academic gowns and hoods in good condition.

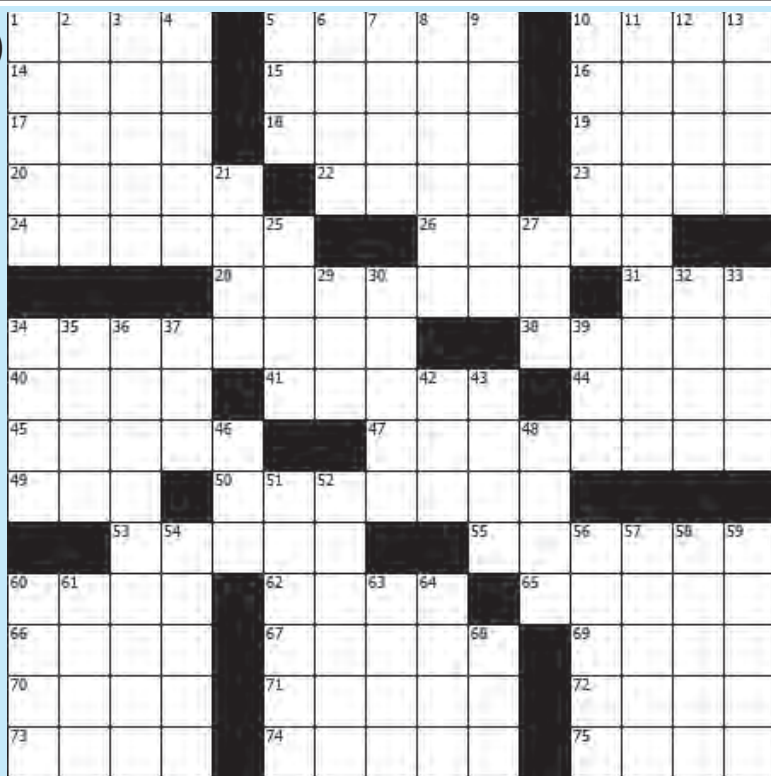
GRADUANDS ARE TO NOTE THAT THE UNIVERSITY WILL ABIDE STRICTLY WITH THE ARRANGEMENT ABOVE.

We congratulate all graduands and wish them the best in their future endeavours.

Signed:
Felix I. Edoke (KSM)
Registrar

(185)

EASY CROSSWORD >>



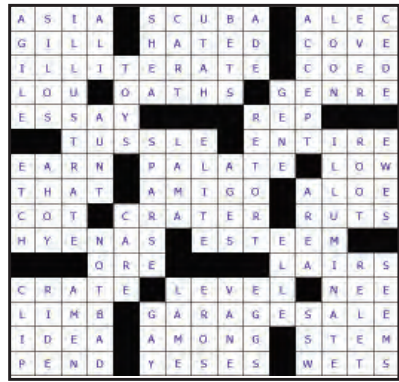
Across

- 1. Fraudulent scheme
- 5. Smells
- 10. City haze
- 14. Choir member
- 15. Rent again
- 16. ___ Valley (vineyard site)
- 17. Conduct
- 18. Web-footed birds
- 19. Office acronym
- 20. Shoppers' delights
- 22. Entryway
- 23. Capri or Wight
- 24. Lacking iron
- 26. Kingdom
- 28. Farm vehicle
- 31. NJ time zone
- 34. Florida city
- 38. Fragrant wood
- 40. Passed effortlessly
- 41. Hidden supply
- 44. Aggravate
- 45. Deduce
- 47. Put up with
- 49. Dixie general
- 50. Oval
- 53. Cowboy show
- 55. Church officials
- 60. On a cruise
- 62. Stated
- 65. Perspire
- 66. Swindles

Down

- 67. Wander off
- 69. A great lake
- 70. Defense spray
- 71. Chicago's airport
- 72. "Mona ___"
- 73. Scrapes by
- 74. Robins' homes
- 75. Abound
- 10. Slow mover
- 11. TV and radio (2 wds.)
- 12. October's stone
- 13. Ogle
- 21. Poses
- 25. Gator's kin
- 27. Curve
- 29. ___ loss (2 wds.)
- 30. Prickly plants
- 32. Snow melter
- 33. Wood source
- 34. Travel by water
- 35. Complexion woe
- 36. Quotation
- 37. Fruity refresher
- 39. Misjudge
- 42. Bunny's jump
- 43. Besides that
- 46. Tomato color
- 48. Snaky swimmers
- 51. School assignment
- 52. Detest
- 54. Fertile spots
- 56. Lived
- 57. Mysterious
- 58. Salary boost
- 59. Iron setting
- 60. Apex
- 61. Saturate
- 63. Deferred savings accts.
- 64. Pub missile
- 68. Sure!

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD (184)



SUDOKU >>

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

Good luck!

185

Solution to Sudoku 184

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

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

SNAPSHOT >>

Australian woman who sliced open her own throat set for freedom



•She smashed her head into wall 105 times, stabbed her best friend to death

One of Australia's most dangerous female prisoners who sliced open her own throat and stabbed an inmate 33 times with a carving knife could be released in just three years despite vowing to kill again. Rebecca Jane Butterfield has cut her own neck, bashed her head against a wall 105 times, and launched a frenzied and unprovoked attack on her friend Bluce Lim Ward before watching her bleed to death in 2003. The stabbing murder landed her another 12 years behind bars in Silverwater Women's prison, west of Sydney, and later another five years because she was deemed too dangerous for the outside world. 'I am going to kill again, I will kill when I get out,' Butterfield said during one violent episode. Butterworth was denied freedom for the third time on Monday when the NSW Government argued in the Supreme Court that her violent attacks since January 2020 meant she should remain behind bars until at least 2023. According to court documents, the convicted killer spiralled out of control over 18 months after getting a job as a sweeper at the jail early last year, the Daily Telegraph reported. Butterfield used a variety of tactics to lure guards and prison staff into her cell before attacking them. She assaulted a doctor who was treating her, and lunged at officers while wearing ankle bracelets and announced she was trying to take their guns. Butterfield was diagnosed with several personality disorders that were thought to have stemmed from sexual abuse as a child, until she was diagnosed with schizophrenia in 2019. **By Charlotte Karp**

- dailymail australia

SIGN LANGUAGE >>

Signs that prove COVID will never take our sense of humour



INSIDE POLITICS

PoliQuote

I am very sure that our figures in the register would surge by quadruples or even more, to further prove that APC is indeed Nigeria's largest and leading political party - **Yobe State Governor/ chairman APC caretaker committee, Mai Mala Buni**

2023: Low turnout as Yoruba summit pushes for Tinubu presidency

● Kogi lawmakers intensify campaign for Yahaya Bello

From Abdullateef Aliyu (Lagos), Jeremiah Oke (Ibadan), Romoke W. Ahmad (Minna) & Faruk Shuaibu (Abuja)

Stakeholders in the South-West geopolitical zone, yesterday, insisted that the region must produce the next president of the country even as they pushed for the emergence of the All Progressives Congress (APC) National Leader, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

It was at the summit on 'Yoruba Nation: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow' organised in Ibadan by a Pan-Yoruba socio-cultural group, Yoruba Patriots Movement (YPM).

The summit was, however, held amidst low turnout. It was learnt that though all the South-West governors, except Governor Gboyega Oyetola who was represented, shunned the meeting.

Daily Trust reports that there has been a controversy over the summit following the decision of the Pan-Yoruba socio-cultural group, Afenifere, to opt-out of it.

Our correspondent learnt that some Yoruba leaders decided to shun the summit following suspicion that it was convened to champion Tinubu presidency and



■ Tinubu

true to their suspicion, discussion at the summit centred on him with speakers and dignitaries making a case for him.

However, at the summit held at the International Conference Centre (ICC) of the University of Ibadan, most of the invited dignitaries and Yoruba leaders were absent.

The National Coordinator of

YPM, Oladosu Oladipupo, asked stakeholders in the North to respect the pre-2015 general election agreement to return power to the South in 2023.

He asked APC leaders to consider 2023 as time to repay for the struggle and sacrifices Tinubu has made for the party.

He said: "Tinubu has led Yoruba nation twice to support President Buhari's presidential ambition. Tinubu's cabinet was pan-Nigeria not only pan-Yoruba when he was the governor of Lagos State. He remains the only Yoruba man who worked tirelessly for the emergence of Buhari. So, we should all support him to contest the 2023 presidency.

"We must work hard to assist him to become the president of Nigeria. He has the mental capability and whatever is required to rule this country. We have been moving across the nation to tell Nigerians that this is the time for the Southwest to become Nigeria's president."

Also speaking at the event was Bosun Oladele who described the summit as a right step in the right direction. He urged Yoruba leaders to look inward because this is the

time for active participation to key into the Yoruba agenda.

APC chairman in Lagos, Tunde Balogun, dismissed opposition to Tinubu's presidency, saying the former Lagos State governor represents the hope and the future of Nigeria.

Meanwhile, members of the Kogi State House of Assembly have continued to campaign for Governor Yahaya Bello's presidential ambition. Yesterday, they were at the Niger State House of Assembly where they appealed to their colleagues to support Bello's ambition.

The members were led by the Speaker of Kogi State House of Assembly, Matthew Kolawole.

Kolawole said: "We in the Kogi State Assembly have resolved and endorsed Governor Yahaya Bello for the 2023 presidential election and we have agreed to consult all the states houses of assembly in the country for their support and subsequent votes while we appeal to you all to support this crusade."

Responding, the Speaker of the Kogi House of Assembly, Abdullahi Bawa Wuse, described Yahaya Bello's ambition as a worthy project.

Violation of political parties' constitutions hindering our growth - Ex-gov Elechi

From Nabob Ogbonna, Abakaliki

A former governor of Ebonyi State, Chief Martin Elechi, yesterday said non-adherence to political parties' constitutions is one of the major challenges facing the nation's democracy.

Elechi, a chieftain of the All Progressives Congress (APC), made the assertion in Abakaliki on Thursday during a stakeholders' meeting of the party in the state.

He said chieftains of both PDP and

APC are guilty of non-adherence to their parties' constitutions.

"All I can say is that in the fourth republic, the major problem of political parties is the failure to respect and comply with the provisions of the political parties' constitutions.

"When I left PDP, after handing over in 2015, it was not for any other thing but abuse of party constitution. Coming to APC, I thought things would be different but like what American Blacks say, "you ain't seen nothing yet". So when we go back we

have to look at the area of principal officers of the party.

"When you look back to the 2019 elections, you will weep for this country. It showed we have no regards for political parties and for the nation.

"Many people are in grief as a result of the way they were treated in the ward primaries and state; we did not respect the constitution of the party. The people that were declared winners in many places were not candidates in those places," he said.

Dogara not our member - Bauchi PDP

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

Bauchi State chapter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has declared that the immediate past Speaker of the House of Representatives, Yakubu Dogara, is no longer its member.

The party stated this after posters of Dogara along with Governor Bala Mohammed flooded Bauchi metropolis.

The Publicity Secretary of PDP, Yayanuwa Zainabari, who addressed newsmen, Thursday at the party secretariat, said, "Yakubu Dogara is not a member of PDP in Bauchi State as far as we know because he tendered his resignation to his ward chairman in July 2020 which was copied to the state secretariat.

"The party is calling on political jobbers who are trying to cause confusion in the state to desist. We will not allow anyone to rubbish what the party has done in two years and perpetrators of the flooded posters should desist or face the full wrath of the law."

Asked if the party will welcome Dogara back to its fold if he decides to stage a comeback, Zainabari said, "he is welcome but he must go through the processes laid down in the constitution of the party.

APC had on Monday said Dogara was not its member.

We will unseat Makinde in 2023 - Oyo APC

From Jeremiah Oke Ibadan

Oyo State chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC) yesterday vowed to unseat the governor of the state, Seyi Makinde, in 2023.

Stakeholders of the party made the declaration at a meeting held on Thursday in Ibadan, the state capital.

The stakeholders, who took turns to express the

party's readiness to return to power in 2023, noted that it is important to remain untied and put behind the grievances that led to their defeat in the last elections.

In a communiqué signed by Alhaji Adesina Alabi, they agreed to chart a new course and mobilise for unity, harmony and cooperation to reposition the party.

To achieve their desire

of taking over the state in 2023, the stakeholders re-echoed the need for oneness and togetherness.

"Stakeholders welcome briefing from the national headquarters of the APC ahead of the forthcoming membership registration and revalidation exercise which they promised to accord all necessary support to ensure that a good population of existing

and new members are captured in the exercise," it said.

In his welcome address, the acting secretary of the party in the state, Hon. Mojeed Olaoya, said the stakeholders' meeting became pertinent to address some of the issues that led to the loss of the party in the 2019 governorship election in the state.



CITY NEWS

Contacts
08054263517
citynews@dailytrust.com

Two die in Osun car crash

From Hameed Oyejobade, Osogbo

Two persons lost their lives in a car crash near Iwaraja Junction, Erinmo, on Ilesha-Akure Expressway in Osun State yesterday.

The accident involved a silver-coloured Toyota Hiace Bus with registration

number DKA 597 BQ and a DAF Truck with registration number XP 817 EPE.

The personnel of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) rescued those injured in the accident and evacuated the corpses from the road.

The Sector Commander, Mrs Kudirat Ibrahim,

confirmed the incident. She spoke through the Public Relations Officer of FRSC in the state, Mrs Agnes Ogungbemi.

Ibrahim told Daily Trust that apart from two persons that died in the accident, three others sustained injuries.

The FRSC boss identified

loss of control, speed violation and dangerous driving as probable causes of the accident.

"The injured victims were taken to Wesley Hospital, Ilesa, in whose mortuary one of the corpses was kept. The other dead victim is still trapped in the vehicle", she said.



■ From right: Alh Abdulkadir Abacha; Sen Ali Ndume; Borno Governor, Babagana Zulum; Sen Basheer Lado and Alh Mohammed Abacha when the Borno governor and others paid a condolence visit to Sen Lado who lost his mother Hajiya Fatima (Fanta) at the deceased house in Kano yesterday.

Tanker explosion: Another victim dies in Ogun, as death toll hits four

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

A victim of Tuesday's tanker explosion has died at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Abeokuta, Ogun State, bringing the death toll to four.

The 42-year-old man suffered 96 per cent burns in the tanker explosion that burnt three to death when the fuel-laden vehicle crashed into other vehicles and exploded at IBB Boulevard, Kuto, Abeokuta, on Tuesday.

Daily Trust gathered

that the driver of the tanker lost control of the vehicle to brake failure while descending from an overhead bridge in the area.

The tanker swerved across the road median, crashed into oncoming vehicles across the other lane and subsequently went up in flames.

Eyewitnesses said two commuters and a motorcyclist trapped by the ill-fated tanker were burnt "beyond recognition."

Six people were injured

and were taken to the FMC and the State Hospital, Ijaye, for treatment.

However, the spokesman of the FMC, Segun Orisajo, yesterday, told journalists in Abeokuta that one of the three victims at the facility died.

He said the patient had been scheduled for dialysis following his difficulty in urinating but died at the early hours of Thursday.

Orisajo quoted the Medical Director of the FMC, Prof Adewale Musa-Olomu, to have

regretted the loss of the patient, describing it as unfortunate.

He said "On admission, he along with the two other patients were commenced on intravenous fluid resuscitation in accordance with the established protocols for the management of burns.

"Following the observed difficulty in passing urine, he was scheduled for dialysis but he died in the early hours of this morning before dialysis could be carried out on him."

Group empowers 563 farmers in 3 states, FCT

By Terkula Igidi

Vintor Global Enterprises has empowered 536 farmers in Nasarawa, Taraba, Benue, and FCT through its Farmers' Friend project.

The project director, Mr. Vincent Iyev, made this known during Farmers' Day Celebration in Lafia.

He explained that the project is meant to alleviate the plight of farmers through provision of modern farming inputs as well as training of farmers on modern farming techniques, pre-seasonal

training workshop for farmers through extension workers, provision of farm inputs such as herbicides, fertilizer, sprayers, rain boots, raincoats and hand gloves.

Other services are provision of tractors to farmers at cheaper rates, training on diagnostic survey for the identification of agricultural problems and potential, among others.

The Nasarawa State Commissioner of Agriculture, Professor Alanana Otaki, who was represented by the Director of Administration

in the ministry, Solomon Ombugadu, noted that empowering farmers at this critical time Nigeria is facing food crisis would go a long way to boost food security.

He added that the ministry is pleased with the quality of training facilitated by the group for farmers, stressing that the provision of varieties of farm inputs, tractor hiring services at subsidised rates, and loan facilities for farmers would boost food production in Nasarawa and the states where the project is implemented.

The commissioner said the Governor Abdullahi Sule administration has made agriculture a priority and will partner with critical stakeholders in the sector to make it succeed.

Also speaking, the Chairman, All Farmers Association of Nigeria, AFAN, Nasarawa State, Danjuma Adamu, said the project is the first of its kind in the state, coming at the time farmers need it most. He stated that as an agrarian state, Nasarawa farmers would be more organised this season to benefit from the project.

QUICK READ

Plateau

COVID-19: JUTH warns relatives against unnecessary visit to patients

From Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos

The Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH) has warned relatives and well-wishers to limit visiting patients on admission in the hospital as part of measures to halt the spread of COVID-19.

The hospital stressed that for those who must visit, protocols of hand washing, use of hand sanitizer, and the wearing of facemask must be adhered to.

Spokesperson of the hospital, Bridget A. Omini, gave the directive yesterday in Jos following the report of the increase in the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the state.

Daily Trust had reported how the authorities of the hospital had decried the increased number of COVID-19 patients trooping to the hospital in recent time and how the facility was running short of bed spaces.

The hospital, however, urged the general public to cooperate with staff on duty without any obstruction, distraction of hospital equipment, or threat of physical assault, promising to provide quality services despite the current challenges.

Nasarawa

NDE trains 260 unemployed youths

From Ibraheem Hamza Muhammad, Lafia

National Directorate of Employment (NDE) has engaged 260 unemployed youths in Nasarawa State in its Basic National Open Apprenticeship Scheme, B-NOAS.

State acting coordinator of NDE, Mr. Rotgak Goden Go'ar, who disclosed this in an address during the orientation ceremony for the participants in Lafia, said the gesture was in line with efforts by President Muhammadu Buhari-led Federal Government to provide employment for unemployed youths of the country.

He explained that the 260 youths would undergo intensive three months' training in sundry skill sets such as computer appreciation, barbing, hairdressing, fashion, and design, among others.

According to him, the orientation exercise was meant to expose the newly recruited participants to the advantage of the scheme, rules, regulations, code of conduct and conditions governing training.

FCT

FCTA alerts residents on fake COVID-19 inspectors, fraudsters

By Terkula Igidi

The Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) has alerted residents on the activities of fraudsters who, under the guise of enforcing COVID-19 protocols, extort money from unsuspecting members of the public.

Head, Media and Enlightenment of FCT COVID-19 Enforcement Task force, Ikhara Attah, warned the public to be wary of such criminal elements that parade themselves as agents of government, but are not.

He debunked the allegations that members of his task force were involved in the criminal act, stressing that the FCT police command has launched a manhunt for the criminals.

"We actually work on the platform of integrity having been set up by the FCT Minister, Mallam Muhammad Musa Bello, under the chairmanship of the FCT Police Commissioner, Bala Ciroma. We don't go out asking people for money on issues relating to COVID-19 guidelines," Attah added.



EBONYI STATE GOVERNMENT

Thank You
Mr. President

FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF OUR SON AS
VICE CHANCELLOR OF
ALEX EKWUEME FEDERAL UNIVERSITY, NDUFU ALIKE IKWO



1. I am most pleased to convey the appreciation of the good people of Ebonyi State to the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, on the appointment of our son, Professor Sunday Oge Elom as Vice Chancellor of Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu-Alike Ikwo, Ebonyi State.
2. Your Excellency, we consider it a great honour and manifest love for our people, for Ebonyi State to have produced the first indigenous Vice Chancellor of the Federal University in record time of its creation, made possible by your Next Level Administration.
3. I am therefore enthused to transmit to Your Excellency, the words of gratitude, warm regards and best wishes of the government and people of Ebonyi State. Once more Your Excellency, please accept our hearts of gratitude.



HIS EXCELLENCY
Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR
President, Federal Republic
of Nigeria

SIGNED:

HIS EXCELLENCY
David Nweze Umahi, FNSE, FNATE
Governor of Ebonyi State



Contacts
08054263517

Court jails student for cultism in Akwa Ibom

From Iniabasi Umo, Uyo

An Akwa Ibom High Court has sentenced a 23-year-old secondary school student, Emmanuel Thomas, to five years in prison for cultism.

Thomas, who was found guilty of belonging to an unlawful society, "Red Skin Secret Cult Confraternity," is an indigene of Uruk Uso in Obot Akara Local Government Area, Akwa Ibom State.

The accused, a student of

Community Secondary School, Mbiase in Imo State, revealed that he joined the cult group because of the challenges his mother had with her landlady.

He was convicted by Justice Okon Okon in Uyo on Thursday after confessing in court that he was initiated on February 29, 2019, in Ematan Street, off Eka Street, Uyo, by a General, who is now at large.

In his judgment, Justice Okon held that, "By the provision of Section 1 sub section 2 of the Cultism, Offensive Weapons and Violent Behaviour

Prohibition Law 2004 of Akwa Ibom State, any person who is a member of a cult, whether or not he is in possession of an offensive weapon, is guilty of the offence and is liable to conviction and subsequent imprisonment for seven years without an option of a fine.

"It is trite law that where a confessional statement of an accused is tendered in evidence without any objection, the statement will be deemed to have been made voluntarily and its content will be deemed to be true with no amount of subsequent

argument against it, vitiating its admissibility.

"In this particular offence, the accused, Emmanuel Itoro Thomas, had confessed that he joined the secret cult in 2019 because of the challenges his mother had with her landlady," he stated.

The court held that the prosecution from the State Ministry of Justice has proven its case beyond reasonable doubts and, accordingly, sentenced Thomas to five years in prison without an option of fine.

Armed men disrupt Bayelsa council lawmakers' sitting

From Bassey Willie, Yenagoa

Some armed men suspected to be thugs yesterday invaded the Sagbama Local Government Legislative Council in Bayelsa State and attacked the councillors during official sitting.

Daily Trust gathered that the lawmakers allegedly planned to impeach the Council Chairman, Embeleakpo Alale, at the sitting when the thugs invaded the Chambers.

The hoodlums were said to have brandished cutlasses, locally made guns and other weapons, injuring some persons during the incident, while others around the council secretariat scammed for safety, a situation that brought the sitting to an abrupt end.

Daily Trust further learnt that the attack was not unconnected with the invitation of the principal staff of the council by the councillors as part of their oversight functions.

Governor Douye Diri's predecessor and senator representing Bayelsa West in the National Assembly, Mr Seriake Dickson, hails from the area.

Leader of the council's legislative arm, Mr Ebikake Dickson, confirmed the incident and claimed that the attackers were loyal to the chairman of the local government.

According to him, the invaders swooped on them during the sitting and disrupted their session with impunity.

He said: "Last Tuesday, I called for sitting. In our sitting, we resolved to invite some principal officers of the council to submit their comprehensive

documents for us to do our oversight functions.

"But Wednesday, when we got to the council secretariat, we saw some strange faces. We wondered who invited them to the secretariat. We also saw the Chief Security Officer to the Chairman giving instructions to the hooligans.

"We overheard some of them saying they were acting on instructions and that they would deal with anybody that misbehaved. Some of them went to where the Ward 5 councillor parked her car and ordered the driver to leave. In the process, they attacked and injured the driver.

"When we saw that the problem was getting out of hand, we called the president of the youth of Sagbama to come to our rescue. When they came, the Chief Security Officer to the chairman blocked the council gate. The youths engaged in a scuffle with them and some youths were injured.

"It was the intervention of the youths and the police from area command that saved their lives.

"Our lives are in danger. From now till the end of our tenure, if anything happens to any of us, the public should know where to beam their searchlight on," Dickson stated.

However, the chairman of the council, Alale, in a statement by his Press Secretary, Dr Nikade Anderson, said the attack was carried out by unidentified hoodlums.

He said preliminary investigations are ongoing to ascertain the immediate and remote causes of the security breach in the council.



■ Parade by the personnel of the Nigerian Correctional Services, during the pulling out of the outgoing Controller General of the Service, Ja'afaru Ahmed, in Abuja yesterday.

Photo: NAN

4 Suleja kidnap victims released after ransom

By Adam Umar

The woman who was abducted along with her two sons, and another girl in Chaza area of Suleja, Niger State, have been released and reunited with their families.

The victims who were held

hostage for two days were abducted by gunmen on Monday night.

A source in the area told our reporter yesterday that a ransom was paid before their release, though he could not confirm the actual amount.

He said all the released persons

were taken to the hospital for medical examination as they were traumatised.

Head of the family who is a civil servant working in Abuja, was himself abducted about five months ago, but was not at home when the gunmen arrived the last time.

EFCC arrests seven youths for cyber crime

From Hameed Oyejobade, Osogbo

The Operatives of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) on Wednesday arrested seven young men for alleged involvement in internet fraud.

The spokesman of the commission, Wilson Uwujaren,

told Daily Trust correspondent in Osogbo, Osun State, that the suspects were arrested following intelligence received from concerned members of the public on their alleged criminal activities.

Uwujaren said items recovered from the suspects include two vehicles, mobile devices and laptops.

He warned youths to desist from criminal activities and engage in legitimate productive ventures, adding that criminals would not go unpunished.

He said the suspects were undergoing interrogations and that they would be charged to court as soon as investigations are concluded.

Robbers attack electronic shop, steal N.3m in Abuja council

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Suspected armed robbers on Tuesday attacked an electronic shop located by Agyana Road, Abaji metropolis, and stole N287,000.

The victim, Prince Chizoba Machu, while narrating the incident, said the two robbers, who came with sophisticated weapons attacked his shop around 9:50 pm on Tuesday.

He said he was inside his shop while tidying up the transaction he made for the day when the two

robbers suddenly invaded his shop. "Initially, when I saw them, I thought they were vigilantes as one of them was carrying a gun while the other one flashed light in my eyes but I quickly escaped through the back door," he said.

According to him, despite he raised alarm after he escaped through the exit door, neither neighbours nor security agents came to his rescue, even as he said he has reported the incident at the police station in the area.

"It was later I came back to discover that the money I realised

from sales for that day was taken away, even as I am yet to know if the other valuables from the shop were stolen," he said.

Our reporter further learnt that some suspected armed robbers attacked a restaurant opposite Total filling station in Abaji on Monday night around 9:pm and carted away undisclosed sums of money and handsets at gunpoint.

When contacted, the spokesperson of the FCT police command, ASP Maryam Yusuf, said the command was investigating the incident.

BUSINESS

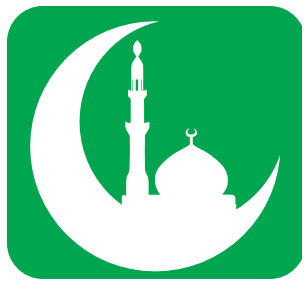
NIGERIA STOCK EXCHANGE MARKET CAP. ▶ N21,524,831TR (0.23%) ↑ ALL SHARE INDEX ▶ 41,147.72POINTS (0.23%) ↑ MARKET TURNOVER ▶ 649,649,752BN SHARES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

OIL AND GAS	BANKING	CONSUMER GOODS	INSURANCE	INDUSTRIAL
 274.56 0.45%	 412.02 -0.23%	 607.36 0.21%	 281.49 2.52%	 2,056.27 0.50%

NSE GENERAL INDEX

COMPANY NAME	MARKET(NM)	PRICE	CHANGE	TRADES	VOLUME	COMMODITIES PRICE
1 ACCESS BANK PLC	328,793.34	9.25	0.54	176	4,827,689	86 ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC
2 UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	306,084,822.895	-	1.65	232	27,287,066	87 STANBIC BHC HOLDINGS PLC
3 ZENITH BANK PLC	830,437.26	26.45	0.57	399	26,790,148	88 UNITED CAPITAL PLC
BANKING				807	58,904,903	OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
4 FBN HOLDINGS PLC	263,830.40	7.35	-0.68	274	24,548,367	FINANCIAL SERVICES
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS				274	24,548,367	HEALTHCARE
FINANCIAL SERVICES				1,081	83,453,270	89 EKDCORP PLC
5 MTN NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS PLC	3,460,267.22	170.00	-0.12	103	3,125,260	90 UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERVICES PLC
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES				103	3,125,260	HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS
ICT				103	3,125,260	91 MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC
6 DANGOTE CEMENT PLC	3,987,478.73	234.00	-0.21	85	588,077	MEDICAL SUPPLIES
7 LAFARGE AFRICA PLC	450,212.88	27.95	5.47	439	22,652,115	92 EVANS MEDICAL PLC
BUILDING MATERIALS				524	23,240,192	93 FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC
INDUSTRIAL GOODS				524	23,240,192	94 GLAXO SMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC.
8 SEPLAT PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC	317,760.06	540.00	-	59	42,365	95 MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC.
EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION				59	42,365	96 NEMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICALS PLC
OIL AND GAS				59	42,365	97 NIGERIA-GERMAN CHEMICALS PLC.
PREMIUM BOARD TOTALS				1,767	109,861,087	98 PHARMA-DEKO PLC.
9 CHELLARAMS PLC	1,633.81	2.26	-	0	0	PHARMACEUTICALS
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES				0	0	HEALTHCARE
CONGLOMERATES				0	0	99 COURTEVILLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PLC
10 MCNICHOLS PLC	166.62	0.51	-	0	0	COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS
FOOD PRODUCTS				0	0	100 OMATEK VENTURES PLC
CONSUMER GOODS				0	0	COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS
11 LIVINGTRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	3,000.00	0.60	-	0	0	101 CWG PLC
MORTGAGE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES				0	0	102 NCR (NIGERIA) PLC.
FINANCIAL SERVICES				0	0	103 TRIPPLE GEE AND COMPANY PLC.
12 THE INITIATES PLC	462.79	0.52	-	1	500	IT SERVICES
WASTE MANAGEMENT				1	500	104 GHANES PLC
SERVICES				1	500	105 E-TRANZACT INTERNATIONAL PLC
BOARD TOTALS				1	500	PROCESSING SYSTEMS
13 FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	1,364.00	0.62	-1.59	27	3,772,269	106 AIRTEL AFRICA PLC
14 ONOMU OIL PALM PLC.	88,713.63	93.00	-	9	22,140	TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES
15 PRESCO PLC	74,500.00	74.50	-	6	32,171	ICT
CROP PRODUCTION				42	3,826,580	INDUSTRIAL GOODS
16 ELLAH LAKES PLC.	8,500.00	4.25	-	4	20,000	107 BERGER PAINTS PLC
FISHING/HUNTING/TRAPPING				4	20,000	108 BUA CEMENT PLC
17 LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC.	8,400.00	2.80	-2.86	179	16,033,490	109 CAP PLC
LIVESTOCK/ANIMAL SPECIALTIES				179	16,033,490	110 MEYER PLC
AGRICULTURE				225	19,880,070	111 PORTLAND PAINTS & PRODUCTS NIGERIA PLC
18 JOHN HOLT PLC.	194.58	0.50	-	1	1,898	112 PREMIER PAINTS PLC.
19 S O A NIG. PLC.	1,903.99	2.93	-	0	0	BUILDING MATERIALS
20 TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	47,151.67	1.16	-9.37 903	428,291,699	7,288,503	113 AUSTIN LAZ & COMPANY PLC
21 U A C N PLC.	23,770.70	8.25	1.85	138	435,582,100	114 CUTIX PLC.
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES				1,042	435,582,100	ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS
CONGLOMERATES				1,042	435,582,100	115 BETA GLASS PLC.
22 ARBICO PLC.	152.96	1.03	-	1	3,000	116 GREF NIGERIA PLC
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION				1	3,000	PACKAGING/CONTAINERS
23 JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC.	29,937.60	18.90	-	53	472,341	117 NOTORE CHEMICAL IND. PLC
24 ROADS NIG. PLC.	165.00	6.60	-	0	0	AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS
INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION				53	472,341	INDUSTRIAL GOODS
25 UACN PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC	13,548.78	0.73	-2.67	95	6,282,820	NATURAL RESOURCES
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT				95	6,282,820	118 B.O.C. GASES PLC.
CONSTRUCTION/REAL ESTATE				149	6,758,161	CHEMICALS
26 DN TYRE & RUBBER PLC	954.53	0.20	-	0	0	119 ALUMINIUM EXTRUSION IND. PLC.
AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS				0	0	120 MULTIVERSE MINING AND EXPLORATION PLC
27 DAWSON BREW. PLC.	13,936.50	1.78	9.88	12	1,113,798	MINING SERVICES
28 GOLDEN GUINEA BREW. PLC.	829.98	0.81	-	0	0	121 THOMAS WYATT NIG. PLC.
29 GUINNESS NIG. PLC.	40,522.08	18.50	-2.37	78	758,944	PAPER/FOREST PRODUCTS
30 INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC.	177,021.03	6.59	-	37	538,873	NATURAL RESOURCES
31 NIGERIAN BREW. PLC.	487,811.03	61.00	-	70	7,066,792	122 JAPPAUL GOLD & VENTURES PLC
BEVERAGES-BREWERS/DISTILLERS				197	9,478,407	ENERGY EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES
32 DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	246,581.63	20.30	-0.98	236	2,734,404	123 QANDO PLC
33 FLOUR MILLS NIG. PLC.	129,572.00	31.60	-2.77	79	1,452,122	INTEGRATED OIL AND GAS SERVICES
34 HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC.	9,912.75	1.25	4.17	61	4,231,519	124 11 PLC
35 MULTI-TREX INTEGRATED FOODS PLC	1,340.10	0.36	-	0	0	125 ARDVA PLC
36 W NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC.	1,724.98	9.68	-	0	0	126 CONOIL PLC
37 NASCON ALLIED INDUSTRIES PLC	45,570.34	17.20	-	32	549,096	127 ETERRIA PLC.
38 NIGERIAN SALT PLC.	2,993.06	10.95	-	0	0	128 MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC.
FOOD PRODUCTS				442	9,888,922	129 TOTAL NIGERIA PLC.
39 CABOURY NIGERIA PLC.	18,312.47	9.75	-9.72	66	1,340,030	PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTORS
40 NESTLE NIGERIA PLC.	1,192,947.66	1,505.00	-	44	29,031	OIL AND GAS
FOOD PRODUCTS-DIVERSIFIED				110	1,369,061	SERVICES
41 NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC.	1,680.31	22.10	-	1	900	130 AFROMEDIA PLC
42 VITAFODAM NIG. PLC.	11,507.77	9.20	-	15	481,986	ADVERTISING
HOUSEHOLD DURABLES				16	482,886	131 MULTIVERSE AIRLINE PLC
43 P Z CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC.	22,631.72	5.70	-1.75	78	2,602,775	AIRLINES
44 UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC.	77,557.57	13.50	-	89	973,392	132 T BRISCOE PLC.
PERSONAL/HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS				167	3,576,167	AUTOMOBILE/AUTO PART RETAILERS
CONSUMER GOODS				932	24,795,443	133 RED STAR EXPRESS PLC
45 ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL INCORPORATED	120,189.56	6.55	-	67	2,644,197	134 TRANS-NATIONWIDE EXPRESS PLC.
46 FIDELITY BANK PLC	78,231.95	2.70	-1.46	143	14,150,672	COURIER/FREIGHT/DELIVERY
47 GUARANTY TRUST BANK PLC.	971,228.91	33.00	-0.15	352	62,054,558	135 TANTALIZERS PLC
48 JAZZ BANK PLC.	20,035.69	0.68	1.47	40	4,511,116	HOSPITALITY
49 STERLING BANK PLC.	57,580.84	2.00	2.04	57	6,990,483	136 CAPITAL HOTEL PLC
50 UNION BANK NIG. PLC.	158,708.10	5.45	-2.68	41	315,542	137 IKEJA HOTEL PLC
51 UNITY BANK PLC	8,416.32	0.72	-1.37	22	765,821	138 TOURIST COMPANY OF NIGERIA PLC.
52 WEMA BANK PLC.	26,616.38	0.69	-1.43	55	7,139,152	139 TRANSCORP HOTELS PLC
BANKING				777	98,571,541	HOTELS/LODGING
53 AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	4,940.40	0.24	-7.69	40	14,916,062	140 DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC
54 AIICO INSURANCE PLC.	29,769.50	1.44	-9.43	57	3,575,691	MEDIA/ENTERTAINMENT
55 AXAMANSARD INSURANCE PLC	49,680.00	1.38	-9.80	131	14,706,424	141 ACADEMY PRESS PLC
56 CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSURANCE PLC	4,388.85	0.41	-8.89	35	5,555,411	142 LEARN AFRICA PLC
57 CORNERSTONE INSURANCE PLC	14,533.11	0.80	-1.23	36	9,887,500	143 STUDIO PRESS (NIG) PLC.
58 CORONATION INSURANCE PLC	15,594.59	0.65	-9.72	104	15,878,626	144 UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC.
59 GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	909.99	0.20	-	0	0	PRINTING/PUBLISHING
60 GUINEA INSURANCE PLC.	1,350.80	0.22	-8.33	65	20,984,998	145 ASSOCIATED BUS COMPANY PLC
61 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSURANCE PLC	487.95	0.38	-	0	0	ROAD TRANSPORTATION
62 LASACO ASSURANCE PLC.	3,881.42	0.53	-8.62	58	14,522,046	146 INTERLINKED TECHNOLOGIES PLC
63 LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	9,000.00	0.90	-	4	10,000	147 SECURE ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY PLC
64 MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSURANCE PLC.	5,586.37	0.50	-9.09	124	58,543,247	SPECIALTY
65 NEM INSURANCE PLC	26,988.65	2.69	-	15	143,936	148 GLOBAL SPECTRUM ENERGY SERVICES PLC
66 NIGER INSURANCE PLC	2,321.84	0.30	-9.09	50	10,454,969	149 NIGERIAN AVIATION HANDLING COMPANY PLC
67 PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	7,156.38	0.54	-10.00	48	9,228,795	150 SKYWAY AVIATION HANDLING COMPANY PLC
68 REGENCY ASSURANCE PLC	2,534.13	0.38	-9.52	46	21,944,767	TRANSPORT-RELATED SERVICES
69 SOVEREIGN TRUST INSURANCE PLC	4,091.21	0.36	9.09	109	61,430,185	151 C & I LEASING PLC.
70 STACO INSURANCE PLC	4,483.72	0.48	-	0	0	152 CAVERTON OFFSHORE SUPPORT GRP PLC
71 STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC.	2,582.21	0.20	-	0	0	SUPPORT AND LOGISTICS
72 SUNU ASSURANCES NIGERIA PLC.	2,520.00	0.90	-	3	100,000	SERVICES
73 UNIC DIVERSIFIED HOLDINGS PLC.	516.46	0.20	-	0	0	BOARD TOTALS
74 UNIVERSAL INSURANCE PLC	4,000.00	0.25	-3.85	114	38,068,445	153 SFS REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST
75 VERITAS CAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	3,882.67	0.28	-9.68	61	24,771,862	154 UNION HOMES REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST (REIT)
INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES				1,100	324,772,964	155 UPOD REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST
76 NPF MICROFINANCE BANK PLC	4,024.48	1.76	-6.88	43	2,115,026	REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS (REITS)
MICRO-FINANCE BANKS				43	2,115,026	CONSTRUCTION/REAL ESTATE
77 ABBEY MORTGAGE BANK PLC	6,784.62	1.05	-	2	7,272	FINANCIAL SERVICES
78 ASD SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	7,370.87	0.50	-	0	0	156 NIGERIA ENERGY SECTOR FUND
79 INFINITY TRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	5,671.82	1.36	-	0	0	157 VALUEALLIANCE VALUE FUND
80 RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	2,265.95	0.20	-	0	0	OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
81 UNION HOMES SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC.	2,949.22	3.02	-	0	0	FINANCIAL SERVICES
MORTGAGE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES				2	7,272	REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST & CLOSE END FUND TOTALS
82 AFRICA PRUDENTIAL PLC	14,000.00	7.00	-	23	1,528,560	158 SMART PRODUCTS NIGERIA PLC
83 CUSTODIAN INVESTMENT PLC	35,291.19	6.00	-	23	994,816	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
84 DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	300.00	0.20	-9.09	14	2,619,456	CONSTRUCTION/REAL ESTATE
85 FCBM GROUP PLC	62,378.54	3.15	-2.17	48	7,240,499	OIL AND GAS
						159 CAPITAL OIL PLC
						160 RAK UNITY PET. COMP. PLC.
						PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTORS
						OIL AND GAS
						SERVICES
						161 JULI PLC
						FOOD/DRUG RETAILERS AND WHOLESALERS
						SERVICES
						ASSET TOTALS
						EQUITIES TOTALS



TRUST ISLAMIC FORUM

The religion with Allah is Islam Q3:19

Afís A. Oladosu

08122465111 (sms only)

'Is he not a man like you?'

The above question was said to have been posed by a woman to her husband. Where? The story did not say. When? Answer: unknown. But where and when did the incident occur does not actually matter. What mattered to me when the story came was the eternal lesson embedded in it. The narrator, who happened to be the husband, continued the narration- "...our neighbour bought a car. My wife therefore began to wake me up from sleep every night pestering me to do whatever it would take for me to buy a car too. She kept asking me rhetorically: "Is he not a man like you? Or is he from another planet? You have to do as he has done. You must also buy a car". After much pressure. I eventually found the means to buy a car".

Then the narrator went further saying: "After three months, my wife got to know that our neighbour has bought a parcel of land. Then she began to pester me to also look for means to buy a parcel of land. She would conclude by asking me, again rhetorically: "Is he not a man like you"? As it was at the beginning, I succeeded in buying a parcel of land too. Each time she heard that my neighbour did something, she would come back home to begin to put pressure on me to do same. Until the day my neighbour brought in his second wife. Suddenly, there was no pressure on me to 'be a man' anymore.

The first thing that came to my mind after reading this story is the ayat of the Quran that reads- "Indeed in their stories there is a lesson for people of discernment" (Quran 12: 111). Whereas the referential framework of this ayat does not belong, strictly, to the present but to the primordial period when the brothers of Prophet Yusuf (a.s) thought they could take him on a path other than that destined for him by his Creator, and whereas the story of Prophet Yusuf told to us in this chapter equally admits into its geography the uncanny politics between the male and female gender, this ayat, like other signs of the Almighty in creation, continues to be useful partly because the stories we read of and about in the Quran actually are not meant to be past perfect. Rather, they are meant to mirror the past in the present and the mediate the latter into the future.

In other words, when the Quran says "Indeed in their stories there is a lesson for people of discernment", the semiotics of the category 'stories' referenced in the Ayat should not be delimited to that undated for undatable period in history when Prophet Yusuf had to go through the furnace of life in order to be on top of life. The 'stories' that the Quran hinted at, in my opinion, should include those being told today by human beings through their actions and inaction. These are stories of honesty and dishonesty, of treachery and trust, of faith and failure.

Thus, when the wife of the narrator kept asking her to be a man, to follow the path trodden by her neighbour even in the knowledge that he neither has the means nor the capacity, her posture brings to fore some of the eternal lessons that Islam has always striven to teach into believers particularly in relation to the ideal or virtue known as contentment. Contentment is a virtue that is closely connected to having trust in the Almighty. When one shows contentment with what he has got and does not foster envy or hatred towards others, he is certain that the Almighty will not let him down and there is a great reward awaiting him. The Prophet (a.s) said: "Do not incline to the worldly life and the Almighty will love you. Have no desire for what people possess, and people will love you." An amazing story in this regard is told by al-Ghazaali in his magnum opus, Ihyaa Ulum al-Din. Al-Khalil ibn Ahmad Al-Faraahidi was said to have refused to be the private tutor of the son of the ruler of Al-Ahwaaz. He therefore brought out dry bread to show the messenger of the ruler and said, "As long as I find this, I am in no need of Sulaymaan [the ruler]. Then, he was said to have composed the following poem verses: "Inform Sulaymaan that I enjoy ease and richness, although I have no wealth/I keep my pride as I see no one die of hunger, or remain in the same state all his life.

QUR'AN: "Say, [O Muhammad], "Travel through the land and observe how was the end of the criminals." And grieve not over them or be in distress from what they conspire"

[AN-NAML 27:69,70]

HADITH: Abu Hurairah (RTA) reported: My friend, the Messenger of Allah (SAW) directed me to observe fast for three days in every month, to perform two Rak'ah (optional) Duha prayer at forenoon and to perform the Witr prayer before going to bed.

[Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

Biden ends 'Muslim ban' on first day in office

United States President Joe Biden has signed a string of executive orders, memorandums and directives that will reverse some of his predecessor Donald Trump's most divisive policies, including rescinding the so-called "Muslim ban", rejoining the Paris climate accord, and ending the process to withdraw from the World Health Organization (WHO).

Just hours after his inauguration at the US Capitol on Wednesday, Biden signed 15 executive actions that his team earlier said aimed to "reverse

the gravest damages of the Trump administration". Biden told reporters in the Oval Office that there was "no time to waste".

Biden rescinded the so-called "Muslim ban", an executive order Trump signed in 2017 that banned travellers from seven Muslim-majority nations from entering the US. The ban was changed several times amid legal challenges and ultimately upheld by the US Supreme Court in 2018.

"The president put an end to the Muslim ban - a policy rooted in

religious animus and xenophobia," Biden's White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said during a Wednesday evening briefing.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations welcomed the decision as "an important first step toward undoing the anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant policies of the previous administration".

"It is an important fulfilment of a campaign pledge to the Muslim community and its allies," the group's executive director, Nihad Awad, said in a statement. (Aljazeera.com)



■ People receive the Oxford/AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine at the Al-Abbas Islamic Centre, which has been converted into a temporary vaccination centre in Birmingham, central England yesterday

UK mosque opens as COVID vaccination centre

A Birmingham mosque in the United Kingdom has been converted into a COVID vaccination centre as the city begins offering jabs 24 hours a day.

Two people at a time are being vaccinated in the multi-purpose hall at the Al-Abbas Islamic Centre in Balsall Heath.

Imam Nuru Mohammed said they stepped in with the intention of helping "people who are not well-informed about the vaccination", amid concern that false rumours were targeting religious communities.

He said: "It will send a very strong positive message to the wider Muslim community, not only here in Birmingham but in the entire

country, because I think this is the first mosque within the country opening its doors for vaccination to take place.

"I think that is a positive message - that you know what guys, we are all together in this."

"We want to benefit the community at large and are happy to provide our facilities. It is run by the NHS but with our support," mosque trustee Haider Hudda said.

"We have been open and transparent with our communities. Our medical taskforce, including local doctors, is always available to answer concerns and give regular updates about the pandemic.

"They have addressed many

personal and specific questions and are very careful to get the message across about the safety of the vaccine."

The NHS also announced the use of a cinema as a vaccination centre in Aylesbury, south-east England.

More than 65 pharmacies will be joining the vaccine distribution programme from this week.

"The NHS vaccination programme, the biggest in the health service's history, has got off to a strong start with our hard-working staff delivering more than four million vaccinations," NHS deputy chief pharmaceutical officer Dr Bruce Warner said.

(UK Metro, Birmingham Mail)

Muslim groups deal blow to Macron's anti-extremism charter

Three Muslim groups refused on Wednesday to back an anti-extremism charter pushed by French officials, dealing a blow to a flagship initiative of President Emmanuel Macron's government.

The charter rejects "instrumentalising" Islam for political ends and affirms equality between men and women, while denouncing practices such as female circumcisions, forced marriages or "virginity certificates" for brides. French Council of the

Muslim Faith (CFCM), a body set up almost 20 years ago to enable dialogue between the government and the Muslim community, broadly welcomed the charter and five of its eight federations signed on Sunday.

However, the other three groups said on Wednesday they could not join their colleagues.

"We believe that certain passages and formulations in the text submitted are likely to weaken the bonds of trust between the Muslims of France and the nation," the three

groups said in a statement.

"Furthermore, some statements are prejudicial to the honour of Muslims, with an accusatory and marginalising tone."

Macron said this week that the charter offered "a clarification of how the Muslim community is organised".

It will also provide a framework for a new National Council of Imams that will be responsible for vetting imams practising in the country. (AFP)

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Port Harcourt: 07032757193	Kano: 08068077562
Jos: 08033745735	Kaduna: 08063479316

Costing:

Change of Name - N3,000
Loss of Documents - N9,450
Registration of Trustees - N15,500

CHANGE OF NAME

OKERE: I formerly known as **OKERE KINGSLEY IFEANYI** now wish to be called and addressed as **OKERE STANLEY CHINEDU**. All former documents remain valid. General Public and authorities concern should please take note.

SAMUEL: I formerly known as **SAMUEL RONAS SABO** now wish to be known and addressed as **BAHAUSHE RONAS BARGO**. All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

ANDREW: I formerly known and addressed as **ANDREW BITRUS YAKUNI** now wish to be known and addressed as **ANDREW BITRUS** all former documents remain valid, First Bank of Nig., NIMC and general public should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **HUDA SANI** now wish to be known and addresses as **ZAINAB LAWAL**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

MARY: I formerly known as **MARY AJIJI** on BVN (Access Bank) and **MARRY AJIJI** on UBA Account, now wish to be known as **AJIJI AGYER MARY**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

LAWAN: I formerly known as **LAWAN ISMAIL SARINA** now wish to be called and addressed as **LAWAN ISMAIL**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

BINTA: I, formerly known as **BINTA JIBRIL OKELEWU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BINTA BRIELLA ADE-OLUSILE**. All former documents remain valid. General Public and authorities concern should please take note.

GAJERE: I, formerly known and addressed as **BRENDA GEORGE BUTE** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS BRENDA LEASUKMA GAJERE**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

Saidu: I, formerly known as Danlami Abdullahi, now wish to be known and addressed as Saidu Danladi. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I formerly known as **OBIDEUBE EMEREM JENNIFER**, now wish to be **EZIKE EMEREM JENNIFER**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

ADUGU: I formerly known and addressed as **PRECIOUS HEMBAFAN ADUGU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ADUGU HEMBAFAN**. All former documents remain valid. The constituted authorities and the general public should please take note.

NASIRU: I formerly known as **NASIRU SULEIMAN** now wish to be called and addressed as **NASIRU SULEIMAN YARIMA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MABE: I' formerly known as **MILLICENT MABE AKUBOR**, now wish to be called and addressed as **MILLICENT MABE TUKURA**. All former documents remain valid. General Public and authorities concern should please take note.

MUSA: I, formerly known and addressed as **EDICHA DANLADI** now wish to be known and addressed as **EDICHA MUSA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

ABDULLAHI: I, formerly known as **ABDULLAHI ENESI DAVID**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI ENESI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I formerly known as **AWODELE ASIMIYU AYOMO** now wish to be known as **AWODELE ASHIMIYU ADEKUNLE**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

SANUSI: I formerly known as **SANUSI, YAU** (Account) and **YAU, SANUSI** (BVN), now wish to be known as **YAU, SANUSI** and my date of birth was wrongly captured on my Account as 12th June, 1962 instead of 3rd November, 1963. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

SHUAIBU: I formerly known as **SULAIMAN FULAIRA UMMI** now wish to be called and addressed as **SHUAIBU FULAIRA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I' formerly known as **OGBECHÉ CHRISTOPHER OGOY**, now wish to be called and addressed as **OGBECHÉ CHRISTOPHER**. All former documents remain valid. General Public and authorities concern should please take note.

BELLO: I formerly known and addressed as **SIAKA BLESSING**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **BELLO BLESSING BEST**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

ABBAS: I, formerly known as **ABBAS MUSBAHU MUHAMMED**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABBAS MUHAMMAD**. And that my date of birth is 14/2/1979. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I formerly known as **MARIAM WAKILI** now wish to be known as **MARYAM ISYAKU WAKILI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

SAMUEL: I formerly known as **SAMUEL DANJUMA**, now wish to be known as **DANJUMA DECENT SAMUEL**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

GRACE: I formerly known as **MUSA GRACE** now wish to be called and addressed as **MUSA GRACE DIKKO**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

DAKU: I' Formerly known, called and addressed as **SAMUEL DAVID**, now wish to be known and called as **DAKU ALHASSAN**. All former document to remain valid. General public to take note.

MARY: I formerly known and addressed as **OBOZUWA MARY**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS AGBUDUMHE MARY**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI SA'IDU** now wish to be known and addresses as **ABDULHADI SA'IDU**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

I formerly known as **BABANGIDA LAWAL** now wish to be known as **BABANGIDA LAWAL MASHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

ABUBAKAR: I formerly known as **BARDE HAMMA ALI**, now wish to be known as **ABUBAKAR KABIRU ZALAU**. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

That I was formally being called and address as **BASHIR AHMAD IBRAHIM** of the same address, but now I wish to be called and address as **BASHIR YAKUBU** of the same address. All former document should valid. The authority should concerned

ROSE: I, formerly known as **KOPCHI ROSE** now wish to be known and addressed as **KOPCHI ROSE SHEHU**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

GLORY: I formerly known and addressed as **UDEJI GLORY**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **DAVID GLORY**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known as **LAWAL ABDULSAMAD** now wish to be known as **LAWAL ABDULSAMAD SHUAIBU**. All former documents remained valid. General public to note

I formerly known as **ALIYU LAWAL** now wish to be known as **ALIYU LAWAL ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

USENI: I formerly known as **SAMBO USENI NANJUL**, now wish to be known as **LUNGFA USENI**. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

NASIRU: I formerly known as **NASIRU TANIMU** now wish to be called and addressed as **NASIRU YAHAYA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

BULUS: I, formerly known as **JONATHAN DOMINIC JOCK**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BULUS DOMINIC DADDY**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

OLOWOYO: I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS FAGBAMILA DAMILOLA GRACE** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS OLOWOYO DAMILOLA GRACE**. All former documents remain valid. Access bank, Directorate of continuing education, FCT College of Education Zuba, Abuja (affiliated of the University of Maiduguri) and the general public to take note.

I formerly known as **SULEIMAN BINDAWA HAUWA MAIJDDA** now wish to be known as **HAUWA MAIJDDA MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

USMAN: I formerly known as **KANDE BOMAI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **KANDE USMAN**. All former documents remain valid, general public should take note

AMINA: I formerly known as **MISS AMINA RAMWAKAT MOHAMMED**, now wish to be known as **MRS HOI RANGWAKAT AMINA**. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

BADAMASI: I formerly known as **INUWA KHALIL** now wish to be called and addressed as **BADAMASI INUWA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

OLUCHI: I, formerly known as **DOMINIC MAXWELL OLUCHUKWU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DOMINIC MAXWELL OLUCHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MILLICENT: That I was formerly known and called **UMORU MILLICENT EMIKE**, Henceforth I wish to be known and called **MILLICENT UMORU-OSAKWUA**. All documents with the former and current name remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known as **ADILI SANI BUHARI** now wishes to be known and addressed as **ADILI SANI** ALL former documents remain valid general public to take note

GONI: I formerly known as **BABA GANA MUKTAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BABAGANA GONI MUKTAR**. All former documents remain valid, general public should take note

I formerly known as Abdullahi Umar **06/06/200** now wish to be called and addressed as Abdullahi Umar Kankia **19/01/2000**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public note

MUSTAPHA: I formerly known as **MUSTAPHA ALASAN** now wish to be called and addressed as **MUSTAPHA ALHASSAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

BRIAN: I, formerly known as **OKAFOR JACK OBINNA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **OKAFOR BRIAN OBINNA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

Middiga: I, formerly known as **Middiga Israel**, now wish to be known and addressed as **Middiga Israel Emmanuel**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I formerly known as **AMADU ABDULLAHI** now wishes to be known and addressed as **AHMAD GALADIMA** ALL former documents remain valid general public to take note

KUNDAK: I, formerly known and addressed as **AHMAD MUHAMMAD ABDULMUMINI**, now wish to be called and addressed as **AHMAD ABDULMUMINI KUNDAK**. All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities and the general public should please take note

ADO: I formerly known as **ADO SALE** now wish to be called and addressed as **ADO DANDAUDA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

SALISU: I formerly known as **WAKILI SALEH** now wish to be called and addressed as **SALISU WAKILI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

PETER: I, formerly known as **DESTINY EFFIONG PETER**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DESTINY EDET PETER**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ISAH: I, formerly known as **ISAH ABDULLAHI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ISAH ABDULLAHI UMAR**. And that my date of birth is 2/1/1990. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I formerly called as **RAHAB ANDREW**, now wish to be known and called as **RAHAB AFUWA TIJOS**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

OLALEKAN: I, formerly known and addressed as **OLALEKAN OLUHOGA OGUDE**, now wish to be called and addressed as **OLALEKAN OLUHOGA OLUDE**. All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities and the general public should please take note

MANSUR: I formerly known as **MANSUR AYUBA** now wish to be called and addressed as **MANSUR ABDULLAHI MUHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

KINGSLEY: I formerly known as **KINGSLEY OMEJE ANTHONY** now wish to be called and addressed as **KINGSLEY OMEJE**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

RHODES: I, formerly known as **AROBOYI VERONICA IMOISI** and **AROBOYI VERONICA IMOISI RHODES**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AROBOYI VERONICA RHODES**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ABDULAZIZ: I formerly known as **ABDULAZEEZ MOHAMMED**, now wish to be known as **ABDULAZIZ MOHAMMED YAKUBU**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **LAWAL MUHAMMED** now wish to be known and addressed as **LAUWALI MUHAMMAD** All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

OLUKEMI: I, formerly known and addressed as **OLUKEMI OLUYEMISI OGUDE**, now wish to be called and addressed as **OLUKEMI OLUYEMISI OLALEKAN**. All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities and the general public should please take note

SUNUSI: I formerly known as **SUNUSI NURA** and old date of birth 04-02-1984 now wish to be called and addressed as **SUNUSI NURA YAHAYA** and new date of birth 04-06-1987. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

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

Formally the name was **ABDULLAHI MOH'DS** now want to be call and address as **MOHAMMED ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid. Bank and general Public should take note please.

AGBECHA: I formerly known as **UKEYIMA MARIA SEWUESE**, now wish to be known as **AGBECHA MARIA MARY**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **IBRAHIM HEPHZIBATH GODIYA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM GODIYA HEPHZIBATH** All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public Should take note.

HADASSA: I formerly known as **HADASSA MALEH**, now wish to be known as **SIYONA MALE**. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

MARYAM H. UMAR and old date of birth 12-02-77 wish to have a date of birth as 31-05-77. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **HAMMAMATU WALI MUHAMMAD** now wish to be called and addressed as **AMMAMATU ABDULKADIR KABIRU**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public note

I formerly known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD SIRAJA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD SIRAJA ABDULLAHI**. All my former document to remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known as **KHADIJAT TOLANI BELLO**, now wish to be known as **TOLANI KHADIJAT ADEYEMO** All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **ROSEMARY ANIEKAN AKPAN**, now wish to be known as **ROSE ANIEKAN AKPAN**. All former documents remain valid. FCT WATER board, Access Bank, First Bank and the general public please take note.

CHISOM: I formerly known as **CHISOM JOY-QUEENET AKUNNA**, now wish to be known as **CHISOM JOYQUEENET NNAJI**. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

UMMA: I formerly known as **UMMA TUKUR** now wish to be called and addressed as **UMMA MAIMUNA ABDULSALAM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **IBRAHIM SHEHU** now wish to be called and addressed as **IBRAHIM YAHAYA SHEHU**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public note

I formerly known as **BALOGUN SULAIMON AMOO** now wish to be known and addressed as **BALOGUN MICHEAL**. All former documents remain valid. Access/Daimond, GTBank and the general public please take note.

Lucy: I, formerly known as Linda James Allu, now wish to be known and addressed as **Lucy Monday Rissi**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I am bearing the name of **FALILA AMINU** now wish to be called **FALILA MUHAMMAD** all Documents remains valid general public should take note.

LITTA: I formerly known as **MISS SHINDAI, IMATAN LITTA**, now wish to be known as **MRS. MANN, IMATAN LITTA**. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

Sworn Affidavit, I formerly known as **UMMUKHALTUM ABDULHAMID** now wish to be called and addressed as **UMMUKHALTUM KABAKE ABDULHAMID**. MISTAKENLY USED 12/07/1992 AS D.O.B & THE CORRECT D.O.B IS 16/10/1997. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **BINTA MUSA BELLO** now wish to be called and addressed as **FATIMA GALI**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public note

BABAALI: I formerly known as **USMAN ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN ABUBAKAR BABAALI**. All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

AMINA: I formerly known and addressed as **AMINA HASSAN GELE** now wish to be known and addressed as **AMINA HASSAN** all former documents remain valid, First Bank of Nig., NIMC and general public should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **HAMZA ABUBAKAR SIDDIQ** now wish to be known and addresses as **HAMZA SADIO ABUBAKAR**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

NANPON: I formerly known as **GAMBO NANPON**, now wish to be known as **GAMBO PETER NANPON**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

AMOS: I formerly known as **AMOS JOEL** now wish to be called and addressed as **AMOS JOEL INUSA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **Bishir Usman** now wish to be known and addressed as **Bishir Usman Sulaiman**. All former documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and the general public should please take note.

EMMANUEL: I, formerly known and addressed as **NWABANE OJONUDU** as it appeared on my bank account and BVN with Union Bank Plc. now wish to be known and addressed as **EMMANUEL OJONUDU**. All former documents remain valid. Union Bank Plc and the general public to take note.

NAFISA: I formerly known and addressed as **NAFISA IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **NAFISA IBRAHIM YAU** all former documents remain valid, Union Bank of Nig., NIMC and general public should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **1. IBRAHIM SULE JARIRI 2. IBRAHIM SULE SULE** now wish to be known and addresses as **IBRAHIM SULE**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

JULIANA: I formerly known as **DANTONG JULIANA DALYOP**, now wish to be known as **DAZAM JULIANA GYANG**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD GARBA OLD NEW DATE OF BIRTH 26/07/1978** now wish to be called and addressed as **MUHAMMAD GARBA IDRIS NEW DATE OF BIRTH 20/01/1978**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **SAHAL SANI** now wish to be called and addressed as **SAHAL SANI AHMAD**. CHANGE DATE OF BIRTH 15/12/1994. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public note

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Send your payment mandate to our email addresses

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Sort Code: 221081552

Bank: First Bank Plc
Account No: 2002911690
Sort Code: 011084060

Bank: UBA Plc
Account No: 1007117397
Sort Code: 033080013

Bank: GTBank Plc
Account No: 0024570856
Sort Code: 058083231

Requirement for Change of Name
Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

DAILY TRUST Classifieds made easy

I formerly known as ANI GODWIN now wish to be called and addressed as GODWIN ANI. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public note

MUSTAPHA: I, formerly known as MUSTAPHA UMAR, now wish to be known and called MUSTAPHA ALIYU. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

ALAMUTU: I, formerly known and addressed as OKANLANWON KHAIRAT ADERONKE . Now wish to be known and addressed as ALAMUTU RISIKAT ADERONKE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OGALE: I, formerly known and addressed as IMMONEGAMEH CHARITY JOHN . Now wish to be known and addressed as OGALE CHARITY. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

BUBA : I formerly known as BUBA ADAMU now wish to be known as BUBA ADAMU KILTHO. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

MAIDU I formerly known and addressed as MAIDUGU KOYOWA ALHAJI now wish to be known and addressed as MAIDU ALHAJKWAYA All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

I formerly known as TAHIR ABUBAKAR now wish to be called and addressed as TAHIR MUHAMMAD ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public note

LAWAL: I formally known as LAWAL OJO JOSEPH , now wish to be known and addressed as LAWAL JOSEPH .My date of birth is 14/5/1989. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to please take note.

DORCAS: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss SERIFAT OLUFUNKE BABALOLA . Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs DORCAS OLUFUNKE ALAYODE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ADELEKE: I, formerly known and addressed as OKORO ESEOGHENE FAITH . Now wish to be known and addressed as ADELEKE ESEOGHENE FAITH. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

MAIMUNA : I formerly known as MAIMUNA MUHAMMED HASSAN now wish to be known as MAIMUNA ABDULLAHI. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

IBRAHIM I formerly known and addressed as IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR MAI SIRDI now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM MOHAMMED MAI SIRDI All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

I formerly known as IDRIS MOHAMMED now wish to be called and addressed as IDRIS MUHAMMAD SULAIMAN. DOB 20/5/1968 All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public note

Confirmation of date of birth. MURITALA Abdullahi /wrong date 03-01-1980 corrected date 01-01-1990.The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

OGUNBIYI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ADEOSUN OPEYEMI FEYISAYO . Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs OGUNBIYI OPEYEMI FEYISAYO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

CHUDEY: I, formerly known and addressed as JONAH VICTORIA CHIMECHE . Now wish to be known and addressed as CHUDEY VICTORIA CHIMECHE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ABUBAKARI formally addressed as ABUBAKAR KARMA LAWAL and D.O.B: 11/02/1972 now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR LAWAL KOFAR SAURI with correct D.O.B: 01/01/1975. All previous documents remain valid and concerned authorities to please take note.

MUSA I formerly known and addressed as YAYAHA MUSA now wish to be known and addressed as YAHAYA MUSA All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

FATI, I formerly known as FATIMA SULEIMAN ABBA now wish to be called and addressed as FATI SULE ABBA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

GANDU: I formerly known as GANDU JOSHUA now wish to be called as GANDU AUDU all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

OLAJIDE: I, formerly known and addressed as ELEGBEDE AREMU TAJUDEEN . Now wish to be known and addressed as OLAJIDE ANDREW AREMU. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

CHANGE OF NAME/CORRECTION OF DATE OF BIRTH RASHIDI: I, formerly known and addressed as AFOLABI YETUNDE ABIKE . Now wish to be known and addressed as RASHIDI YETUNDE ABIKE. That I was born on 16th day of August, 1980 not 16th day of August, 1981. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ALIYU I formerly known and addressed as AHAMAD ALIYU MUSA now wish to be called and addressed as ALIYU MUSA. All former document remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note

AUDU: I formally known as MOHAMMED AUDU, now wish to be known and addressed as MOHAMMED ZIWANE AUDU All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

GARBA, I formerly known as MUHAMMAD YAKUBU now wish to be called and addressed as GARBA YARO WITH DATE OF BIRTH OF 03/07/1965 TO 24/07/1965. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

CONFIRMATION OF NAME The name JAFAR YUSUF DANJUMA, JAAFARU YUSUF DANJUMA and YUSUF JAAFAR DANJUMA referred to one and same person, now wish to be known and called JAAFAR YUSUF DANJUMA. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

IFAGBEMI: I, formerly known and addressed as AKEEM IFAGBEMI SURAJ OLANREWAJU . Now wish to be known and addressed as IFAGBEMI AKEEM SURAJUDEEN. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ABASS: I, formerly known and addressed as ABASS MOHAMMED SA'AD A, ABASS MOHAMMED SA'AD, ABASS BOLAJI SA'AD, ABASS SAHAD, ABASS MOHAMMED SA'AD ABOLAJI. Now wish to be known and addressed as ABASS SA'AD ABOLAJI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

Goni: I formerly known as GONI TELA BUKAR. now wish to be known and addressed as HALILU ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. With Old DOB 01/01/1980 TO New DOB 02/03/1989, general public should please take note.

KARIYA I formerly known and addressed as TABITA M KARIYA now wish to be known and addressed as TABITA MALLUM KARIYA All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ALI, I formerly known as ALI D MOHAMMED now wish to be called and addressed as ALI DARI MOHAMMED. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

SHAIBU: I, formerly known as ALILU KASIMI, now wish to be known and called SHAIBU SULEIMAN. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

CONFIRMATION OF NAME AND CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER That I ATANSUYI EBENEZER OLUSEGUN I am the same person bearing ATANSUYI OLUSEGUN EBENEZER. That all my documents and certificate bearing ATANSUYI EBENEZER OLUSEGUN and ATANSUYI OLUSEGUN EBENEZER remain mine and still valid. That the number I am using to receive alert on my LEADWAY PFA account have not. That now I want to change the number to 08037974557. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OYELOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as ADEYANJU ADEBIMPE BIDEEMI . Now wish to be known and addressed as OYELOLA MARIA ADEBIMPE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ALEX: I formerly known as OKEKE BLESSING now wish to be known and addressed as ALEX BLESSING NGOZI. All former documents remain valid General Public Should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as IBRAHIM YUSUF now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM YUSUF BABADAKU. All former documents remain valid . General Public Should please take note.

BADMOS, I formerly known as BADMOS NAJEEEMDEEN IYOLA now wish to be called and addressed as BADMOS NAJEEEMDEEN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I, formerly known as IBRAHIM KALID LAWAN, now wish to be known and called IBRAHIM ISAH LAWAN. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

OHANAGA: I, formerly known and addressed as DONATUS DEBORAH NKECHINYERE . Now wish to be known and addressed as OHANAGA JUDITH NKECHINYERE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

AFOLABI: I, formerly known and addressed as WAHEED ABIODUN AFOLABI . Now wish to be known and addressed as AFOLABI WAHEED ABIODUN. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

RAHAP: I formerly known as RAMAB TIZHE now wish to be known and addressed as RAHAP TIZHE. All former documents remain valid . UBA PLC And General Public Should please take note.

ALI I formerly known and addressed as LAWAN LAWAN now wish to be known and addressed as LAWAN ALI All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

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

FIDDAUSI: I, formerly known as FIDDAUSI LAWAN, now wish to be known and called FIDDAUSI LAWAN MOHD. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

MABADEJE: I, formerly known and addressed as ADEOYE SIDIKAT ADEWUNMI . Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs MABADEJE SIDIKAT ADEWUNMI (NEE ADEBOYE). All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OKON: I, formerly known and addressed as ATING INIOBONG OKON . Now wish to be known and addressed as OKON INIOBONG BASSEY. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ELIAS: I formerly known as ELIAS KAIGAMA now wish to be known and addressed as ELIAS MAFIRA KAIGAMA. All former documents remain valid . ZENITH BANK PLC And General Public Should please take note.

ABDULLAHI I formerly known and addressed as IBRAHIM ABDULLAHI MOHAMMED now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM ABDULLAHI All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

HAFSATU, I formerly known as HAFSAT YAHAYA now wish to be called and addressed as HAFSATU BELLO YOLA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MOSES: I, formerly known as MOSES ADEDIJI, now wish to be known and called MOSES BOLA ADEDIJI. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

CORRECTION OF DATE OF BIRTH IN MY DRIVER'S LICENCE That I IRETE OZIEGBE GABRIEL was born on 1st day of March, 1965 not 12th day of January, 1969. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ADDITION OF NAME : I formerly known and addressed as Joseph Awoyemi want to add " ABIODUN " to my name. Now wish to be known and addressed as Abiodun Joseph Awoyemi. All former documents remain valid, General public kindly take note.

UBAIDA I formally known as UBAIDA MUSA now wish to be known and addressed as UBAIDA MOHAMMED all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

YAKUBU: I, formerly known as TALATU AUDU MKATAR now wish to be known and called ZULAIHATTU YAKUBU with 01/01/1965 as D.O.B. Authorities concerned and public to note.

AISHA, I formerly known as AISHA MUHAMMAD now wish to be called and addressed as AISHA MUHAMMAD YUSHA'U. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ADAMU: I, formerly known as ALFA IBRAHIM, now wish to be known and called ADAMU ALFA IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

AFAMEFUNAMARY: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ANAJAMA MARY CHIMELUE. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs AFAMEFUNAMARY CHIMELUE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

LAWAL-SOLARIN: I, formerly known and addressed as OLAYIWOLA KEHINDE LOLA . Now wish to be known and addressed as LAWAL-SOLARIN KEHINDE MOPELOLA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

GRACE I formally known as GRACE GEORGE SABA now wish DOB 05-12-1988 to be known and addressed as GRACE GOD'S LOVE JOSHUA (MRS) all former documents remain valid DOB 05-12-1990 general public should please take note.

HABIBA: I, formerly known as UMMI MUSA now wish to be known and called HABIBA ISA, with 01/01/1996 as D.O.B. All former documents remained valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

TESSY, I formerly known as TESSY AGBATOR now wish to be called and addressed as TESSY OGBEFUAMEN AGBATOR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

SALIM: I formerly known as SALIM SA'ADU now wish to be known as SALIM SA'IDU ALHAJI all former documents remains valid authorities concern and general public to take note.

Mrs ADAMMA: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ADAMMA ANNABEL ODISHIKA . Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs ADAMMA ANNABEL UGBOMAH. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

YUSUF: I, formerly known and addressed as LASISI TAOFEK ADEDEJI . Now wish to be known and addressed as YUSUF TAOFEK ADEDEJI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

EZE: I formerly known as TOBIAS EMEKA OMEKE now wish to be known and addressed as EZE EMEKA TOBIT All former document remain valid General public and any authority concern should take note.

TANKO I formerly known as YAHAYA TANKO, now wish to be known and addressed as YAHAYA TANKO NJUWA All former documents remain valid. general public should please take note

SHEHU, I formerly known as USMAN SANI now wish to be called and addressed as SHEHU SANI YA'U. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

YUSUF: I formerly known as ABDULKAREEM, MARIAM KIKELOMO, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS , YUSUF MARIAM KIKELOMO. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

OGUNBIYI: I, formerly known and addressed as SALISU IDAYAT OLABOSIPO . Now wish to be known and addressed as OGUNBIYI IDAYAT OLABOSIPO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ADEDOJA: I, formerly known and addressed as AKINHANMI OLUWANISHOLA OLOLADE . Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEDOJA OLUWANISHOLA OLOLADE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

HABIBA I. formerly known as HABIBA ABDULHAMID now wish to be known and addressed as HABIBA ISA. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ZAKKA I formerly known as ZAKA GONI , now wish to be known and addressed as ZAKKA GONI. All former documents remain valid. general public should please take note

YAHANASA: I, formerly known as YAHANASA ADAMU, now wish to be known and addressed as YAHANASA MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

BUKOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as BUKOLA OLUWAFUNMITO FASIPE . Now wish to be known and addressed as BUKOLA OLUWAFUNMITO OBOREKAHWO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

IBRAHIM: I, formerly known and addressed as AKARIGIDI AISHAT ADETOLA . Now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM AISHAT ADETOLA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

BAJULAIYE: I, formerly known and addressed as RAHEEM SAIDAT AYOMIDE . Now wish to be known and addressed as BAJULAIYE SAIDAT AYOMIDE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

SULEIMAN I formally known as IBRAHIM MUHAMMAD, now wish to be known and addressed as MUNZURU MUHAMMED SULEIMAN. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

BUKAR I formerly known as ADAM MUHAMMAD GARBA, now wish to be known and addressed as BUKAR MODU. All former documents remain valid. general public should please take note

HAJARA: I formerly known as SAMAILA ONYECHE ONAH now wish to be called as HAJARA ISMAIL all former documents remain valid union bank general public all authority concern should please take note

AKINOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as BISOLA BABALOLA . Now wish to be known and addressed as AKINOLA AMUDALAT DASOLA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

AMOBI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss OKAFOR AMALACHI NUELA . Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs AMOBI AMARACHI NUELLA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ABIODUN: I, formerly known and addressed as IDRIS ABIODUN MUSA . Now wish to be known and addressed as ABIODUN ADESHINA LAWAL. That I was born on 8th day of January, 1998 not 19th day of December, 1998. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

BUKAR: I formally known as BABA GANA MOHAMMED, now wish to be known and addressed as BABA GANA BUKAR. All former documents remain valid. With DOB 01/01/1998, General public should please take note.

SULAIMAN. I formerly known as SULEMAN HALIYU, now wish to be known and addressed as SULAIMAN ALIYU. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

DATE OF BIRTH I, HUSSAINI MUHAMMAD wish to inform the general public, Drivers Licence and all relevant authorities concerned that my date of birth is 31-12-1992 and NOT 01-01-1992 as it was wrongly captured on my National Identity Management Commission.

YEKINI: I, formerly known and addressed as MUEEN SANNI ADISA . Now wish to be known and addressed as YEKINI SANNI ADISA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OLAYIWOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as OLAYIWOLA RAIMOH OLAWUMI . Now wish to be known and addressed as OLAYIWOLA RAIMO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

OGUNLEYE: I, formerly known and addressed as GANIYU USMAN TAIWO . Now wish to be known and addressed as OGUNLEYE TAIWO USMAN. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

GRACE. I formerly known as GRACE AHUPA JAMES. now wish to be known and addressed as GRACE JEGEDE. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

ALI: I formally known as BULAMA ALHAJI ALI, now wish to be known and addressed as ALHAJI ALI BULAMA, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

JONATHAN: I, formerly known as JONATHAN ILIYA BITRUS, date of birth: 23-11-1992, now wish to be known and called JONATHAN ILIYA, new date of birth: 23-11-1993. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

ADEDEJI: I, formerly known and addressed as ADEDEJI KIKELOMO SALIMON . Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEDEJI KIKELOMO OLOLADE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

PHILIP: I, formerly known and addressed as PHILIP COMFORT MOROMOKO . Now wish to be known and addressed as PHILIP COMFORT OLWAKEMI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ODONYE I, Formerly known as ODONYE MUSA GABRIEL now wish to be known and addressed as ODONYE GABRIEL MUSA. 1st January, 1979. All former document remain valid, public to take note

GARKUWA I formerly known and addressed as HABU LAWAN now wish to be known and addressed as HABU LAWAN GARKUWA All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

HARUNA I, formerly known as HARUNA HARUNA HASSAN now wish to be known and addressed as HARUNA HARUNA. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

MAGAJI: I formerly known as DAUDA UMAR FAROUK now wish to be called as DAUUD UMAR MAGAJI all former documents remain valid wrongly date of birth 22/02/1992 correct date of birth 22/02/1995 general public all authority concern should please take note

ADEYEMI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss AKINTAN OLABISI ABOSEDE . Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs ADEYEMI OLABISI ABOSEDE. All former documents remain valid. Ogun State Hospital Management Board and General public please take note.

OKUNLOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ALIYU MUJIDAT BOLAJI . Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs OKUNLOLA MUJIDAT BOLAJI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

I WAS FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED MOHAMMED AWIL & DOB 07/04/1991 NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESS SALIFU MUHAMMED AS & DOB 07/04/1992 GENERAL PUBLIC TO TAKE NOTE

ADAMU I formerly known and addressed as IBRAHIM ADAMU now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM IBRAHIM ADAMU All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ABUBAKAR : I formerly known and addressed as GARBA IBRAHIM Now I wish to be known and address as ABUBAKAR IBRAHIM all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

CHINYERE: I, formerly known as CHINYERE EKWONNE, now wish to be known and addressed as CHINYERE EKWONNE IKECHUKWU. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

EGUNJOBI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss HUSSEIN RASHEEDAT MORENIKE . Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs EGUNJOBI MORENIKE ROSELINE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

BAMIGBOWU: I, formerly known and addressed as BAMIGBOWU KEHINDE AYOBAMI . Now wish to be known and addressed as BAMIGBOWU KEHINDE JULIUS. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME. I formerly known as MODU MUHAMMAD DAN MALLAM SUNUSI. now wish to be known and addressed as MODU MUHAMMAD SUNUSI. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

LIMAN I formerly known and addressed as ABUBAKAR ZUBAIRU now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR ZUBAIRU LIMAN All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ADAMU: I, formerly known as ADAMU MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as ADAMU JUNGUDO MOHAMMED. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

BAPPAYO: I, formerly known as **BAPPAH UMARU JUNGUDO** now wish to be known and addressed as **BAPPAYO JUNGUDO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ASHIRU I formerly known as **Ashiru imam mansir** now wish to be called and addressed as **Ashiru mansir**. All former document remain. Authority concern and the general public to take note.

CHIEMENEM - I, formerly known as **IMOKA VICTORIA CHINWENDU**. Now wish to be known as **CHIEMENEM VICTORIA CHINWENDU**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

CONFIRMATION OF NAME - I, ELSIE ANO-JOSEPH, wish to confirm that the name **ELSTIE JOSEPH** and **ELSTIE ANO-JOSEPH**. Belongs to one and the same person **ELSTIE ANO-JOSEPH**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

OLIKAGU - I, formerly known as **UMENWANNE CHIALUKA**. That I now wish to be known as **OLIKAGU MICHAEL CHIALUKA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ELIJAH - I, formerly known as **NWANKWERE CHINAZA RANSOME**. That I now wish to be known as **ELIJAH CHINAZA ABRAHAM**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

FATIMA: I Formerly known as **FATIMA BABAGANA AHMAD**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA BABAGANA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

SANI I formerly known as **SANI ABDULLAH** now wish to be called and addressed as **SANI ABDU, DOB 01_01_1991 NEW DOB 01_01_1998**. All former documents remain valid. General Public should please take note.

STANLEY - I, formerly known as **STANLEY INEMEKA ELEWA**. Now wish to be known as **STANLEY NNAEMEKA EKWE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME - I, YAHAYA ABDUL, wish to correct that my name was wrongly written on my BVN as **YAHAYA ABDUL AZEEZ** instead of **YAHAYA ABDUL**. That my correct name is **YAHAYA ABDUL**. All documents bearing the above name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, MATILDA IBURA JOSEPH SORIMO, That some of my documents, my name appears as **FRIDAY IBURA** while on other of my documents, my name appears as **MICAH MATILDA FRIDAY IBURA** and **MATILDA IBURA JOSEPH SORIMO**. That I now wish to be addressed as **MATILDA IBURA JOSEPH SORIMO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

RUTH - I, formerly known as **MISS. KELECHI RUTH NWAFOR**. That I now wish to be known as **MRS. RUTH NATHAN OHWOFASA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

AUWAL: I Formerly known as **FN Auwal LN Babayo** Now wish to be known and addressed as **FN Muhammad MN Auwal LN Babayo** All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

ADAMU: I formerly known as **ADAMU BULAMA MOHAMMED** now wish to be known as **ADAMU BULAMA**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note

ETIM - I, ETIM DEBORAH NKOYO, hereby confirm that **ETIM DEBORAH NKOYO** and **DEBORAH EDET** refers to one and the same person. All documents bearing these my names remain valid. The general public should please take note.

EBIPADO: That I was formerly known as PRINCE OGOH. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **EBIPADO WOGENGIEMI OGOH**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note

I, WAPABIBA JOHN, That on my BVN detail, my name was wrongly arranged as **WAPABIBA BASOENE JOHN** instead of **WAPABIBA JOHN**. That I wish to remove **BASOENE** from my name that my full and correct name is **WAPABIBA JOHN**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

LOVELYN - I, formerly known as **LOVELYN AMADI**. That I now wish to be known as **LOVELYN UGBEDE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

USMAN: I Formerly known as **USMAN MUHAMMAD** Now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN MUHAMMAD HASSAN** All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

HAUWA: I formerly known as **BINTU LALAI** now wish to be known as **HAUWA DAVID**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

ETIM - I, ETIM GAD SUNDAY, hereby confirm that **ETIM GAD SUNDAY** and **ETIM GAD EDET** refers to one and the same person. All documents bearing these my names remain valid. The general public should please take note.

NDUBUISI: That I was formerly known as MISS. IHEWEREME IJEOMA PEACE. Now wish to be known called and addressed **MRS. NDUBUISI IJEOMA PEACE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

MAXWELL - I, formerly known as **ONYIKE MARY NGOZI**. That I now wish to be known as **MAXWELL MARY NGOZI**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

BARISUKA - I, formerly known as **IGIA GOODSPIRIT IGIA**. That I now wish to be known as **BARISUKA IGIA GOODSPIRIT**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

FAIZA: I Formerly known as **Faiza Sabo Faya** Now wish to be known and addressed as **Faiza Sabo** All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

MRS. BLESSING - I, formerly known as **MISS. BLESSING WARIGBANI TOBY** and **MISS. BLESSING ANDREW TOBY**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. BLESSING CHRISTOPHER ESSIEN**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ETIM - I, ETIM ANIEKAN ZEBULUN hereby confirm that **ETIM ANIEKAN ZEBULUN** and **ZEBULUN EDET** refers to one and the same person. All documents bearing these my names remain valid. The general public should please take note.

SIMEON: That I was formerly known as MISS. PEACE ADIOHWU and MINA, MABEL THANKGOD. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **MRS. MABEL SIMEON**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ADEKEMI - I, formerly known as **MISS. ADEKEMI JUSTINA ODUSOLA**. That I now wish to be known as **MRS. ADEKEMI ODUSOLA TONGBE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ASUQUO - I was formerly known as **ASUQUO GOODNESS EDET**. That I now wish to be known as **ASUQUO INIMFOM GOODNESS**. All document bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ZANNA. I formerly known as **DUNOMA NGOMA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ZANNA LAWAN BABA SHUWA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

MRS. UGOCHUKWU - I, formerly known as **MISS. EGUAOJE QUEENETH OMOHIZE** and **NZEWAN QUEENETH OMOHIZE**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. UGOCHUKWU QUEENETH OMOHIZE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known, called and addressed as **MISS OMA OWALI ILEM**, now wish to be called and addressed as **MRS. OMA INYANG EDADI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

SYER: That I was formerly known as MISS. OBIRA-EMI SANIPE TEKE. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **MRS. OBIRA-EMI OGBEBA SYER**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

THELMA - I, formerly known as **THELMA OSUAMKPE**. That I now wish to be known as **THELMA OSUAMKPE-OTA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **EBHOTE AKHERE AUGUSTINE** now wish to be known and addressed as **PHILIP KELVIN**. All former documents remain valid. Banks and general public take note.

AUCTION! AUCTION! AUCTION!!!

This is to inform the general public that the Nigerian Navy has approved AUCTION of UNSERVICEABLE VEHICLES and OBSOLETE STORES ITEMS by public Auction Sales.

Venue: Abuja, Yenagoa, Port Harcourt Area.

Date: 28/01/2021 to 08/02/2021.
Time: 10am prompt.

Signed: Auctioneer
Samurira Ventures.
08034106546.

UGOCHUKWU - I, formerly known as **MISS. NGOZI JOY ONWUCHEKWA**. That I now wish to be known as **MRS. UGOCHUKWU NGOZI JOY**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note

PETER: That I was formerly known as JAMES ESTHER CHOICE. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **JAMES ESTHER PETER**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

AWWABINA FOUNDATION

The General Public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for Registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020.

The Board of Trustees members

1. ADAMU ALI
2. DANMALAM KABIRU AHMAD
3. SA'ID ALIYU
4. GARBA AHMAD KHALEEL
5. UMAR ABDULLAH ILIYASU

Aims and Objectives

1. TO HELP MEN, WOMEN YOUTH AND CHILDREN IN LIFTING THEMSELVES OUT OF HUNGER AND EXTREME POVERTY
2. TO FOSTER POVERTY ERADICATION NOT JUST BY PROVIDING THE VULNERABLE AND LESS PRIVILEGED MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WITH THEIR BASIC NEEDS, BUT ALSO TO EMPOWER THEM WITH REQUISITE SKILLS FOR SUSTAINABLE MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD.

ANY OBJECTION TO THIS registration SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE REGISTRAR GENERAL CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION AT 420 TIGRIS CRESCENT, OFF Aguiyi -IRONSI ST.PMB 198 MAITAMA, ABUJA WITHIN 28 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS PUBLICATION.

GIANEN - I, formerly known as **GIANEN DIBEBARI**. That I now wish to be known as **GIANEN TEDDY**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, BLESSING ONYEKACHI OGGONNAYA OKEREKE. That some of my documents, my name appears as **UCHE BLESSING ONYEKACHI** while on other of my documents, my name appears as **BLESSING ONYEKACHI OGGONNAYA OKEREKE**. That I now wish to be addressed as **BLESSING ONYEKACHI OGGONNAYA OKEREKE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Plot document of No. 360 situated in House no. 42, plot 360, 2nd avenue, kubwa, abuja on 1st January, 2020 at Abuja. belonging to Alh. M. Abdul Audu Mohammed. House no. 42, plot 360, 2nd avenue, kubwa, abuja. All effort to trace the said missing document proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest Police Station. General public should please take note.

CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENT AND PSYCHIATRIC ASSISTANCE

The general public is hereby notified that the above named association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS ARE:

1. IBRAHIM GARBAMUSA - CHAIRMAN
2. USMAN ABDUSSALAM ABUBAKAR - SECRETARY
3. IBRAHIM NUHU IBRAHIM
4. UMAR HALILU HUSSAIN
5. NAJIYULLAHI ABDULAKADIR
6. YUSUF ABDUSSALAM LAWAN
7. MUBARAK MUHAMMAD ALIYU
8. ABDULAZIZ AHMAD ALIYU
9. NASIRU SULEMAN ABDULLAHI

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.

To promote mental health awareness and enlightenment among people.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the registrar general corporate affairs commission at 420 Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi -Ironsi St.pmb 198 Maitama, Abuja within 28 days from the date of this Publication.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Plot document of No. 1955 situated in Bwari, FCT, Abuja with file No. KN 20357, plot size is 520.13 square meters. Belonging to Aminu Aliyu All effort to trace the said missing document proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest Police Station. General public should please take note.

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA.

Whereas the person/persons whose name is set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column. And whereas the person(s) whose name and address is set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship of the said deceased and has applied to above named court for the grant letters of administration of the personal property. Notice is hereby given that the said letters of administration be granted to such person(s) unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" the grant thereof is filed in the probate registry of the above named court within twenty one (21) days from the date of publication.

DECEASED NAME AND ADDRESS	APPLICANTS FOR GRANT
ADEOSUN ISREAL WHO DIED ON THE 4TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2020 WHO WAS WORKING UNDER THE CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA.	ADEOSUN OLANREWaju ALABT AND ADEOSUN AMOS SANJO OF ANGWAN HAKIMI OROZO, BESIDE LIVING FAITH CHURCH, ABUJA. SON AND SON.

DATED AT ABUJA THIS 21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2021
SIGNED:
MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA ADAMU
CHIEF REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA.

Whereas the person/persons whose name is set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column. And whereas the person(s) whose name and address is set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship of the said deceased and has applied to above named court for the grant letters of administration of the personal property. Notice is hereby given that the said letters of administration be granted to such person(s) unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" the grant thereof is filed in the probate registry of the above named court within twenty one (21) days from the date of publication.

DECEASED NAME AND ADDRESS	APPLICANTS FOR GRANT
EBUKIBA EDEM EKPO WHO DIED ON THE 5TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2020 AND WAS WORKING UNDER THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE (RTD).	MFONOBONG EKPO AND UBONG EKPO OF 3, MAINA MAAJI LAWAL CLOSE ZONE D, APO FCT ABUJA. DAUGHTER AND DAUGHTER.

DATED AT ABUJA THIS 21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2021
SIGNED:
MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA ADAMU
CHIEF REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA.

Whereas the person/persons whose name is set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column. And whereas the person(s) whose name and address is set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship of the said deceased and has applied to above named court for the grant letters of administration of the personal property. Notice is hereby given that the said letters of administration be granted to such person(s) unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" the grant thereof is filed in the probate registry of the above named court within twenty one (21) days from the date of publication.

DECEASED NAME AND ADDRESS	APPLICANTS FOR GRANT
ACHUGBU PATRICIA NKECHI WHO DIED ON THE 13TH DAY OF MARCH, 2020 WHO WAS WORKING UNDER THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY, GWAGWALADA.	CHISOM ESTHER ACHUGBU AND IFFY KEAYS OF HOUSE 24 CANAAN ESTATE LIFE CAMP, ABUJA. DAUGHTER AND DAUGHTER.

DATED AT ABUJA THIS 21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2021
SIGNED:
MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA ADAMU
CHIEF REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA.

Whereas the person/persons whose name is set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column. And whereas the person(s) whose name and address is set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship of the said deceased and has applied to above named court for the grant letters of administration of the personal property. Notice is hereby given that the said letters of administration be granted to such person(s) unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" the grant thereof is filed in the probate registry of the above named court within twenty one (21) days from the date of publication.

DECEASED NAME AND ADDRESS	APPLICANTS FOR GRANT
AHMED TIJJANI HARUNA WHO DIED ON THE 24TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2020 AND WAS WORKING UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR - GENERAL FOR THE FEDERATION.	AHMED HARUNA KHADIJA AND HARUNA TIJJANI AHMED NAFISA (A.K.A) HARUNA NAFISA AHMED OF PLOT 101 NEW EXTENSION, LUGBE ABUJA. WIDOW AND DAUGHTER.

DATED AT ABUJA THIS 21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2021
SIGNED:
MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA ADAMU
CHIEF REGISTRAR

Banditry: Some emirs sabotaging our peace deal -Matawalle

● I never faulted peace process -Emir of Anka

From Shehu Umar, Gusau

Governor Bello Muhammad Matawalle of Zamfara State on Thursday fired back at Zamfara emirs asking them to come out clean on peace deal initiated by his administration or bear the consequence of the deal's failure or otherwise.

Matawalle who was speaking during a stakeholders meeting involving the emirs and security chiefs

on peacebuilding in the state accused the emirs of sabotaging his effort to restore peace to the state asking them to clearly support to the peace process or otherwise.

"The Emir of Anka and the chairman of the State Council of Chiefs, Alhaji Attahiru Muhammad Ahmad Anka had faulted our peace dialogue with the armed men saying that any peace dialogue with armed criminals won't work forgetting that he the emir was

party to the decision to engage the armed bandits into the peace deal," he said.

Meanwhile, the Emir of Anka and Chairman of the State Council of Chiefs, Alhaji Attahiru Muhammad Ahmad Anka has denied going against the peace deal initiated by Governor Bello Matawalle.

Responding to the allegations level against him by Governor Matawalle that he faulted the state's peace deal with armed bandits, the

emir said he was misquoted by the journalists adding that he never faulted the peace mission.

"I am a member of the state's peace committee and I can't say such a thing. Therefore, we should go back to the very thing I said," he stated.

The governor also challenged the state ulamas to emulate the Kaduna-based cleric, Sheik Ahmad Mahmud Gumi by going to the bandits' enclaves in the state and

preach to them to repent.

He said Sheik Gumi called and told him that he would want extend the same mission to Zamfara State, being an indigene of the state and for peace to reign.

"There was a time I called the Gusau-based cleric, Sheik Umar Kanoma at night to interact with some repentant bandits and he did and they agreed to lay down their arms and they are living different lives now," he added.

Forest reserves: Fulanis free to live in Ondo -Monarchs

● Protesters back Akeredolu

The Ondo State Council of Obas has said that the Fulanis, like any other ethnic group in the country, are free to live and conduct their legitimate businesses anywhere in Ondo State.

This was contained in a communique at the end of meeting of the obas in Akure, the state capital, on Thursday.

They however urged President Muhammadu Buhari to caution his aides

who comment on the issue of security of the country.

The traditional rulers who reacted over the comments made by some aides of the President on the order of Governor Rotimi Akeredolu, ejecting the herdsmen from all the forest reserves in the state, said the order was not to chase out the Fulani ethnic group in the state but to save the state from the activities of the bandits and criminals.

The communique was read by a former chairman of the council and Olukare of Ikareland, Oba Akadiri Momoh.

"The Fulanis, just like any other ethnic group in the country, are free to live and conduct their legitimate businesses anywhere in Ondo State," they said.

The traditional rulers, who declared support for Governor Akeredolu's directive

on herdsmen to vacate government reserves within seven days, said the herdsmen must respect the private property rights of the people.

"It is to be noted that even the indigenes of Ondo State do not have a right to use the forest reserves without due authorisation," they said.

Meanwhile, members of the Nigeria Forest Services known as Forest guards, drivers, farmers, traders and

some other unions stormed the streets on Thursday in Akure protesting in support of Governor Akeredolu order to herdsmen to vacate forest reserves in the state within seven days.

The protesters demonstrated their anger over incessant abduction of their members by herdsmen displaying placards with various inscriptions and asked the governor not to back down on his directive.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Plot document of No. 361 situated in House no. 44, 2nd avenue, kubwa, Abuja on 1st January, 2020 at Abuja. belonging to Umaru Mohammed. House no. 44, 2nd avenue, kubwa, Abuja. All effort to trace the said missing document proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest Police Station. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **AISHA MUHAMMAD** Now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHA BALA MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. Access bank and general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MANIRU ARZIKA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **JIBRIL ABUBAKAR SADIQ**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MOHAMMED ABDULLAHI BUNZA WITH D.O.B 03-04-1965** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI BUNZA MOHAMMED WITH 03-07-1965** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.



I, formerly known as **MOHAMMAD MARAFA WITH D.O.B 06-04-1997** Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD MAUNE ABUBAKAR WITH 10-05-1999**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **GARBA YAKUBU** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR YAKUBU**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **SHEHU SAMA'ILA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **GALADIMA SULAIMAN RABAH**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **HUSAI A LABBO** Now wish to be known and addressed as **HUSSAI LABBO ALHAJI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MU'AZU IBRAHIM** Now wish to be known and addressed as **SAMBO BELLO**. All former documents remain valid. Zenith bank and general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **HAJIYA HALIMA MOHAMMED** Now wish to be known and addressed as **BINTA MUKHTAR MOH'D** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AL-IRSHAD FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990.

TRUSTEES NAMES:

1. SHUAIBU MUHAMMAD
2. ALIYU YUSUF
3. MUHAMMAD ABDULLAHI MUHAMMAD

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.

1. Education the people
2. Helping the needy
3. Awareness to the people.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the registrar general corporate affairs commission at 420 Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi-Ironsi St.pmb 198 Maitama, Abuja within 28 days from the date of this Publication.

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE ZAMFARA STATE OF NIGERIA
PROBATE DIVISION ZAMFARA STATE

WHEREAS the person whose names and address are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column.

AND whereas the person whose address(s) are set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship to the said deceased and has applied to the above court for a grant of "LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION" of personal property of the said deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that the LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION will be granted to such person unless notice to PROHIBIT the grant thereof is filed in the probate Registrar High Court of Justice Gusau, Zamfara State within TWENTY ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication of this NOTICE.

SCHEDULE:-

NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED	NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT
TUKUR JEKADA B/TUDU/STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY WHO DIED 31-05-2020 AT SPECIALIST HOSPITAL SOKOTO	JAMILU TUKUR BIRNIN TUDU BAKURA LOCAL GOV'T THE SON OF THE DECEASED.

Dated this19th.....day of January, 2021

PROBATE REGISTRY
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
GUSAU, ZAMFARA STATE.

BELLO MUHAMMAD KUCHERI
PROBATE REGISTRAR

REQUIREMENT FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit;
Men: Court Affidavit

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that the certificate of occupancy belonging to G.CAPPA PLC in favour of file NO FCT/ABU/ MISC 13512 plot NO 811, C2 Gwarimpa District cannot be located/ found. All effort to locate the said document proved abortive. Hence this publication Abuja Geographic information systems (AGIS) and the general public should please take note.

Signed Management

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Plot document of No. 363 situated in House no.48, plot 363, 2nd avenue, kubwa, Abuja on 1st January, 2020 at Abuja. belonging to Mr, Badamasi Mohammed. House no.48, plot 363, 2nd avenue, kubwa, Abuja. All effort to trace the said missing document proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest Police Station. General public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Plot document of No. 362 situated in House no. 46, plot 362, 2nd avenue, kubwa, Abuja on 1st January, 2020 at Abuja. belonging to Alh Aliyu karami. House no. 46, plot 362, 2nd avenue, kubwa, Abuja. All effort to trace the said missing document proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest Police Station. General public should please take note.

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF KADUNA STATE OF NIGERIA PROBATE DIVISION

WHEREAS the person whose names and address are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column AND whereas the person whose address (s) are set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship to the said deceased and has applied to the above court for a grant of "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION " will be granted to such person unless notice to PROHIBIT the grant thereof is filed in the probate Registrar High Court of Justice Kaduna State within TWENTY ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication of this NOTICE.

SCHEDULE:
NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED :BASHIR BABA late of Ministry of Education, Kaduna State who died on the 5th day of July, 2020 at 44 Army Ref. Hospital Kaduna

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:
USMAN BASHIR BABA and ABUBAKAR BASHIR BABA of No.MM.3, Sarki Avenue Kurmin Mashi, Kaduna

Dated24th....day of September ,2020

Signed:
Probate Registrar



SPORT

Aguero self-isolating after contracting coronavirus
→ Pg -40



■ Joe Erico

Dare, NFF mourn ex- Super Eagles goalkeeper, Joe Erico

By Olusola 'Jide @jide_olusola

The Minister of sports, Sunday Dare has described the death of former Green Eagles goalkeeper Joseph Erico as a monumental loss to Nigeria.

In a statement, the minister bemoaned the death of another sports legend few days after the death of a former Minister of sports Malam Bala Bawa Ka'oje

"This is so unfortunate and sad. This is one death too many. This is a great loss to his family and the sporting fraternity. He was a great goalkeeper who stood out among his peers.

"He also made his mark as Assistant Super Eagles coach. My deepest condolences go to the family, friends and the football family. May God bless his soul and comfort his family."

On their part, the Nigeria Football federation said "It is another sad day for Nigerian Football. Erico was among the very best of and also served the country

with fervour and diligence as Assistant Coach of the Super Eagles between 2001 and 2002.

"He will be sorely missed. We pray that Almighty God grant him eternal rest and also grant his family and loved ones the fortitude to bear the big loss."

Erico died yesterday in his sleep at the age of 71.

Only fresh elections can end NBBF crisis – Skambo

By Olusola 'Jide @jide_olusola

Former D'Tigers player, Pastor Skambo Morrison has said that the lingering crisis in the Nigeria Basketball Federation (NBBF) can only be resolved through fresh elections.

It will be noted that for close to four years, the NBBF has been engulfed in leadership crisis as two administrators, Engineer Musa Kida and Tijani Umar battle tussle for leadership of the sport federation.

Unfortunately, the same crisis has played a negative role in the suspension of the men's Premier basketball league in Nigeria.

The case instituted by Gombe Bulls and Kwara Falcons against the Musa Kida led board is to be decided by the Federal High Court in Abuja on January 26.

Speaking to Daily Trust yesterday, Skambo said the much awaited judgment may not solve the problem as he insisted that only fresh elections into to the board will end the crisis.

He said "Basketball in Nigeria has suffered so much and the issue has gone to court and it is not an out-of-court settlement. At the end of the whole thing, I want basketball to win where



■ D'Tigers star player, Ike Diogu in action for Nigeria at the 2016 Rio Olympics

everyone will return to court and people will be reunited. At the moment, there is not trust from any of the factions.

"Let the court just come up with the judgement that will ensure basketball has to win. We are technically leaving a bad legacy for some

people because at the end of the whole thing, if basketball doesn't win, our names will not be spared.

"When the crisis started even the sponsors were no longer comfortable and they didn't want their names dragged in court cases.

There is no way the league can continue if there are no sponsors.

"Everybody is just waiting for the elections to come and a new board is elected. The truth is that it is only new elections that can solve this crisis," he said.

Rejuvenated McIlroy sets early pace in Abu Dhabi

Rory McIlroy began his 2021 season in sparkling fashion, assembling a spotless 64 to take a one-shot first round lead over Ryder Cup teammate Tyrrell Hatton at the Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship on Thursday.

The four-time major winner arrived at this first of three tournaments in the Gulf after a winless 2020.

But the 31-year-old Northern Irish golfer shrugged off a near three-hour fog delay to lead the pack at eight-under par on his return to Abu Dhabi after a gap of two years.

"It feels good," McIlroy told Sky Sports after carding his lowest score at an event where he has done well in the past without winning.

"I knew 65 is the best I've shot here and I've shot it a few times, so I thought let's try to go one better on the next nine and I was able to do that."

Looking back on his 2020 which ended with a tie for fifth at the rescheduled Masters at Augusta National he said: "It was getting better as the year went on and honestly it was sort of disappointing that it finished when it did because I felt like I was getting right back into it."

COVID-19 crisis forces suspension of 2021 Port-Harcourt polo tourney

By Ernest Ekpenyong

The resurgence in cases of the deadly coronavirus in the country has taken its toll on the prestigious Niger Delta Polo Festival forcing the organizers to call off the 2021 edition of the annual polo fiesta.

A statement by the Port Harcourt Polo Club announced the suspension of the fiesta, blaming it on the COVID-19 pandemic and the

need to obey existing safety protocols.

While the announcement did not specify when the suspension would be lifted, Trust Sports reliably gathered that there are high level consultations between the club and all stakeholders, with a view to hosting the fiesta later in the year.

A top official of the foremost polo club who hinted Trust Sports on the development, expressed strong optimism

that the event can still hold later this year, depending on how quickly that second phase of the pandemic is effectively contained.

"It was a very difficult decision for the management and the tournament committee to suspend the tournament that has for decades remained the biggest tourism attraction to Port Harcourt and indeed the entire Niger Delta region" the official lamented.

"We are however, still nursing the hope of hosting the event sometime this year because the annual festival showcases our culture and provides a real festive period for lovers of the game of kings in Rivers State and the entire region, the official added.

Hosted annually by the Port Harcourt Polo Clubs the glamorous event reputed as the only regional polo tournament on polo calendar,

traditionally holds early January, featuring top teams from across the country with Nigerian professional players and their foreign counterparts vying for laurels.

Trust Sports can confirm that four major laurels; General Hassan Cup, President Cup, Governors Cup and TY Danjuma Cup, are traditionally on offer during the weeklong battle royale that ultimately decides the winners of the Niger Delta polo festival.

THE FRIDAY COLUMN

Jibrin **IBRAHIM**
jibrinibrahim@dailytrust.com

Expelling pastoralists from forests that Kill

My column of 12th September 2016 was entitled "Forests that Kill and Destroy: Rural Banditry in Northern Nigeria." I was reporting on a seminar organised by the Centre for Democratic Development and Training (CEDDERT) in Zaria where research findings on the senseless massacre and destruction emanating from the dreaded Kuyanbana and Kamuku forests were presented. The researchers, Massoud Omar and Abubakar Siddique Mohammed had studied how bandits and criminal gangs had occupied the forests and were causing havoc in the surrounding States of Kaduna (Birnin Gwari), Zamfara (Dansadau) and Katsina (Sabuwa). The forest had provided a base for criminal gangs initially focused on cattle rustling from where they have been wreaking havoc on the affected communities. Most of the cattle in the area had already been rustled at that time. From cattle rustling, the gangs have moved into kidnapping for ransom, mass theft, arson and mass killings of innocent villagers.

Victims from the three communities were at the seminar to give testimonies of their plight. The village head of Yar Galidima in Dansadau for example gave detailed accounts of how the gangsters descended on their village and killed 130 people including three of his children. That was not the end of the story, they came back to demand for more money as protection against further attacks. The bandits then ordered the communities not to farm during the rainy season. In response, about half the community simply gave up and fled the area.

One of the most harrowing stories they told was that of girls kidnapped by the gangs and used as sex slaves. After about six months, the gangs returned the girls with two rams for each one and asked their parents to use the rams for the naming ceremonies when the girls deliver. It is difficult to imagine a higher form of cruelty. In some of the communities, a cold war developed between the Hausa and the Fulani with the Hausa suspecting the gangs were composed mostly of Fulani young men and turning and attacking Fulani residents in the area. Security completely broke down in significant parts of rural areas in Northern Nigeria into a regime of terror as looting, rape and arson became the regular routine. The situation has spread much wider in the core States of Zamfara, Kaduna, Niger and Katsina. It has also spread to other parts of the country and become a national problem.

This past week, Ondo State has been in the news following a declaration by the governor that he was expelling all herdsmen from forests in the zone because of their engagement in violent

and criminal activity that has made the area unsafe. He gave them a one-week ultimatum to quit Ondo's forests and territory. The federal government then cautioned the state government earlier this week stating that the state cannot expel Nigerian citizens whose right to reside and exercise their livelihoods anywhere in the country is protected by the Constitution.

The state government responded that they have the right to stop grazing in their forests. The state Commissioner for Agricultural and Rural Development, Mr. Adegboyega Adefarati, said in the statement that over 50,000 farmers have been registered to engage in various agricultural activities in the state's forest reserves and no herder will be permitted to graze without going through the same process: "Love it or leave it; farming is farming, be it crop production or animal husbandry. If any Nigerian irrespective of his/her state of origin desires land for farming in Government Forest Reserves, he/she must apply to the Ondo State Ministry of Agriculture and pay the normal fee for the required hectares of land. It is illegal for herdsmen to encroach on the Ondo State Government Forest Reserves without permission."

As is usually the case in Nigeria, the matter has been taken over by the ethno-regional advocates. The National Publicity Secretary of Afenifere, Yinka Odumakin, issued a statement saying the Yoruba socio-cultural group was not surprised by the statement from the Presidency alleging that the development showed Buhari's preference for promoting Fulani interests.

According to Odumakin: "The intervention by what we mistakenly call the federal government of Nigeria on behalf of marauding Fulanis in Ondo State against the lawful government in that state did not come to Afenifere as a surprise as it is in line with the non-pretence by this regime that it represents only Fulani interests against those of Yoruba, Igbo, Jukun, Ijaw and other tribes in Nigeria. Afenifere urged the Yoruba people to stand with the governor, asking other South-West governors to emulate Akeredolu in order to "free our land from the Fulani who have surrounded us with the shield of the federal government." Another group, the Coalition of Oduduwa Elders, also warned the Presidency to steer clear of governance issues in Ondo or any other state in the country, saying the governor's action was the best in protecting the lives of Ondo citizens.

In response, the Northern Elders Forum (NEF), described the governor's action as provocative and unhelpful in the quest to address the security challenges facing the state. A statement

signed by NEF's Director, Publicity and Advocacy, Dr. Hakeem Baba-Ahmed, said if there are criminal elements among the Fulani in Ondo State, appropriate steps should be taken to identify them and deal with them. NEF stated that the Fulani are not above the law and must obey all laws and regulations as well as respect the communities in which they live. The forum noted that Akeredolu as a senior lawyer should know that the Constitution does not give him the power to deny any Nigerian the right to live where he chooses if he does not break the law in the process adding that: "We call on Governor Akeredolu to rescind his order on the Fulani or clarify his position in the event that he is misunderstood. He has a responsibility to protect the rights of all people in Ondo State, including the Fulani, and he will be well advised to engage them towards improving security in the state instead of treating all of them as criminals without rights or protection under the constitution".

In a similar vein, the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) spokesperson, Mr. Emmanuel Yawe, urged the governor to follow the provision of the Constitution in addressing the issue. According to him, the Constitution guarantees all Nigerians the right to live within the country, stressing that if any Fulani in Ondo State has committed a crime, he should be fished out and prosecuted according to the law. The ACF said every offence has its own punishment "and our forum has not seen a law, which says a Nigerian should be denied the freedom to settle anywhere and pursue legitimate business according to the law."

The problem is that once a problem is ethnicised, it becomes extremely difficult to seek a rational way out in terms of a solution. The fact of the matter is that the forests all over Nigeria have become ungoverned territories and have been turned into base stations for criminal gangs to operate from. At the same time, tens of thousands of pastoralists, who have been pushed out of grazing lands within farming communities in most parts of the country have retreated to the forests to graze their cattle. A rational solution will seek a policy pathway that would allow legitimate herders to continue with their livelihood while identifying and dealing with the criminal elements. Taking the position that all pastoralists are criminals is wrong and can only worsen the situation.

What is clear is that we need to develop a comprehensive policy response to the non-governance of our forests and the idea of registering its users cannot be dismissed. Such a measure should, however, be well planned, realistic timelines must be developed and it can only work as a national, rather than state plan. While the law is clear that state governments have proprietorship of land in their domain, the issue in question is one of security, which is in the federal domain. It is, therefore, a problem that requires close collaboration between the two levels of government. The forests that kill in Ondo and Oyo are doing today what they have been doing for long in Zamfara and Katsina States. The problem is a national one and requires a solution that respects its country-wide spread.

SPORT REPORT >>

Only fresh elections can end NBBF crisis – Skambo

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Aguero self-isolating after contracting coronavirus



■ Sergio Aguero

Manchester City's record goalscorer, Sergio Aguero said on Thursday he has contracted coronavirus and is self isolating.

The 32-year-old Argentinian striker had already been self-isolating due to being in close contact with someone who tested positive for the virus.

Britain is in the midst of a third lockdown due to the emergence of a new strain of COVID-19 across the country in recent months, which is believed to be more contagious.

Manchester City have been hard hit by the virus with 11 players and staff testing positive in recent weeks.

They were forced to postpone a Premier League match with Everton in late December.

London Marathon plans for 100, 000 runners this year



■ Shura Kitata

This year's London Marathon is set to break new ground with a record 50,000 runners expected to tackle the course on the city's streets while another 50,000 compete in a remote race "wherever they are on the planet", organisers said on Thursday.

The virtual London Marathon was held for the first time last year after the actual race for the masses was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nearly 38,000 runners took part to set a Guinness World Record for the most in a remote marathon in 24 hours.