

DAILY TRUST



SATURDAY

Saturday, January 1, 2022
Jumada Awwal 27, 1443 AH

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR READERS AND ADVERTISERS

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PAGES

SCHOOL CHILDREN IN CAPTIVITY

FEDERAL GOVT COLLEGE,
BIRNIN YAURI

200
DAYS

BETHEL BAPTIST HIGH
SCHOOL, KUJAMA

182
DAYS

COVID-19 VACCINE IS SAFE. GO GET VACCINATED!
PROTECT YOURSELF, PROTECT EVERYONE AROUND YOU.



NEWS

Life and times of Desmond Tutu

● For burial today

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New Year: Be hopeful, Buhari, govts, others tell Nigerians

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Buhari queries National Assembly for introducing 6,576 new projects in 2022 budget

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Banditry: Kaduna communities deserted as attacks multiply

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QUOTE UNQUOTE

Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day.

—Michael Josephson



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

If nature has made you for a giver, your hands are born open, and so is your heart; and though there may be times when your hands are empty, your heart is always full...

—Frances Hodgson Burnett



PHOTO OF THE DAY



■ The 12th edition of the Annual Ososo Carnival in Akoko-Edo, Edo State yesterday

PRAYER TIMES

City	Fajr	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghrib	Ishah
ABUJA	5:30	12:40	3:53	6:21	7:29
ENUGU	5:29	12:40	3:53	6:23	7:31
KADUNA	5:33	12:39	3:52	6:19	7:27
KANO	5:32	12:36	3:49	6:13	7:21
KATSINA	5:38	12:39	3:52	6:15	7:23
LAGOS	5:47	12:56	4:09	6:42	7:50
MAIDUGURI	5:12	12:16	3:29	5:53	7:01
P/HARCOURT	5:28	12:44	3:57	6:28	7:36
SOKOTO	5:48	12:49	4:02	6:27	7:35

Source: Islamic Research and Timing Organisation, Kaduna.

WEATHER

STATES	DAY	NIGHT
Abuja	32	18
Kaduna	33	15
Kano	31	11
Katsina	31	12
Maiduguri	32	11
Jos	29	12
Ibadan	36	21
Enugu	37	20
Port-Harcourt	31	21
Lagos	32	24

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How Christians, Muslims celebrated Christmas in Kano community

Salim Umar Ibrahim, Kano

Refawa is a satellite village at Garin Gabas in Bunkure Local Government Area of Kano State.

The inhabitants of Refawa, also known as Maguzawa, are both Christians and Muslims.

The people speak Hausa language more fluently than most Hausa indigenes of Kano who reside in the metropolitan areas of the state.

They live in an area that lacks basic infrastructures, especially good roads and electricity. However, they are a happy people. Despite their religious differences, they celebrated the just-concluded Christmas together with joy.

The people were well dressed to relish the joy that usually accompanies the Christmas festivity as they thronged Bishara Baptist Church, Refawa to celebrate the yuletide.

It is widely believed that Kano is mainly an Islamic state, but there are several other people who belong to other religions. They live in both rural and urban settlements where they practise their religions and cultures. But on Christmas day, the people of Refawa celebrated together without recourse to socio-religious differences.

Apart from the spirit of celebration, record shows that the people of Refawa and its environs have been living in peace

for many years despite their religious differences. They also share the same culture and beliefs.

Expressing gratitude to God during the celebration, The Reverend Emmanuel Yakubu Bature of Bishara Baptist Church said, "Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of our saviour, Jesus Christ. It is the day when Christians worldwide thank God for his mercies, favour and grace in their lives.

"Even our Muslim neighbours join us in the celebration. They visit us and eat with us. We share together as a family. We are our brothers' keepers.

"They come to identify with us whenever something happens to any of us, be it good or bad. We do the same to them. Whenever we are together, no one would identify our religious differences. When it is time for prayer they go and come back."

Some elders of the village, J P Murtala Ayuba and Ahmadu Dankaka, who also spoke on the cordial relationship among the people, said there had never been a time in the history of the village when the people were not at peace with one another.

"They are always striving and looking up to doing good to us. Likewise, we always treat them right, and by doing so, the relationship between us gets more solid by the day.

"We are always happy like siblings, courtesy of our forefathers who groomed us this way. We are indeed happy today as we celebrate the biggest day of every year.

"Our district head and many elders around are all Muslims. They always identify with us. You can see them wearing new clothes like us," he added.

While wishing all the Christians in his village a happy Christmas celebration, the district head of Refawa, Wada Na'iy'a, prayed for God's guidance, more intervention and everlasting peace among his subjects.



■ Rifawa Church



■ A cross section of worshippers during the Christmas service

NUMBERS

COMPILED BY
Abbas Jimoh

22,000

Terrorists Information and Culture Minister Lai Mohammed said surrendered with 1,000 others killed in 2021

16.67bn

Naira FG released to pay Accrued Pension Rights to 2021 retirees of treasury-funded MDAs

90

Rape cases Jigawa State justice ministry recorded of 196 offences followed by 31 sodomy cases in 2021

13.6 trillion

Naira FG borrowed via bond in 6 months according to CBN financial markets debts' half-year 2021 activity report

WHOSAIDWHAT?

IN THE NEWS

By
Abbas Jimoh



"I can't read the minds of National Assembly. We need two-thirds, (presidential) veto is not something you easily override, if that is done, we will take away the clause and pass the (Electoral Act Amendment) Bill so Nigerians can enjoy a credible electoral process they deserve."

House of Representatives Speaker, **Mr. Femi Gbajabamila**



"I still believe as a principle not as a law that until such a time when we have a stable politics, I think rotation or shifting power from time to time will help to consolidate our federation. I support it. So, I still maintain my stand."

Katsina State Governor **Aminu Bello Masari**

Buhari queries N'Assembly for introducing 6,576 new projects in 2022 budget

- Lawmakers jerk up budget by N735.85bn
- President to request for amendment
- Lawan justifies action
- Increment marginal, will not affect implementation – Economist

Muideen Olaniyi & Abdullateef Aliyu (Lagos)

President Muhammadu Buhari has questioned members of the National Assembly for making what he calls “worrying changes” and introducing 6,576 new projects into the 2022 budget proposal.

The president expressed his reservations yesterday after signing the 2022 Appropriation Bill of N17.127trillion into law, as well as the 2021 Finance Bill.

Senate President Ahmed Lawan and Speaker Femi Gbajabiamila of the House of Representatives were present when the president expressed his objections.

He said most of the projects inserted related to matters that were basically the responsibilities of state and local governments, and did not appear to have been properly conceptualised, designed and cost.

The president expressed his reservation on the: “Inclusion of new provisions totalling N36.59 billion for National Assembly’s projects in the Service Wide Vote,” which, according to him, negates the principles of separation of powers and financial autonomy of the legislative arm of government.

“The changes to the original executive proposal are in form of new insertions, outright removals, reductions or increase in the amounts allocated to projects.

“Provisions made for as many as 10,733 projects were reduced while 6,576 new ones were introduced into the budget by the National Assembly.

“There was reduction in the provisions for many strategic capital projects to introduce ‘empowerment’ projects.

“The cuts in the provisions for several of these projects by the National Assembly may render the projects unimplementable or set back their completion, especially some of this administration’s strategic capital projects.

“Most of the projects inserted relate to matters that are basically the responsibilities of state and local governments, and do not appear to have been properly conceptualised, designed and cost.

“Many more projects have been added to the budgets of some ministries, departments and agencies with no consideration for the institutional capacity to execute the additional projects and/or for the incremental recurrent expenditure that may be required.”

Some of the worrying changes, according to President Buhari, include “Increase in projected Independent Revenue by N400 billion, the justification for which is yet to be provided to the executive, reduction in the provision for Sinking Fund to Retire Maturing Bonds by N22 billion without any explanation, reduction of the provisions for the Non-Regular Allowances of the Nigerian Police Force and the Nigerian Navy by N15 billion and N5 billion respectively.

“This is particularly worrying because personnel cost provisions are based on agencies’ nominal roll and approved salaries/allowances;

“Furthermore, an increase of N21.72 billion in the overhead budgets of some



■ President Muhammadu Buhari signed 2022 budget into law. With him are Senate President Ahmad Lawan (left) and Speaker House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila at the Presidential Villa, Abuja yesterday

MDAs, while the sum of N1.96 billion was cut from the provision for some without apparent justification;

“Increase in the provision for capital spending (excluding Capital share in Statutory Transfer) by a net amount of N575.63bn, from N4.89 trillion to N5.47 trillion.”

The president also expressed concern in the reductions in provisions for some critical projects, including N12.60bn in the Ministry of Transport’s budget for the ongoing rail modernisation projects; N25.8bn from Power Sector Reform Programme under the Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning; N14.5bn from several projects of the Ministry of Agriculture, and introducing over 1,500 new projects into the budgets of this ministry and its agencies.

Buhari said it was surprising that despite the National Assembly increasing projected revenue by N609.27 billion, the additional executive request of N186.53 billion for critical expenditure items could not be accommodated without increasing the deficit, while the sum of N550.59 billion from the projected incremental revenues was allocated at the discretion of National Assembly.

He announced that he would revert to the National Assembly with a request for amendment as soon as the assembly resumes to ensure that critical ongoing projects cardinal to the administration do not suffer a setback due to reduced funding.

While fielding questions from State House reporters, the Senate president said nobody should worry about some of the observations raised by the president as he was happy with majority of what the National Assembly had done.

He said, “This is based on judgements when we asked for more resources coming from the independent sources, especially from the government own enterprises of about N400 to N500 billion is because we believe that this government own enterprises should contribute even much more. In fact, I hold the opinion that they should have contributed about a trillion, at least not N500 billion or so.

“So, I believe that the National Assembly was right in its judgement, but there is nothing wrong in the executive arm of government coming back to the National Assembly to see how we are able to dialogue and go through the process and see where the misunderstanding is. But I don’t think that is supposed to be a worrying development for us.”

Gbajabiamila, while reacting to

questions, said there would be enough time to work on the 2023 budget as mentioned by the president.

After appending his signature, President Buhari had said the 2022 budget provided for aggregate expenditures of N17.127 trillion, an increase of N735.85 billion over the initial executive proposal for a total expenditure of N16.391 trillion.

The president explained that N186.53 billion of the increase however came from additional critical expenditures he had authorised the minister of finance, budget and national planning to forward to the National Assembly.

He announced that as the 2023 budget would be a transition budget, work would start in earnest to ensure early submission of the 2023-2025 medium-term expenditure framework and fiscal strategy paper, as well as the 2023 Appropriation Bill to the National Assembly.

The president, in a statement by his media aide, Garba Shehu, noted that the MDAs had been allowed to continue to spend the funds released for their 2021 capital budgets till March 31, 2022 to enable them complete the implementation of their 2021 capital projects and optimise the impact of the capital budget on the economy.

Buhari said that being a deficit budget, the specific borrowing plan would be forwarded to the National Assembly shortly and looked forward to their cooperation for a quick consideration and approval of the plan when submitted.

Increment marginal, will not affect implementation – Economist

A Professor of Economics and the Director, Centre for Economic Policy Analysis and Research, at the University of Lagos, Ndubisi Ifeanyi Nwokoma, said the changes introduced to the 2022 budget by the National Assembly would not affect its implementation.

He said the changes were “marginal” and it would be resolved amicably by both chambers given the cordial relationship between the two arms of government.

“I am sure they would resolve the issue. These are issues that would be resolved. I am not sure that would affect the implementation, if at all anything will, it will not necessarily affect it. This is just a minor shake off.

“These are minor issues compared to the quantum of the budget. N17.13 trillion was what was signed while N16.3 trillion was sent to them.”

1 killed, 12 abducted as bandits hit Kaduna on New Year’s eve

Mohammed I. Yaba, Kaduna

One person was killed and at least 12 persons, including 10 women, abducted when bandits attacked Kerawa Village in Giwa Local Government Area of Kaduna State in the wee hours of yesterday.

A youth leader in the community, Jamil Kerawa, confirmed the incident, saying the bandits operated unchallenged.

“They abducted 12 people two male and 10 women after killing one person. One other was injured and rushed to hospital in Zaria. We need help in Kerawa because only God is protecting us,” he said.

He appealed to the state government to deploy security personnel in the area, lamenting the increase in attacks.

Daily Trust Saturday gathered that surrounding villages like Hayin Dam, Rago, Unguwar Salahu and Zariyawa were also displaced by bandits recently.

Although there was no official reaction from the state government, the police spokesman, Mohammed Jalige, promised to comment after getting details.

Wife, daughters of lecturer abducted in fresh Zamfara attack

Shehu Umar, Gusau

Gunmen stormed Mareri Area of Gusau, capital of Zamfara State, yesterday and kidnapped the wife and two daughters of a lecturer at the Federal College of Education (Technical).

They were also said to have carted away property from the residence of the lecturer identified as Dr Abdulrazak Muazu.

The attack occurred 48 hours after a district head identified as Alhaji Umaru Bawan Allah, and five others were shot dead in an attack on Gada community in Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara.

It was unclear if Muazu was at home when the invaders struck.

“Nobody was killed during the attack but valuables worth thousands of Naira were carted away by the armed criminals.

“They are yet to establish contact with any one as to demand ransom. But the incident has sent jitters down the spine of those in the area, with many of them planning to abandon their homes for safety,” a resident identified Aminu Muhammad told Daily Trust Saturday.

The police spokesman in the state, SP Muhammad Shehu, could not be reached for comment at the time of filing this report.

FCT minister tests positive for COVID-19

Hussein Yahaya

The Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Malam Muhammad Bello, has tested positive for COVID-19.

The minister on his Facebook page said after feeling unwell on December 28, he decided to go for COVID test on Thursday and the result returned positive yesterday morning.

“I have tested positive for COVID-19. After a hide and seek period spanning 21 months (1yr 9 months) between COVID-19 and my humble self, the virus finally caught up with me during the dying days of 2021. After feeling unwell from 28th December, I decided to do a COVID-19 test yesterday morning.”

Bello said he had already taken two shots of coronavirus vaccine and appealed to all those who had yet to be vaccinated to take the jab.

The development came a week after some presidential aides contracted the virus.

FG extends NIN-SIM verification to March 31, as enrolments exceed 71m

Zakariyya Adaramola

The federal government has again extended the deadline for the National Identification Number (NIN)-Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) data verification to March 31.

This is the ninth of such extension since the exercise began in 2020.

However, a joint statement by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) and the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) yesterday said the NIN enrolment had increased to 71 million.

The statement signed by the NCC and NIMC’s spokespersons, Ikechukwu Adinde and Kayode Adegoke, respectively, said the extension followed the request by stakeholders, including citizens, legal residents and Nigerians in the diaspora.

“This extension would enable the federal government to consolidate the gains of the process and accelerate the enrolment of Nigerians in key areas like the remote areas, diaspora, schools, hospitals, worship centres,” it added.



Happy New Year



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-You First-

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COVER

Businesses that'll shape Nigerian economy this year

In 2022 all eyes will be on many Nigerian businessmen and corporate organisations whose decisions in the preceding year will greatly impact the country. The year 2021 saw major mergers and acquisitions involving quoted companies which operations will have significant impact on the economy.



■ Dangote-refinery

By Vincent Nwanma & Sunday Michael Ogwu

Aliko Dangote/Dangote Refinery

Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, will expectedly be of much influence on Nigeria's economic scene this year. This is the year that the 650,000 b/d Dangote Refinery will begin production.

Dangote Refinery will fill a large vacuum in Nigeria's products market that authorities hope will help stabilise the local supply of refined oil products. This will surely help to stop the country's dependence on imported refined products. In doing this, it will help reduce Nigeria's perennial foreign exchange (forex) crisis which is due in part to the huge amounts spent on the importation of refined petroleum products.

Karl Tariola/MTN and Mafab to deploy 5G

MTN Nigerian was awarded a 5G license in 2021, paving the way for the continent's largest wireless carrier to supply faster internet to

The government believes these measures will increase revenues and by extension additional infrastructure for social and economic development

consumers and businesses.

In line with the objectives of the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy (NDEPS) 2020-2030 for a Digital Nigeria and the positioning of the country as an early adopter of digital technology in the growing global digital economy, the successful and timely deployment of 5G is crucial.

5G is expected to facilitate several emerging technologies, generate innovative use cases, spur significant socio-economic growth and create jobs.

It will be critical because it will enable unprecedented levels of connectivity, upgrading 4G networks with five key functional drivers: superfast broadband, ultra-reliable low latency communication, massive machine-type communications, high reliability/availability and efficient energy usage.

Like MTN Nigeria, Mafab Communication will be one of the companies to watch in 2022. Led by Musbahu Muhammad Bashir as chairman, Mafab emerged on the scene to snatch one of the two

5G licences.

Mrs Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed

Nigeria's Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed, will be in the news this year for various reasons. Her ministry will superintend some of the policies that will have significant impacts on the lives of Nigerians.

The ministry will implement the planned removal of the subsidy on petroleum products, increase in import tariffs, increase in taxes and increase in electricity tariff. These are policies that by their nature are bound to be unpopular with the Nigerian masses because of the expected impact they will have on the average consumer's welfare.

Mrs Ahmed will also be the one whose ministry will implement the N5,000 a month transport allowance for about 40 million poor Nigerians as a palliative for the expected impact of the subsidy removal. Zainab alongside other ministers and critical stakeholders would work

hard to actualise the National Development Plan 2021-2025 which succeeds the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP 2017-2020). The federal government said this would require N348.1 trillion.

The federal government is expected to provide N49.7 trillion or 14.3 per cent, while the private sector will provide the balance of N298.3 trillion or 85.7 per cent. The government believes these measures will increase revenues and by extension additional infrastructure for social and economic development.

Titan's acquisition of 104-year-old Union Bank

This followed an agreement by Union Global Partners Limited, Atlas Mara Limited and majority shareholders to divest 88.39 per cent shareholding in Union Bank to Titan Trust Bank.

The board of Union Bank, in a notification to the Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX) and the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) on Thursday, explained that the agreement, which is subject to regulatory approvals and other financial conditions, would upon completion transfer of 89.39 per cent of Union Bank's issued share capital to Titan Trust Bank.

According to the Chairman of Titan Trust Bank, Mr Tunde Lemo, "Our stakeholders are delighted as this transaction marks a key step for Titan Trust in its strategic growth journey and propels the institution to the next level in the Nigerian banking sector."

Abdulsamad Rabiu/BUA Group

The BUA Group will be one of the dominant players in the nation's economy in the New Year.

The highly diversified group led by Abdul Samad Rabiu is expected to expand its cement output to 20 million metric tons by next year from three cement plants being constructed in three states: Sokoto, Edo and Adamawa.

The group also plans to list its consolidated food business on the NGX within the year. The food business includes flour and pasta, sugar, edible oils and rice.

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

Dahiru Mangal

Mangal Industries, owned by the Katsina-born industrialist, Alhaji Dahiru Mangal, in 2021 signed a contract with China-based Sinoma International Engineering for the delivery of a 3Mt/yr new integrated cement plant in the northern state of Kogi. The plant will cost US\$600m and generate thousands of jobs during construction and when inaugurated in early 2024. Sinoma International Engineering will also build a dedicated 50MW power plant for the plant.

Mangal had said during the signing of the contract: "This investment is part of an ambitious investment programme under implementation by Mangal Industries. The factory will rely on the best available technology for cement production in line with the highest environmental standards."

Mangal, who is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of AFDIN Group of companies Nigeria Limited comprising Max Air Limited, Katsina Dyeing, Printing Textiles Limited, AFDIN Football Club, AFDIN Construction Company Nigeria Ltd, Manasawa Oil, Mangal Oil and Manasawa Enterprises, a clearing and forwarding firm has also sold his 1,968,452,614 shares in Oando PLC.

Industry watchers believed that he would channel the money into some of his businesses.

Allen Onyema/Air Peace

Air Peace is a star to watch. In 2021, the airline received the third of its brand new Embraer 195-E5 aircraft at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja, and disclosed that it would receive all the 13 aircraft it ordered from the Brazilian planemaker before the end of 2022, adding that it would create about 17,000 jobs.

The Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Air Peace, Allen Onyema, made this known in a speech just before the aircraft touched down at the Abuja airport from the Embraer facility in Sao Jose Dos Campos, Brazil.

"In addition to the order of 13 aircraft, which we would have receive before the end of 2022, we would make a further commitment of 10 additional aircraft, and by the time we have 30 aircraft we would employ about 17,000 personnel," Onyema explained.

He said the airline would deploy the aircraft to international, regional and domestic destinations as it had started opening new routes in Nigeria.

He further said the new aircraft would hit the West Coast and African region as it extended its West Coast destinations to include Douala (Cameroon), Kinshasa (Congo), Niamey (Niger), Dakar (Senegal), as well as Monrovia (Liberia).

What Airtel/MTN PSB licence approval could mean for financial inclusion in Nigeria

On Friday, November 8, 2021, telecom giants, MTN and Airtel,

Businesses that'll shape Nigerian economy this year



■ Tiamin rice

The Managing Director (MD) of Tiamin Rice Limited, Aminu Ahmed, during the foundation laying ceremony of two blocks of six classrooms at Begu Village of Gamawa LGA in mid-December, said the farm was the largest modern farm in Nigeria, with 10,000 hectares, with a projection to produce 120,000 metric tons of rice per annum and other farm produce like maize

in separate statements, revealed that the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) had approved in principle to operate Payment Service Banks (PSBs).

PSBs accept deposits from individuals and small businesses, carry out payment and remittance services within Nigeria, issue debit and prepaid cards, operate electronic purses and other activities prescribed by the CBN.

While the telcos would not offer a full suite of financial services, they would be able to provide users with entry into the financial system.

A significant reason for the optimism shown is the potential of telcos to fast-track the CBN's financial inclusion goal. This is mainly due to their comprehensive coverage of the country, especially in rural areas that house most of the unbanked population.

With the infrastructural cost of setting up branches and security, banks are not opening branches in new locations, and in some cases, are shutting down operations.

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Nigerian banks closed 234 branches and 649 Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) in 2020; bringing the number of banks in the country to 5,158 in 2020 from 5,392 in 2019.

Furthermore, MTN and Airtel have the largest and third largest subscribers at 67.5 million and 42 million respectively. Even accounting for multiple SIM cards as is common in the country; those figures are significantly higher than the top three Nigerian banks by customer base. According to data from the GSM Association, there were 97.5 million unique mobile subscribers in 2018.

It is not clear what will happen to thousands of Point of Sale (POS) operators working closely with other banks when the new entrants fully deploy their resources.

Tiamin's N18bn rice farm

Tiamin Rice Limited is setting up an N18bn rice farm in Udubo, Gamawa Local Government Area of Bauchi State.

The company, which has a big rice mill in Kano, has remained a big player in the industry, employing hundreds of people, and has also contributed towards reducing rice importation in Nigeria.

The Managing Director (MD) of Tiamin Rice Limited, Aminu Ahmed, during the foundation laying ceremony of two blocks of six classrooms at Begu Village of Gamawa LGA in mid-December, said the farm was the largest modern farm in Nigeria, with 10,000 hectares, with a projection to produce 120,000 metric tons of rice per annum and other farm produce like maize.

He added that the land was fully acquired through the Bauchi State Government after payment of premium charges.

Jim Ovia

Jim Ovia, the man behind Zenith Bank, will be in the news again in 2022. Ovia is currently building \$1.5bn Quantum Petrochemical Complex in Ibeno, Akwa Ibom State.

The petrochemical plant will support the local economy by

supplying products to sectors such as construction, packaging, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and textile. This is in addition to creating jobs.

Cosgrove Smart Estate

Towards the end of 2021, the federal government inaugurated 160 furnished homes at the newly developed Cosgrove Smart Estate in Abuja.

The FCT Minister, Muhammad Bello, and the Minister of Youth and Sports Development, Sunday Dare, jointly expressed delight at the ability of the indigenous company to achieve a great leap in the evolution of the housing sector.

"Cosgrove is leading the pioneering of integration of technology in real estate, and we are very proud of the good work the company is doing," the FCT minister said.

In his remark, the CEO of Cosgrove Investment Limited, Umar Abdullahi, said the delivery and commissioning of Cosgrove Smart Estate, Wuye, represented a long-held dream of both management and staff of Cosgrove, assuring that the firm would continue to focus on pioneering the integration of technology in real estate development in Nigeria.

"Cosgrove will remain committed to providing housing solutions to a discerning clientele who desire a high standard of living and seek to maximise the potentials of 21st Century technology," the chairman added.

Daily Trust further reports that there are many players in agriculture, oil (like A.A.Rano, Shafa oil), mining, energy and other sectors that will undoubtedly shape Nigeria's economy this year.



Happy Birthday To
The 8th Assembly

Speaker@52



Rt. Hon. Kabiru Alhassan Rurum

Turakin Rano
Member Representing Rano, Kibiya, Bunkure
Federal Constituency
Chairman Committee on Pension

The 52nd Birthday you are marking today is indeed a historic milestone in your life. These years are full of challenges and achievements which God in his infinite mercy has made them to be beneficial to us. Your days as the Speaker of the 8th Assembly were historic and eventful; similarly your calling now at the National Assembly as well as Traditional rulership hierarchy as Turakin

R a n o
are speaking volume of success. I, therefore on behalf of the leadership, members, management and entire staff of Kano State House of Assembly say congratulations
T u r a k i n R a n o

Happy Birthday Mr. Speaker

Signed:

Rt. Hon. Engr. Hamisu Ibrahim Chidari
Speaker Kano State House of Assembly





Happy New Year 2022

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Rano Emirate Council



Congratulations to
TURAKI @ 52

Rt. Hon. Kabiru Alhassan Rurum
Turakin Rano
Member Representing Rano, Kibiya, Bunkure
Federal Constituency
Chairman Committee on Pension

The entire membership of Rano Emirate Council under the leadership of His Royal Highness, the Emir of Rano Alhaji Kabiru Muhammad Inuwa Congratulates one of its illustrious Sons, the Turakin Rano and member Rano Emirate Council, Rt. Hon. Kabiru Alhassan Rurum on this epoch making occasion of his 52nd Birthday

We thank Almighty Allah for Sparing your life and making your history beneficial, to this Emirate, Kano State, Nigeria and humanity in general. We are glad that the history of Rano Emirate, and indeed other new Emirates in Kano State can never be written without the mention of the 8th Assembly which you headed as the Speaker.

Congratulations Turaki



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YOUR YEAR OF
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A new year is a fresh canvas for new beginnings.
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colourful dreams and the strength to achieve them.

*Happy
New Year*

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CARTOON



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

2021: A year full of unexpected predicaments

Each year comes with likes and dislikes. Many have broken the chain of singlehood, several petty traders have grown to shop owners, junior staff have gained promotions, level of poverty may have reduced but the bloodshed and extermination of innocent souls have significantly risen. As the year 2021 comes to an end, the year will remain engraved in the mind of every sensible creature in Nigeria and across the globe. The year came along with so many shocking tragic events.

The year is coming to an end but the events continue to ring the bell in the mind of people daily. Many occurrences have indeed marred the year 2021 and have imprinted scars that will not be erased easily. However, as an optimistic individual, I pray we shall not see a year as catastrophic as 2021 ever again.

Looking at the crises going on in

Nigeria, killings, and kidnappings daily, religious and ethnic crises, and other tragic events that happened and still happening, I'm sure if it were another country that experienced these, depression would have been the next boiling and pressing issue. I must commend Nigerians for their resilience and tenacious strength. Security agents could not end the insecurity without our collective support and cooperation; we should continue giving the necessary details and report of suspicious elements around us.

What many could remember is that 2021 was not been safe on roads during travels, their children in schools, at places of worship, and even in their comfort zones. In 2021, kidnappers operated freely not only in the night but during the day, an uncountable number of innocent people who refused to follow them

were shot dead.

In a humble tone of advice, our leaders should always remain focused on what their primary assignment is. When I said our 'leaders', I mean the national and states assembly in charge of law-making, the president, governors, and agents saddled with the responsibility of executing same, the judiciary which is the interpreter of the law as well as the hope of the common man, the traditional leaders who conserve our traditions and values, and religious leaders who are God's agents, and influential and well to do individuals who in one way or the other impact on our lives and the society in totality.

Bye-bye to 2021 and its scars, May the New year come with innumerable greatness in all aspects.

Usman Abdullahi Koli writes from Bauchi State.

Short&Sharp

FG, stop pampering renegade fighters

Nigeria ranks 146th on the Global Peace Index (GPI) out of 163 countries, making it the eighth least peaceful country in Africa. According to the 2021 GPI, Nigeria has moved up one position from 147 in 2020.

However, Boko Haram, political crises, ritual killings, farmers/herders' crises, and banditry have resulted in the country remaining one of the least peaceful in the world and on the African continent. As a result of the government's mediocre attitude toward paying much more attention to the threat posed by these renegade fighters who had crippled the already peaceful Nigeria. The country is consistently experiencing instability.

Luckily, since the death of the infernal leader of Nigeria's most lethal terrorist group, peace and orderliness have gradually filled an unoccupied peace vacuum in the country.

Finally, these bloodthirsty bandits don't understand any other language than that of fire-for-fire. Considering their day-to-day unlawful operations, they don't want to give up until they are awfully and massively defeated.

May Nigeria succeed.

Mallam Musbahu Magayaki writes Azare, Bauchi State.

Solution to insecurity in Nigeria

By Zeenatu Ajanigo Abdul

The insecurity in Nigeria is getting out of control as shedding of innocent blood has become permissible. Now, no strong effort is being made by the federal government to stop the killing of innocent people.

I am calling on the government to take the bull by the horns by prosecuting and taming the rising cases of banditry

The government should exercise the constitutional functions properly. Like creation of employment, ensuring good education at affordable value to solve the problem of idle hands.

Recruitment of good and qualified people into our various security agencies and the justice sector will definitely aid effectiveness in their service delivery.

Frustration of public peace through illegal dealings or activities of our law enforcement agencies should be discouraged to limit the public protests which can create violence.

Together we can make Nigeria better. Let the labor of our heroes past not be in vain.

Zeenatu Ajanigo Abdul writes from Abuja

English language as taught in schools: The Rigasa experience

Rigasa is a sub-urban community located in Igabi Local Government Area of Kaduna State. It is the biggest community in the state, and arguably the largest ward in Northern Nigeria.

The community was largely dominated by Fulani, Gbagyi, Hausa, Atypa, and Ikulu in the late 1980s and 1990s. There was mutual respect, and understanding among the tribes, hence this brought economic, social and human development. Almost everybody then could speak simple English. This was due to the combination of different tribes in the community.

There were few schools in the community then. But the exciting part of it was that the teachers were hardworking and dedicated to their duties. In addition, no teacher spoke any language apart from English in the schools. This made the students focus on their learning, hence resulting in great achievements in terms of communication skills, writing skills, and creativity among the students.

Comparing Rigasa in the 1980s, 1990s, 2000s and Rigasa in 2010s-2021, one can boldly say that there is a significant decrement in the way students and teachers communicate in the English Language. It is a fact that English is the acceptable medium of instruction and communication in schools, colleges, and universities in Nigeria. So, the position of the English Language in Nigeria coupled with the roles it plays compels every Nigerian to learn and speak it.

Abdulazeez Alhassan writes from Rigasa, Kaduna

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2022 holds high prospects for Nigeria's entertainment industry

Taiwo Adeniyi

2021 was a recovery year for Nigeria's entertainment industry with several wins and thrilling acts. While music stars continued their dominance in Africa, they also had a stint on the world stage with Grammy wins for the country. Several musicians emerged proving their readiness to take over from the old-timers. It was the same with the movie industry, with Mo Abudu that led others to show that Nigerians are ready to compete on the world stage. Several Nigerians made their marks within and outside the continent in fashion.

The Nigerian movie industry has witnessed several comebacks from the *Living in Bondage* and *Rattle Snake*, while in the last two years there had also been *Omo Ghetto: The Saga*; *Ghost and the Tout*; *King of Boys: The Return of the King*; and the last might not have been heard as a trilogy of the *King of Boys* could surface in 2022. Kemi Adetiba tweeted in response to a tweet that: "The full premise for *King of Boys - Season 3 (KOB3)* just came to me now", fueling speculations of a return of the highly accepted series. Unlike the prequel, the sequel was a seven-part series that was released on Netflix on August 27.

With *Ayinla*, *Swallow* and *A Naija Christmas*, Kunle Afolayan has shown the great potentials of the Nigerian movie industry. The films by the award-winning producer and director have shown that indeed he is a big weight in the Nigerian movie industry as his partnership with Netflix to produce three diverse films: a historical drama, folklore and a character drama. With the successes of *Ayinla*, *Swallow*, *A Naija Christmas* in 2021, Kunle Afolayan has raised the bar higher for himself, and fans need not worry about his track record as they can be assured of award-winning movies in 2022. He is already on set of *Anikulapo* in Oyo State.

"We are on a quest to make another history. KAP FILM VILLAGE & RESORT/ ANIKULAPO THE MOVIE," Afolayan posted on his Instagram page.

While the reunion of the Okoye brothers is no longer news, but fans are eager to see what the reunion will yield in 2022. With snippets of few performances in 2021, the "rock-it" crooners and high-energy dancers have shown they can still get Nigerians and Africans "squared" with energetic choreography and lovely renditions of past hits at various shows within and outside Nigeria since their reunion. But will they make a comeback in 2022?

Also, in the music industry, Oyinkansola Aderibigbe, Ayra Starr got to the limelight in 2021 having signed with Mavin Records. She rocks the music industry with her sonorous voice and charming identity. Fans will expect her to shine brighter in 2022 and build on her songs that topped the charts in 2021. Zazoo Zeh dominated the airwaves in December and fans will expect Habeeb Okikiola aka Portable to also bolster his fame which has seen him share the stage with top musicians in the country.

As seen in the industry, each year comes with new talents and discoveries and with the depth of endowed Nigerians, music lovers should expect to see more in 2022 as the music scenes take a global outlook.

How will Davido's N250m be shared? This is the year, the N250m raised by Davido and pledged to charity will be shared. With over 1,000 applications received since he said the money would be donated to charity, fans are waiting to see the outcome of the committee set up to disburse the funds.

Also, 2021 saw several defamation cases among celebrities. In 2022, fans will know the first person to pay or apologise in national dailies.



Peter and Paul Okoye



Ayra Starr



Kemi Adetiba



Kunle Afolayan

MOVIE BUZZ

With Taiwo Adeniyi



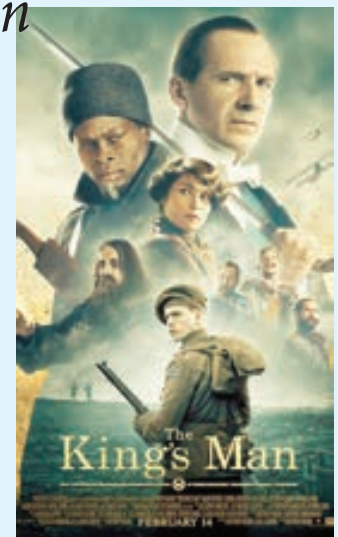
Christmas in Miami

The festive season is not over yet and you can do with another comedy - the fourth instalment of the Akpos film series. The one-hour 40-minute film stars Catherine Olsen, Isaiah Samuel Garcia, Manoj Chandra, Osita IHEME, RMD, Sterling Royston, Tanya Price and is directed by Robert Peters. It started showing on December 24, 2021, and follows the life of Akpos, this time in Miami, with his family to represent Nigeria in a contest.



The King's Man

This thriller is a mix of comedy, adventure and action for over two hours. Featuring Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Alexandra Maria Lara, Charles Dance, Djimon Hounsou, Gemma Arterton, Harris Dickinson, Matthew Goode, Olivier Richters, Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci and Tom Hollander, the movie is woven around a kinsman agency formed to stand against a cabal plotting a war to wipe out millions. It is directed by Matthew Vaughn and released in cinemas on December 24, 2021.



Movie watch >>

Top 10 movies on Netflix



A Naija Christmas

A Naija Christmas retains the third position of movies seen in Nigeria on Netflix. The movie produced and directed by Kunle Afolayan was released on December 16. It tells a typical Christmas story embedded with romance and rivalry showing not only Nigerians' craze for the festive season, but also tells the story of what Christmas looks like in a typical ghetto in Nigeria. It shows why Christmas, to most Nigerians, is one season that is held in high esteem.

Fine Wine

This movie was released in February, 2021, but started streaming on Netflix in December. It occupies the seventh spot among the top 10 movies seen on Netflix in Nigeria. Starring Richard Mofe-Damijo (RMD) and Ego Nwosu, the film shows the fight of a wealthy but lonely man against the social stigma of age-gap marriage. The 55-year-old man approaches a 25-year-old woman after he fell for her but their supposed union has to overcome societal storms to thrive.



King of Boys

It returns to the top 10 in Nigeria. Released on August 27, the seven-part series returns to the 10th spot on the chart of the top 10 movies seen on Netflix in Nigeria.



Season's Greetings

From

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Entertainment news

Compiled by Rosemary Etim Bassey

Kannywood: *Lu'u Lu'u* series to hit screen Jan 1

From Ibrahim Musa Giginyu, Kano

The Hausa film making industry aka Kannywood is set to witness the release of a film on youths' financial development. The movie tagged *Lu'u Lu'u* is aimed at motivating youths through encouraging them to imbibe small scale businesses that will ensure self-reliance, as well as reduce level of their unemployment.

Speaking to newsmen in Kano during the film's premiere, its producer, Isa Bawa Doro, revealed the concept of the film was to drift away from the conventional love stories that the industry was known for and begin a new move to produce films that would address social vices.

Doro said, "The concept was developed taking into consideration the level of youths' redundancy in our society and the possibility of these youths' involvement in criminal activities. We sat down and decided to look into it and produce a film that will sensitise the general public on the need for youths to get involved in activities that will



enhance their financial status. We began with the scavenging business, hence the film's name, 'Lu'u Lu'u' which literally translates to 'from waste to wealth'."

The film was directed by Ali Gumzak and stars artistes like Bashir Nayaya and Lassan Kwalle. The film which is a web series will be released on January 1, 2022, on a YouTube channel called Kannywood Exclusive.

Naomi Campbell pens down emotional note to Wizkid

British model, Naomi Campbell, took to her Instagram page where she expressed love for Nigerian artiste, Wizkid, in a very lengthy note. She said she was proud to call him her "lil bro", and went ahead to wish him well for his upcoming show in Lagos.

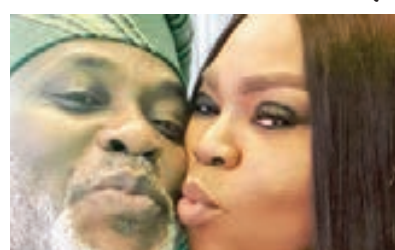
She wrote: "Big Wiz @wizkidayo proud to call you my lil bro and to see with everyone your journey unfold. How many albums we will never hear as you are the quintessential perfectionist! You have brought Afrobeat's mainstream to the world, and always bringing your brothers and sisters alongside you!! 1st billboard top 10 'essence' breaking records selling out 02 3 consecutive nights, Grammy nominations, apple artiste of the year and countless others. Your first night at o2 after your show you should be celebrating, but you are introducing me to your photographer, @zap_308, who writes on his phone



he would like to be the 1st Indian photographer and break the barrier for the deaf and dumb community to make it in fashion. I start talking back, and you tell me he can't hear you, and can't talk to you either. You then proceed to take my phone and write and translate to him so we can be connected!!! This is who you are!! our #starboy wiz for the people!! Wiz to the world. Knockem dead tomorrow in Lagos. I love you always, your sis #starboyeffect.

RMD celebrates wife on 21st anniversary

Veteran Nigerian actor, Richard Mofe Damijo (RMD), took to his Instagram page to honour his wife as they marked their 21st wedding anniversary. On December 29, 2021, the movie star wrote: "Can't believe we are 21 years today! My Abike, My Abk, My Abiks, strong and courageous. You gave up your fame to make us a home!! "One in the family is enough" you said!!! Unworthy me. Thank you for yesterday, today and forever. I love you



big time." The couple got married in 2000 and are blessed with four children.

Dr Dre to pay ex-wife N57b in divorce settlement

American rapper, Dr Dre, and his ex-wife, Nicole Young, have made a deal over his vast estate and property.

According to reports on TMZ, Dr Dre has agreed to pay \$100m to Nicole. He is to pay \$50m now and complete the balance in a year's time. In an exchange, Dr Dre is allowed to keep seven of the properties they own, including a Malibu home, two homes in Calabasas and four properties in the Los Angeles area, including the \$100m Brentwood Estate. He also obtained the full rights to his master recordings, trademarks and interests in various partnerships

and trusts. It would be recalled that in 2020 Nicole filed for a divorce from the rapper while citing irreconcilable differences.

MOVIE
REVIEW*Back to the Outback* does well tackling false impression

Movie: *Back to the Outback*
Reviewer: Aishah Saleeman
Release date: 2021
Directors: Clare Knight & Harry Cripps



Back to the Outback is a Netflix movie released in December, 2021. It is an animated movie filled with comedy and suspense. It has strong messages about friendship, personality being more important than looks, not judging a book by its cover and self-belief.

To celebrate the Aussie film coming to our screens in time for the summer holidays, hundreds of families were invited to join Netflix in welcoming the outback to Sydney Harbour with an immersive family experience.

The *Back to the Outback* park popped up at the Entertainment Quarter in Moore Park this December and featured thrilling escape courses, reptiles and unique activities for the whole family to experience.

It was a real treat for those children craving a bit of the outback after sinking their innocent fangs into the fun film. And that is what a film like *Back to the Outback* does. It ignites all that bravery, curiosity and sense of adventure we want our children to discover within themselves. "Monsters; that's what they think we are in here..." these were among sad words uttered by the movie's main character, Maddie, a "Dangerous" inland taipan snake which can kill a human in mere seconds. At least that is what every visitor to the zoo is told when they enter the reptile section. It is a description that Maddie (voiced by Isla Fisher) hates hearing, because, despite her scary fangs, she is quite friendly. Pretty Boy (a koala) was seen to be in the spotlight among kids in a world of animals (park). He addresses other animals with resentment, calling them names ugly and stupid. Maddie (an inland taipan), Frank (a funnel spider) and some other dangerous animals were set to return to their families at the outback after being seen and treated as dangerous and ugly in the zoo.

Maddie, expecting her trainer (Chaz) to show her off to the visitors was stereotyped and presented as dangerous. She becomes fed up with being locked up for people to gawk at her, so she convinces her mates - Frank, a purple lovelorn funnel-web spider, Nigel, a sensitive scorpion, and Zoe, a thorny devil lizard, to escape their quarters and return to the outback where they belong. The only problem is, Pretty Boy, the zoo's most treasured koala, unexpectedly joins in on the adventure as they make their way through Sydney to the outback, trying to stay one step ahead of Chaz and his son. While trying to escape, they meet some other animals who rescue them from dangers along the way. These animals are known as USS (Ugliest Secret Society), with the password



"I'm ugly, you are ugly, we should all be ugly. Ugly is the new beautiful". With this, they help each other when in trouble. On arrival at the outback, they are welcomed by other animals. There is a decent message in *Back to the Outback* about not buying into false impressions of an entire species and also in how the downtrodden band together. The crew of reptiles trying to get back home might be the ones you would find in any "Australia's deadliest animals" book, but in this film, they are quite the opposite. In their case, beauty truly does come from within.

Jokes and silly laugh-out-loud moments are throughout. This movie portrays the need to treat animals with respect and help each other - no matter how different we look. And how right they are!

Australia is home to such diverse and unique animals, critters and plants that we should celebrate their uniqueness and protect them.

As fun and enjoyable for kids, so it is for adults. There are plenty of adult-only jokes thrown in there, like when the tarantula wants to breed, or the references to Steve Irwin when Chaz talks about his past.

Cast: Isla Fisher as Maddie, a blue kind-hearted inland taipan; Tim Minchin as Pretty Boy, a popular but irritable koala; Eric Bana as Chaz Hunt, a zookeeper who pursues the escaped animals; Guy Pearce as Frank, a purple lovelorn funnel-web spider; Miranda Tapsell as Zoe, a dark grey self-assured thorny devil; Angus Imrie as Nigel, an Orange sensitive marbled scorpion; Keith Urban as Doug, a cane toad who lives in a school; Jacki Weaver as Jackie, a motherly saltwater crocodile; Diesel La Torraca as Chazzie Hunt, Chaz's adventure-seeking son; Kylie Minogue as Susan, a Razorback; Rachel House as Jacinta, a friendly great white shark with barnacles in her teeth; Celeste Barber as Skylar, a vapid and shallow koala; Wayne Knight as Phil, a platypus; Aislinn Derbez as Legs, a female redback spider; Lachlan Power as Dave, a tough Tasmanian devil.

Opinion

Saturday, January 1, 2022

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PROF. BRAINY

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PHILOSOPHIAITH

WITH M.U. NDAGI

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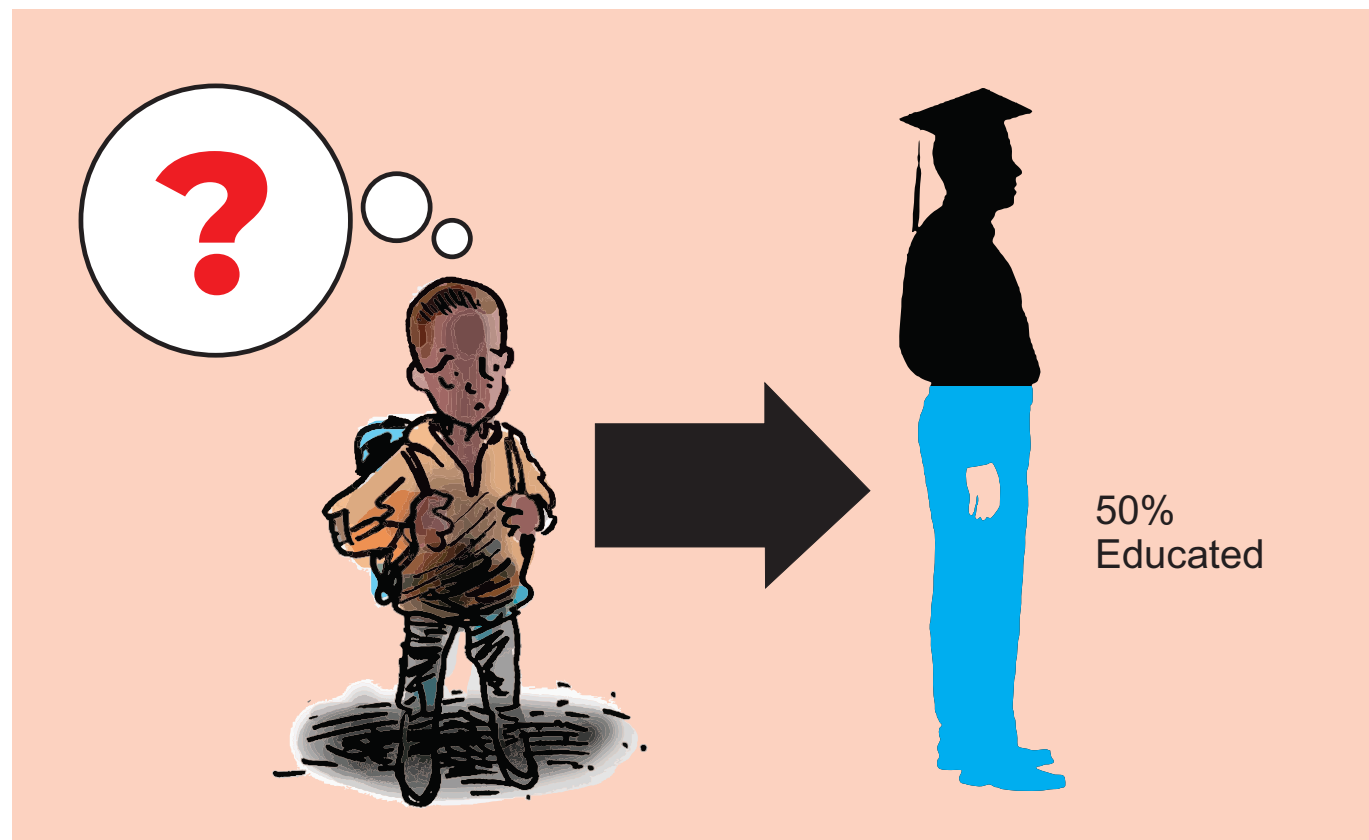
Poor education, substandard graduates

I was recently a witness to a chain of instances, which in the opinion of this writer, goes to confirm that the quality of today's graduates from Nigerian institutions is a reflection of the quality of the system that produced them. "Garbage in", they say, "Garbage out". This is the focus of this week's discourse to which we shall return after few paragraphs. Before the close of the last century, it became common knowledge among Nigerians that the quality, which hitherto characterized graduates across Nigerian schools, colleges and tertiary institutions had long been lost.

The proliferation of private schools at all levels of the education system in Nigeria is a manifestation of the loss of confidence in the quality of graduates produced by public institutions. The same reason accounts for the education tourism by Nigerians to even neighbouring West African countries including Benin Republic which substantially rely on Nigeria for its economic survival as a nation. Indeed, the decision to subject UTME candidates to an achievement test called Post-UTME (now abolished) and the introduction of aptitude test for job placement all reflect the abysmal quality of the products of Nigerian schools and institutions.

The spoken English alone of pre-colonial primary and secondary school graduates in Nigeria with the lucidness and eloquence inherent in their speeches do not at all compare with the jargons spoken by their counterparts who graduated from similar schools especially after 1990. So many things are wrong with the country's education system. From poor funding of the sector to poorly trained teachers, the list of challenges confronting this one most important sector keeps growing. Long and incessant strike actions by teachers particularly at the tertiary level have become the norm in recent years because they occur too often than imagined.

About a fortnight ago, I was at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja to take a flight to Maiduguri. Some details such as name of the airline may not be necessary for obvious reasons. To keep passengers traveling to Maiduguri by that airline informed about the estimated time of the arrival of the aircraft, the GMT and the local time in Nigeria were both announced all the time. Amazingly, the announcer was always wrong each time she announced the corresponding Nigerian local time for the GMT. To get out of the confusion created in some travelers (including me), I approached a staff of the airline who advised me to work with the local time announced. I returned to my seat and continued to wonder whether the announcer (who should, at least, be a secondary school graduate if not a university or polytechnic graduate of mass communication) did not know that Nigeria is only one hour ahead of GMT.



”

We should soon be ready to also see a graduate of Bachelor of Engineering who may not know the difference in the properties of sharp and plaster sand or a graduate of MBBS who cannot set an intravenous fluid line on a patient.

Next was a worse mistake. Sitting close to me in the departure hall were two men who were addressing themselves as Profs (the short form of the academic title, professor). They were traveling to Yola and had their tickets with flight numbers printed on them. Unfortunately, the announcer kept announcing a flight number that was different from what was on their Abuja-Yola ticket for the same airline. They kept wondering among themselves. When the last boarding announcement for that route came from the announcer, I advised both men to approach the boarding gate and make enquiries. At the boarding counter, they were told it was their flight and a call had to be put across to the airline staff on the tarmac to

tell the pilot to delay the take-off for the two passengers. I heard the check-in staff saying the flight number on their tickets was correct but the announcer was reading one of the figures wrongly. This is how poor university professors could have missed their flight as a consequence of substandard graduates produced by their own system.

How could there be quality in the products of our education system when knowledge or education has literally been reduced to writing and passing or failing semester examinations? When strikes are suspended after losing so much teaching and learning to long periods of "sitting down doing nothing", students resume only to write semester examinations after few weeks of teaching and learning that are usually not intensive. How could there be quality in the expected learning process (if teaching took place at all) when course contents which are usually planned in a sequential and integrated manner are most often not covered? Where efforts are made to cover the course contents, the teaching or lecturing is done in so much haste; giving limited time to exhaustively teach or understand the concept, scope and dimensions of specific theories meant to be studied.

Teaching, learning and research facilities in many public-owned schools and institutions are today an eye sore. They are in many cases non-existent, or at best obsolete, where they exist. Yet, some academic programmes which lack basic teaching and learning facilities and which shouldn't pass accreditation are accredited by the National

Universities Commission (NUC) or the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) or the National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE) as the case may be. Don't ask this writer how come about what may better be described as academic scandal!

That is why you have NCE or Bachelor of Education degree holders who are teachers but cannot pass the examination set for primary four pupils they were trained to teach. That also explains why you have some graduates of Bachelor of Arts degree in English Language who demonstrate poor knowledge of tenses when they speak. Is that not also why you come across a graduate of Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration who does not know the simple difference between income and expenditure? We should soon be ready to also see a graduate of Bachelor of Engineering who may not know the difference in the properties of sharp and plaster sand or a graduate of MBBS who cannot set an intravenous fluid line on a patient.

Before now, students graduate from the university after they have been found worthy in knowledge and character. The character component is almost now missing. When our flight arrived at Maiduguri airport, all the young boys and girls on the flight jumped to their feet (out of indiscipline) while the aircraft was still on the runway. The pilot had to announce to them to remain seated until the cabin door is opened. May Allah guide us to give education the serious attention it deserves, amin.

PROF. BRAINY WITH IBRAHEEM DOOBA

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The Easiest Way to Remember People's Names

I shamelessly enjoy telling the following story. Shameless because the story gives people the perception that I'm smart. But it is true. What is true? The story, not the perception that I'm smart.

So let's go to the story. This time, I'll lift it from another article I wrote titled "How to Develop a Photographic Memory" in October 2020:

"We were all new international students on campus, so to help us adjust to the new school and country the university organised a rich and fun orientation week.

"So other than driving around the many cultural sites in the country, we also sat in halls to receive presentations. During one of those sessions, we were asked to say something that made each person special. When it came to my turn, I said I had a very good memory. "And to demonstrate that, I can recall everyone's name after they introduced themselves once.

"This was a huge departure from the boring introductions. So the hall immediately accepted the challenge. But still, they didn't know what I was going to do, therefore, they were underwhelmed. Probably they were thinking: "Is this a joke? What does he mean he would remember everyone's name - as many as we are?"

"But it is said that the test of the pudding is in the eating. So everyone started introducing themselves. Basically, "my name is blah blah blah."

"I paid attention to each person's introduction and worked the magic of associating the names with the unique features of their faces. Which was quite a challenge since many names I had not heard in my life.



"So after everyone had introduced themselves, each person would stand and say 'what is my name?'"

"It sort of became a reverse introduction. Whenever I said a name, there would be big applause.

"So I said everyone's name except that of one plucky guy. "What is my name?" He taunted me. I searched everywhere in my brain, but couldn't find his name. I tried again, but it was no use. When he decided I had suffered enough, he revealed his

secret: "You couldn't remember my name because I didn't tell you my name!"

Today, I'm going to teach you more or less the method I used that day.

Imagine someone walks up to you and tells you their name. What do you do? Think of someone you know who has the same name. Many of us already do this with some names. For instance, a lady says "my name is Fatima." This excites you because Fatima is

your mother's name. So you slip that fact into a conversation with her and tell her "I will never forget your name because that's my mom's name!"

Accordingly, you never forget her name.

The sad thing is, you don't do this with everyone. But the right thing is to do it with everyone. Because any name should remind you of a name you already know. It can be the names of your parents, your wife, your children,

your friends, your colleagues, leaders, fictional characters and so forth.

What if you meet someone whose name you're hearing for the first time? You can link and work that too into a conversation. "Interesting. I don't know anyone with this name but it sounds like..."

Step One Link the name to that of ONE particular person you already know and are familiar with. Picture this

familiar person as you look at the face of the new acquaintance.

You should note that it is best to stick to one person. For example, if a person tells you that his name is Faruk. You have many friends named Faruk, so you think about all of them to remember this person's name. I can almost guarantee that you would forget the name. Stick to one person. One Faruk.

Step Two Work the name into a conversation. "Your name is Mercy? The last Mercy I know was my classmate in primary school. She was smart and very thin - the thinnest in the class."

What if the situation doesn't warrant a conversation? No problem. Have the conversation in your head.

Let's say I'm introduced to someone called Baba.

Step 1. I will link to a Baba that I already know. But I know many. I called my father Baba. My children call me Baba. But in this case, the image of Baba that pops into my head is that of my friend. So I will stick to only that and thank my brain for the assistance.

Step 2. Since I can't have a conversation with this person, I will have it with myself. "His name reminds me of my friend Baba. But we also call him Bello. What are the chances that this guy is also named Bello? Also, Baba's face is round while this guy's oval. And while he is fair, my new friend is dark."

All this can happen within a split second in your mind.

So it is as simple as that. Link a new name to the old and work it into a conversation. But practice will make it permanent.

Mitigating the menace of climate change in Nigeria

By Mukhtar Ya'u Madobi

Unless proactive measures are put in place and fully implemented, the commitment made by Nigeria at the just concluded 26th annual edition of the Conference of Parties (COP26) Summit on climate change in Glasgow, United Kingdom to end deforestation by 2030 and equally attain zero-net emission in another 30 years later, i.e. 2060 will continue to remain a mirage. This is evident when attention was given to unprecedented hikes in the price of cooking gas in the country, not to even talk of diesel and kerosene.

In that regard, many people will resort to cutting down trees for fuel, thereby leading to increased emission, deforestation, and less flora in communities to absorb methane gases being released to the atmosphere occasioned by human activities. What a setback?

Due to the volumes of greenhouse gases being continuously added to the atmosphere triggered by humans, it was observed that the earth is now 1.1 degrees Celsius

warmer compared to the pre-industrial level. The impacts of climate change are now evident to the world, ranging from wildfires in Greece and Algeria to flooding in London and Turkey, to drought in Australia and Northern Nigeria.

There is also the crisis of extinction of land and ocean species, rising sea levels, and increased drought. For developing countries, like Nigeria, these issues lead to increased food shortage, animal migration, health risks, poverty, and displacements. In 2020, the 10-highest climate change-induced disasters occurred in some of the poorest parts of the world. It cost over \$130 billion, killing thousands and displacing millions. These costs are escalating every year.

According to the latest version of National Security Strategy 2019, a document released by the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA), climate change has contributed to excessive flooding across the country causing huge human and economic losses. Additionally, it has led to seasons of drought which affected agricultural

activities and caused a loss of shelter. In 2019, the National Emergency Management Agency revealed that floods had displaced approximately 1.9 million Nigerians.

Research by scientists from Europe, the US, and China predict that by 2070, a third of the global surface would be unsuitable for human life as the global temperature rises. The prediction included West and Central Africa, which will force the majority of the people to migrate to a suitable region. It is estimated that about 81% of Nigeria's population would suffer from these extreme temperatures. Despite our preference not to migrate, the extreme temperature may drive a large percentage of people.

Nigeria has over the years outlined measures and plans toward combating the effect of climate change. These include the establishment of a national youth climate innovation hub to harness climate innovation ideas from young Nigerians as well as include them in decision-making processes. The country has also approved the national action plan on gender and

climate change to ensure climate change efforts mainstream women, men, youth, and other vulnerable groups to optimally benefit from climate change initiatives, programmes, policies, and funds. Nigeria has also developed a national adaptation plan (NAP) — which aims to build a framework for climate change adaptation, planning, and governance, as well as an adaptation communication that would highlight adaptation activities and efforts in the country.

It is heart-warming to learn that on Thursday, November 18, 2021, President Muhammad Buhari signed into law, the climate change bill passed by the national assembly. In signing the law, the president has made Nigeria join an elite group of countries that have enacted emissions-target legislation aiming to eliminate carbon emissions. This is a big deal for an oil-dependent nation that is also ranked as one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change in the world.

The main objective of the climate law is to provide an overarching legal framework for achieving Nigeria's

long-term climate goals including a net-zero carbon emission target, national climate resilience, an adequate volume of climate finance, and the mainstreaming of climate change actions into national development priorities. The bill places climate change action in the broader context of efforts to achieve inclusive green and sustainable economic development for the most populous black country in the world.

Nigeria has long maintained that it wishes to use its climate policies as part of wider measures to achieve low-carbon, resilient, and equitable economic growth. The act, therefore, seeks to facilitate the intensive and complex cross-ministerial coordination of climate change action as well as the involvement of businesses and the civil society needed to achieve long-term climate objectives while also promoting climate-resilient social-economic development in the country.

The act also sets out to establish a systematic approach for the country to identify the major climate risks and vulnerabilities facing the country and how to strengthen

COLUMN No.6
WITH ABDULKAREEM BABA AMINU

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Good, bad, and ugly: What readers said last year

By Abdulkareem Baba Aminu

In line with what has become custom - a retrospective look at this column via readers' e-mails - I'm presenting a smattering from the past 365 days. It wasn't easy to put together, with all the sifting through and editing, but it's a potpourri, as usual. While I hope you find them as interesting as I did, here's hoping you stick around for 2022's pieces, because they will be red-hot. Thanks for reading, and sharing your thoughts.

- Abdulkareem

Re: Memories of Nigeria's colours in black and white

I keenly read your 3-part recollection of your life as a young Nigerian through adulthood, and I must say it is indeed compelling. I must say I had a similar pathway, with a similar background to yours and I could totally relate. As much as I enjoyed reading all three installments, a great sadness enveloped me after reading the final part, because I wanted more. Also, I became sad because the youths of today never had experiences we had, even as bad as some of it was at that time. All hands need to be on deck to fix our country. I don't know about others, but I certainly want my country back, diversity and all.

Bello Babadoko, Zaria.

Re: Life, death, and blind Nigerians

Thank you very much for calling out secessionists for the cowards they are, be they Sunday Igboho, Nnamdi Kanu, or any other clown who fits the bill. Nigeria has been a nation for decades, and our destinies have become tied together. I certainly want to have my country remain the way I was born into it: as one.

Ife Babaeko, Ibadan.

Re: Who's checking checkpoints in



Abuja?

You wrote out my mind regarding the ridiculously unprofessional checkpoints that dot our capital city at night. I noticed that the day the above-titled column came out, the new IGP who just got announced, seemed to have banned them. While that's basically the first thing any 'new broom' does, it somehow gave me hope that someone somewhere listens. But unfortunately, all the ones in Wuse 2 are back, and 'hungrier' than ever, with cops exhibiting highly unprofessional behavior whose details I don't have to give, as most Nigerians know what I mean. I'm not knocking the Nigeria Police Force, no. I'm simply pointing out the need for a better way to do things, checkpoints included.

Jimmy Maicheto, Garki.

Re: Who's 'on top' of the Zamfara situation?

I agree with most of the questions you raised in your above-titled article. But honestly, things have degenerated to the extent that we have to negotiate with criminals, and pay ransoms, and maybe even offer amnesty. When your child, parent, or friend has been taken by bloodthirsty bandits, any option that might see to their safe return will look golden. I totally agree that armed groups which attack or kidnap innocent, law-abiding people, and are 'rewarded' with ransoms are the scum of the earth. But at the moment, what choice do victims have?

Jaleel Hamza Bukar, Kaduna.

Re: Nigeria's unfortunate 'rock stars'

When you said the electorate are only darlings of Nigerian politicians when it's time for votes to be cast, or times when optics are badly needed, you were right. But when you added that the electorate is many times a willing victim to exploitation, I had to disagree. We're talking of the Nigerian

politician here, that snake-like creature which only takes and takes without giving. Yes, not all of them, but you have to agree that it is most of them. I want to say we need to start holding them accountable to the rubbish they deal out to us, but that's already a cliché. By the way, I'm processing my Canadian citizenship as I write this. No shame in being an 'Andrew' at my age. At least I will be an Andrew who is earning a decent living in a society that works.

Timilehin Thomas, Jahi, Abuja.

Re: Dear repentant terrorists, forgiveness is far too divine

I almost broke in a dance after reading your piece titled 'Dear Repentant Terrorists, Forgiveness is Far Too Divine', because frankly, it echoed my sentiments. We as a nation need to call our leadership to order, that they will do the right thing. And right now, it's not being done at all. Thank you for sticking to your guns over the past year this column has been running.

Damilare Usman, Ilorin.

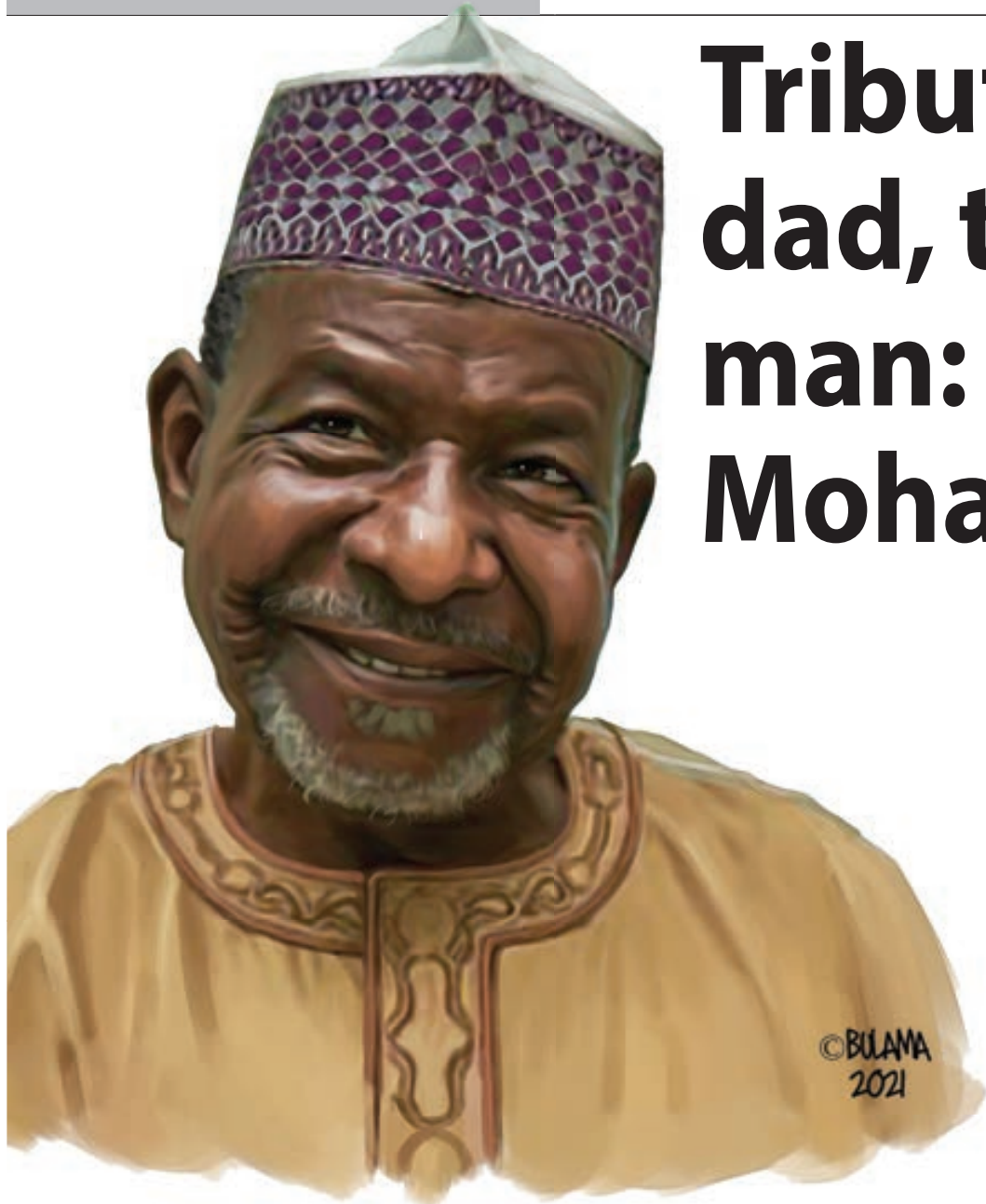
Re: Of failed states and failed state governors

I could not stop laughing as I read your piece with the above title, even though it mostly tackled serious issues. And it is because of the sheer, acerbic nature of your wit. I shared it on WhatsApp and Facebook, and the response I got was quite massive. Most of our state governors have indeed failed us, true, and I wish more writers and journalists would point that out. Thank you for that. I also can't wait for your piece on Lai Mohammed, which you promised. How he ended up making Afghanistan's problems likened to ours is testament to the man's derailment. Maybe the oncoming cabinet reshuffle will sweep him away, maybe not. I'm allowed wishful thinking, am I not?

Jimi Martins, Lekki.

Mukhtar writes from Kano

TRIBUTE



Tribute to our late dad, the family man: Alhaji Garba Mohammed Amali

November 30, 2021, marked one year since the death of our father, Alhaji Garba Mohammed Amali (Mai Gemu). It was on that fateful Monday around 8am while I was on a national assignment that my brother, Hassan, called and informed me that our dad was not feeling well and that they were making arrangements to get him transferred from a private clinic in Kano to the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital (AKTH).

While anxiously waiting for the transfer to link them up with colleagues in AKTH, I reluctantly proceeded to the field for my assignment. Later, I called my mum and brother but they did not pick their calls. I then felt something was wrong. Moreover, while eating lunch, the food became tasteless and unpleasant. I was just not myself. That was most likely the exact time he passed on, because around 3pm I received a call from my brother that dad was no more! "Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi raji'un!" That was my reaction. I fell on my knees as my legs could not hold my weight. I had never received such shocking news.

Thanks to my friend, Pharmacist Yusuf Hassan Wada, who helped me with a driver who drove me back to Kano. Indeed, that was the longest trip of my life. Dad had already been buried according to Islamic rites before my arrival, so I was taken to his grave the following morning. I

prayed for him at his graveside, sobbing along with my elder brothers who also drove through the night on Monday from Abuja and Kaduna.

It is indeed painful losing our loved ones, but we must accept it in good faith because it is the will of our maker, Allah (SWA), as He promised, "Every soul shall have a taste of death." (Al-Imran, 3:185). The pain will subside with time but resurface from time to time.

Yes, it was a shocking news because when I said goodbye to dad on Saturday night on November 28, 2020, he was hale and hearty; not knowing that was the last goodbye. On the morning of the same Saturday, he had waved to me and my friends on our way to Jigawa for a wedding. When I returned from Jigawa, I spent precious time with him and my mum in his sitting room. I told them I would be travelling to Katsina State on Sunday, November 29, for a national assignment. My mum complained about my safety because of the security situation in Katsina. I remember how dad convinced my mum that the areas I was visiting were safe.

He even cracked jokes with my mum; telling her she did not know Katsina as much as he did, and we all laughed. While leaving for my house, I said goodbye to them, and he said, "Allah ya kiyaye hanya" (God grant you a safe journey), and that was all, o

dad! I never knew that would be our last conversation and your last prayer for me! May Jannatul Firdaus be your abode.

During the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, while I was in Milan, Italy, the epicentre of the pandemic at the time, dad was worried and he used to call me every morning to ask about the situation. So caring was he that for the entire period I spent during my PhD study, he made sure he called me every Saturday; aside from my calls to him. Upon my return to Nigeria, he was so happy, most especially when I told him I had completed my PhD programme. Though it was only two months between my return and your death, I cherish those moments.

I am glad I made you proud dad; he never mentioned it to me, but many of my friends and his friends used to tell me that, "Your dad is very proud of you."

It may interest many to know how you like maintaining friendship, and how you admonished us and even people around you to nurture friendship as testified by many. Some of my friends will call me when I was in Milan and inform me that my dad gave them my phone number. More so, he often told them when they could easily get me on phone.

May Allah (SWT) reward you abundantly for the way you raised us and for all the moral support to become what we

are today. I still remember how you used to pursue us to go to makarantar Muhammadiyya (Islamic school) as you used to call it in the evenings. I also remember while growing as a child how you used to take me with you for Magrib, Isha, and Fajr prayers because you were at home those times.

My dad was a family man. As for his family, we could easily predict when he was financially buoyant because he liked spending on his family. As our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW) is reported to have said, "The best of you are the best to their families." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi).

Alhamdulillah! My dad used to practice this injunction by providing the best he could to us his family. Anytime he returned from a trip, it was celebration moment for us, because not only would he bring varieties of edible items, but clothes and many more. Out of his magnanimity, whatever he brought home was not only for us alone, as he would also divide it into portions and give us to share among our neighbours.

I remember your special weekend meals which I used to buy most of the ingredients as a child (he liked vegetables). I am

also nostalgic about how I used to make your bread and butter every night after dinner which you used to take with tea. That has also become my habit as of now, and every time my daughter, Fatima, asks me why I take tea every night, I just smile and tell her, "The genesis is historic, my Zahra!"

I also remember how as a child he used to take me with him during holidays to Plateau State to spend quality time with my grandmother. It is indeed a remarkable achievement raising 13 children (seven males and six females) and all but one are married with children and grandchildren.

We are grateful for the way you raised us, dad, thank you for the moral upbringing, kindness and generosity you instilled in us. It was such a great moment of joy and reminiscing when Allah (SWA) blessed my family recently with a baby boy and I named him Abubakar after you. The boy and the name brought so much happiness to the entire family, and we decided to be calling him Baba Sadeeq. May Allah (SWA) bless my Baba Sadeeq and make it easy for him to imbibe the good name and attributes of his grandfather, Ameen.

A lot more of his philanthropic acts became known to us only after his death. The entire neighbourhood mourned him because of the role he played in ensuring the safety and peace of the area. It was such a fantastic relief to be informed that, "This is the constant place where your dad used to pray Juma'at prayer," according to a neighbour.

Moreover, about four months ago, a childhood friend of mine named his son Abubakar after my dad and told me he basically did so because my dad used to call him even from afar whenever he (my dad) saw him just to exchange greetings.

Several of such testimonies have given us nothing but increased hope that Insha Allah, you are in a better place. May Allah (SWA) in His infinite mercy forgive your shortcomings and grant you Jannatul Firdaus, Ameen.

Khalid Garba Mohammed, PhD, writes from Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria

My dad was a family man. As for his family, we could easily predict when he was financially buoyant because he liked spending on his family



TRUST SPORTS

Saturday, January 1, 2022

Email: sports@dailytrust.com

RED-HOT SPORTS NEWS 23

Major sports events Nigeria to participate in 2022



Jide Olusola

Nigeria is a sport-loving nation and the citizens are always looking forward to seeing the various national sports teams donning the colours of the nation while hoping the teams will be more successful this year than in 2021 which ended yesterday.

Just as every other previous year, Nigeria has always participated in various sporting events and this year will not be an exception except the current pandemic takes an ugly twist.

Trust Sports highlights some of the major events Nigeria as a country will participate in as the year 2022 begins today.

Africa Cup of Nations

This will be the first major event Nigeria will participate with the Super Eagles representing the country at the 33rd edition of the Africa Cup of Nations, the biennial international men's football championship of Africa organised by the Confederation of African Football (CAF). The tournament is scheduled to be hosted by Cameroon and will take place from 9 January to 6 February 2022. Nigeria is grouped with Egypt, Guinea-Bissau and Sudan in Group D and will look to win it the fourth time.

African Men's Handball Championship

The 25th edition of the African Men's

Handball Championship will be held from 13 to 23 January 2022 in Morocco. It acts as the African qualifying tournament for the 2023 World Men's Handball Championship in Poland and Sweden. The Golden Arrows as the senior national team is called have participated in eleven editions.

Men's Hockey Africa Cup of Nations

The quadrennial international men's field hockey championship of Africa is organised by the African Hockey Federation and it will be held alongside the women's category in Ghana from 17th to 23rd January. Nigeria is grouped in Pool B with Egypt, Ghana and Uganda. The winner will qualify for the 2023 Men's FIH Hockey World Cup.

Women's Hockey Africa Cup of Nations

Just as the men are slugging it out on the pitch, the women too will be taking on Ghana, Kenya and Zambia in Pool B while the winner of the tournament qualifies for the 2022 Women's FIH Hockey World Cup.

Winter Olympics

Nigeria is scheduled to compete at the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, China, from 4 to 20 February 2022 but in only one sport - Cross-country skiing.

African Youth Games

This competition scheduled from 25 February to 6 March in Ethiopia is for athletes under the age of 18 and athletes

who performed well in the 6th National Youth Games in Ilorin will represent the country in the tournament.

FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup

As at the time of writing this, Nigeria is yet to qualify for the Mundial but the Super Falcons are on track to qualify for the global football showpiece billed for Costa Rica from August 10-28, 2022. Since the start of the competition in Canada 2002, the Falcons have participated in all editions of the Fifa U20 Women's World Cup.

Africa Women Cup of Nations

The biennial international football championship organised for the women's national teams of Africa will be hosted by Morocco from 2 to 23 July 2022. Morocco has qualified for the tournament automatically being the host while other nations will still go through the qualification processes.

The tournament doubles as the African qualifiers for the World Cup 2023 in Australia and New Zealand. The top four teams at the AWCON will qualify for the World Cup. Nigeria is the most successful nation in the tournament's history, having won a record 11 titles, meaning they have won all but two of the previous tournaments.

FIFA World Cup

This is the biggest football showpiece in the world and the Super Eagles is expected to fly the nation's flag in faraway Qatar. The three-time AFCON champions are yet to

qualify as they will have to navigate through a tricky world cup final clash with a yet-to-be-known opponent. Nigeria will face either Mali, Egypt, Congo DR, Cameroon or Ghana for a place in Qatar 2022.

FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup

Nigeria's senior women's basketball team, D'Tigress will be in Sydney, Australia for the 19th edition of FIBA's premier international tournament for women's national basketball teams.

They recently emerged champions of Africa after they secured a 70-59 points win over Mali in the final match of the 2021 FIBA Women's AfroBasket. D'Tigress are only the second team in Africa to win three consecutive titles after Senegal did the same in the 70s.

Commonwealth Games

Commonly known as Birmingham 2022, is an international multi-sport event for members of the Commonwealth that is scheduled to be held in Birmingham, England and is expected to take place between 28 July and 8 August 2022. Nigeria has won at least one medal at every Games attended, including a high of thirty-seven in 1994 and has competed at thirteen editions, from 1950 to date. Nigeria did not attend four Games, in 1962, 1978 (in protest at New Zealand's sporting policies towards South Africa during apartheid), 1986 and 1998 (due to suspension).



■ Bukayo Saka

Arsenal's Bukayo Saka 'interested in Liverpool move'

Arsenal winger Bukayo Saka would be interested in a move to Premier League rivals Liverpool, according to a report.

The 20-year-old academy graduate has elevated his game to new heights under Mikel Arteta and is enjoying the current campaign in front of goal, netting six times and providing four assists in 21 appearances across all competitions.

Arsenal are believed to be keen to tie Saka down to a new contract, with one report claiming that a six-year deal is on the table.

However, the Transfer Window

Podcast reports that the England international and his representatives are 'interested' at the prospect of joining Liverpool.

Jurgen Klopp is understood to be on the lookout for long-term replacements for attacking trio Mohamed Salah, Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino, who will all be in their 30s at the start of next season.

Saka, who is under contract at the Emirates Stadium until June 2024, has played 109 times in all tournaments for the Gunners since making his debut in November 2018, scoring 17 goals and registering 25 assists.

Sterling 'learning Spanish amid Barcelona links'

Manchester City forward Raheem Sterling is reportedly learning Spanish, amid interest from La Liga giants Barcelona.

The 27-year-old has been heavily linked with a move to Camp Nou this season, with head coach Xavi believed to be a 'huge admirer' of the England international.

Barca still hold an interest in Sterling despite signing his Man City teammate Ferran Torres for €55m earlier this week.

According to The Athletic, via the *Daily Mirror*, Torres helped Sterling learn Spanish during his time at the Etihad Stadium, with the pair frequently speaking the language together.

Pep Guardiola is keen to keep hold of the forward, but will not stand in his way should he decide to seek pastures new in either January or the summer of 2022.

Sterling, who has 18 months remaining on his contract, has recently enjoyed an impressive spell in the first team for the Citizens, scoring eight goals in his last 10 appearances across all competitions.



■ Raheem Sterling

INTERVIEW

Hon. Usenobong Akpabio: There is no tribe or religion while playing on golf courses

The captain of Ibom Icon Hotel golf course in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State Hon. Usenobong Akpabio has said golf just as other sports unites Nigerians saying nobody remembers religion or tribe while playing golf. In an interview during the tournament organised by the *Daily Trust*, Akpabio said golf has turned around the fortunes of Akwa Ibom state through sports tourism. He also highlighted the benefits of playing golf from a young age.

Jide Olusola

Can you give us a brief history about this golf course?

It was Le Meridien before and it was opened in 2004. This place was built by the former governor, Obong Victor Attah. The government has been maintaining this place since then. Originally this place was meant to be a resort. Akwa Ibom is not a transit state and there was the need to create something and trap people here and in doing that, the former governor created this place. Also, to bring in investors, there was need to create a comfortable place for them to stay.

Running a golf course of this magnitude will cost a lot of money, so how have you been able to maintain this course?

Maintaining a course is enormous and the membership subscription can't maintain it. In fact, it doesn't reside with us but with the hotel who are the managers of the facility. We are thankful to the government for maintaining it directly and we are just here to ensure the maintenance company is doing the right thing.

As members, we do our own little part to keep it up and running, just simple things without waiting for the government pending when our membership base is large enough. It costs nothing less than N20m to maintain this facility.

As the current captain of this club, what efforts are being made by you to take golf to the grassroots and discover new talents?

Occasionally, we organize mini academies for the young ones. We are not playing golf professionally but for leisure, exercise and maybe for purposes of interaction. There are benefits for them to start when they are young and we have started doing it from the primary schools during the holidays.

We train them so that they can fully get into golf without disrupting their academic programmes.



■ Usenobong Akpabio

Every holiday we organize academies so that in 10 years to come, that child will break into the professional cadre and we have a place that is not too busy like IBB Golf course or Ikoyi Club.

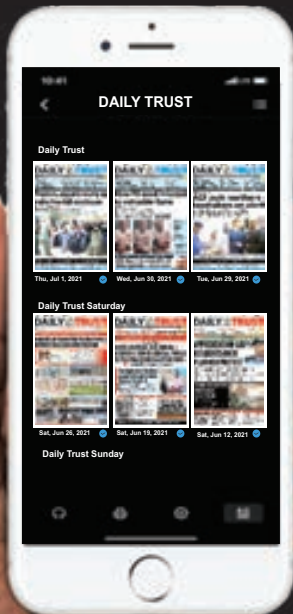
What are the actual benefits of golf for the young ones?

They have the option of taking it up professionally but if they don't, golf will still expose them to a large network and contacts, it makes you to be bold to take decisions, it gives you challenges and golf teaches you to overcome them. On the course, there is no way you won't communicate with your partners and at that point, there is no religion, tribe on the course. Golf teaches one to communicate. Personally, golf has taught me to be calm and take decisions under pressure.

How can we manage and develop sports tourism in Nigeria?

Sports is big business and it's something that unites Nigeria. Regardless of the tribe, culture, language or religion, sports bring Nigerians together. Sports brings people together and looking at this resort, just because of this competition, the hotel is fully booked. Beyond the hotel, the neighbourhood, the state feels the impact. The caddies get paid and there is generally economic boom. That's the power of sports and in this case, golf.

As far as Akwa Ibom State is concerned, golf is no longer a potential but a reality as there is a lot the state has tapped from golf. Golf has really promoted tourism as far Akwa Ibom state is concerned.



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The 
ABAT
MOVEMENT

Seasons' Greetings

The **ABAT Movement** wishes all Nigerians a fruitful and rewarding 2022. We pray that this will be a year of multiple blessings for all and usher in a lasting solution to Nigeria's myriads of problems. We salute President Muhammadu Buhari, top government functionaries, our leaders in various constituencies and all Nigerians as we pray that our country shall be great again.



Happy New Year.

The ABAT Movement... Tinubu for President





Felicitations

Rt. Honorable

Rurum

@52

On behalf of the 23 members of the House of Representatives from Kano State, we wish to felicitate with Rt. Honorable Kabiru Alhassan Rurum (Turakin Rano), member representing Rano/Kibiya/Bunkure Federal Constituency on his 52nd Birthday.

As the Speaker of the 8th Assembly, the history of Kano

politics will never be complete without recognising your immense contributions to the Kano State House of Assembly and indeed Kano state.

As you add another one year to your earthly sojourn today, we pray for Allah's guidance, wisdom, blessing to be with you always and forever.

Once again, happy birthday.

Signed:

1. Hon. Alhassan Ado Doguwa
Majority Leader
Member representing T/Wada/Doguwa Fed. Constituency
2. Hon. Muhammad Ali Wudil
Member representing Wudil/Garko Fed. Constituency.
3. Hon. Abubakar Kabir Bichi
Member representing Bichi Fed. Constituency.
4. Hon. Yusuf Ahmad Badau
Member representing Bagwai/ Shanono Fed. Constituency.
5. Hon. Sani Ma'aruf Maiwake
Member representing Ungogo/Minjibir Fed. Constituency.
6. Hon. Sani Bala Umar
Member representing Kunchi/Tsanyawa Fed. Constituency.
7. Hon. Aminu Suleiman Goro
Member representing Fagge Fed. Constituency.
8. Hon. Lawal Abdullahi Ken-Ken

- Member representing Gwale Fed. Constituency.
9. Hon. Sha'aban Ibrahim Sharada
Member representing Kano Municipal Fed. Constituency.
10. Hon. Haruna Isa Dederi
Member representing Karaye/Rogo Fed. Constituency.
11. Hon. Tijjani Abdulkadir Jobe
Member representing Dawakin Tofa, Rimin Gado/Tofa Fed. Constituency.
12. Hon. Nasiru Abduwa
Member representing Gezawa/Gabasawa Fed. Constituency.
13. Hon. Ali Datti Yako
Member representing Kiru/Bebeji Fed. Constituency.
14. Hon. Abdullahi Mahmoud Gaya
Member representing Gaya/Ajingi/Albasu Fed. Constituency.
15. Hon. Abdullahi Babangida Alasan
Member representing Dala Fed. Constituency.
16. Hon. Badamasi Ayuba

- Member representing Dambatta/Makoda Fed. Constituency.
17. Hon. Mustapha Bala Dawaki
Member representing Dawakin Kudu/Warawa Fed. Constituency.
18. Hon. Shamsuddeen Bello Mohammed
Member representing Sumaila/Takai Fed. Constituency.
19. Hon. Hafiz Kawu
Member representing Tarauni Fed. Constituency.
20. Hon. Musa Umar Garo
Member representing Gwarzo/Kabo Fed. Constituency.
21. Hon. Munir Babba Dan Agundi
Member representing Kumbotso Fed. Constituency.
22. Hon. Nasir Ali Ahmad
Member representing Nassarawa Fed. Constituency.
23. Hon. Kabiru Idris
Member representing Kura/Madobi/Garun Malam Fed. Constituency.

ENCOUNTER

How I won Qur'anic recitation competition – Police officer



SP Mahi Ahmed Ali, the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Takai in Kano State, emerged the overall winner of the recently conducted maiden police officers Quran recitation competition. In this interview with *Daily Trust Saturday*, he spoke on his journey to this victory and how his story has changed many people's negative impression about police officers in Nigeria.

Sani Ibrahim Paki, Kano

How would you describe your background?

I was born on March 17, 1980 at Gyaranya, Takalmawa area in Gwale Local Government Area of Kano State, to the family of Sheik Ahmed Modibbo, a Khalifa of Sheik Saminu Koro. I grew up in that area, where I was enrolled at an early age to start Islamic education at Mallam Mahmud Barnoma School, situated in the Sanka area of Dala Local Government Area.

I started learning Arabic and other things, up to the time I had my Quranic graduation. I had done about four different types of Quranic graduation before I moved to Sheik Mallam Rabi'u's school, situated at Ja'en Quarters, where I had more Quranic graduation twice before I moved for western education.

Consequently, our school later metamorphosed into a western education institute and I had primary education there. I also attended Aliya Secondary School, Shahuci and later obtained a diploma in Quranic Science at the Aminu Kano College of Legal and Islamic Studies, all in Kano. After my diploma, I got a foreign admission to Sudan, where I bagged a degree in Arabic Linguistics.

When I came back to Nigeria, I did my National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) scheme in Kebbi State. After my NYSC, I taught for eight months at Gidan Malamai Secondary School, as well as Barkum in Bunkure Local Government Area.

When did you join the Nigeria Police Force?

I applied in 2009 and was eventually shortlisted amongst the candidates who were trained in 2010.

How did you join the Quran recitation competition?

When a Quran recitation competition was organised by the Kano State police command last month, under the leadership of CP Samaila Dikko, I was informed that whoever was interested should so indicate. Many people declared interest to participate in the competition, including me. A date was fixed and I prepared myself and went for it.

I started Quran recitation from my early age. I did my first memorisation of the holy book when I was 13 years old, so it has become a part of me, such that I feel somehow bored and disturbed if I didn't do it.

How do you strike a balance

between your job as a police officer and Quran recitation?

In every situation I find myself, I recite the Quran, especially when I am on a journey. Even when we were employed into the Nigeria Police Force and posted to Lagos for training, I was still very serious with my recitation at the training camp. Despite the fact that the training involved different exercises, I found time to continue my Quran recitation. I also recited the Quran before I assumed duty as a police officer.

In every opportunity I get, I

do my recitation. In one hour you can recite at least five Hizbs (parts of Quran).

In all the different capacities I have worked, even when I was at the Force Criminal Investigation Department, nothing ever stopped me from doing my Quranic recitation. I have been able to manage my time and balance it with work and my recitation.

I prefer to do my recitation in the morning, after Subhi (dawn prayer). However, I do it during every free moment I find myself.

How frequently do you recite the Quran?

Usually, for several years now, I do a complete recitation of the holy book weekly. However, sometimes it takes me more than a week because of some activities.

How do you feel as the overall winner of the competition?

Initially, I went there to just

recite since it was a religious activity. I intentionally refused to sit at the place reserved for participants in the competition. I sat with the audience, but surprisingly, I was announced as winner. I never thought I could win because many others who were very sound in Quran recitation participated.

What advice do you have for fellow police officers on how to improve their Quran memorisation skills?

Every Muslim, not only policemen, should never play with their religion. They should create time to recite the holy book. One needs not memorise the whole Quran before reciting it. As a Muslim, as far as one can read, one must recite the Quran and be rewarded.

Also, people should listen and pay more attention to Quranic exegesis so that they could understand the message of Allah clearly in order to impact on their behaviours and relationship with people.

What is your main take-away from the competition?

My biggest joy is not even in emerging the overall winner in the competition, but how my story changed the fate of three people who are willing to join the Force. These people I am talking about have been attempting to join the police for long, but their parents/grandparents kept denying them the opportunity, arguing that policing is not for 'good' people.

They changed their minds when they heard that a policeman (DPO) memorised the Quran. This, to me, means everything. I am glad I became the bridge.

In every situation I find myself, I recite the Quran, especially when I am on a journey. Even when we were employed into the Nigeria Police Force and posted to Lagos for training, I was still very serious with my recitation at the training camp

THANK GOD OUR **BABA** IS 52 TODAY

Baba; As you mark 52 Years of age today. We have every course to thank God for making your life full of His blessing and laurels.

As your Wife and Children we share with you the joy that comes with this occasion and wish to further intimate you of our gratitude and appreciation for every inch ahead you move to make us, your constituents and humanity comfortable.

Happy Birthday our Baba,
Mentor and Role Model

**Allah Ya Maimaita,
Ya kara Lafiya**

Hajiya Hauwa Idi Kano (Wife)
Maimuna (Ummi) Daughter
Rabi (Daughter)
Khadija (Daughter)
Nafisa (Daughter)

Usama (Son)
Bashir (Son)
Abubakar (Son)
Aisha (Daughter)
Amina (Daughter)



Rt. Hon. Kabiru Alhassan Rurum
Turakin Rano
Member Representing Rano, Kibiya, Bunkure
Federal Constituency
Chairman Committee on Pension





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AROUND & ABOUT

Festivities: Second hand wears to the rescue as prices soar

Dickson S. Adama (Jos) & Yvonne Ugwuezuoha (Lagos)

At Christmas and new year seasons, people's tastes for wears differ. While the well-to-do go for new ones, the poor opt for the second hand class popularly referred to as 'okirika' 'ok', 'gwanjo' or 'bend down select.'

The prices of both categories of the items, however, depend on the levels of demand.

During the just-ended Christmas celebration, prices of commodities skyrocketed, leading to fall in demand and low patronage. However, while sellers lamented poor sales, others made brisk money through demands by buyers who could not afford new stuffs.

Daily Trust Saturday examines the market ambience in two major commercial nerve centres in the country - Jos and Lagos.

At all times, particularly during Christmas season, Lagos is a hub of new clothes, handbags, shoes, flashy hairstyles as well as fancy accessories. During the season, people troop to different markets across the state to buy them from different stores for the celebration.

Tailors are not left out as the yuletide is popularly referred to as their 'heat period' when they have to work extra hours to satisfy their customers who desire to be beautifully adorned in different regalia for the season.

Daily Trust Saturday's findings indicated that the usual rush for clothing during the season inspired hike in their prices, including second hand clothes.

Our correspondent gathered that boutique owners took advantage of high cost of importation of the stuff and exchange rate to increase prices of clothes in order to make profit.

Consequently, a lot of people opted for second hand clothes



■ Ibrahim Lawan at his shop

otherwise called Okirika and abbreviated as OK for themselves and their children, mainly due to inability to afford new ones.

Francis Okechukwu, a bags and shoes dealer at Thomas Salako Street, Ogba, explained that the demand for second hand clothes during the yuletide was higher than during the normal season.

"From 5:30am, you would see that this place would be filled up with buyers. Some have even described the kind of bags or shoes they want and I have gotten them from the market to satisfy their desires," he said.

He said there was always a boom during the festive period because everybody would want to put on new wears.

"When it was a few days to Christmas, I increased the prices of my shoes and bags a bit. This is because the price also increased

from the market. In any case, people still bought the stuffs of their choice. Though they still bargained for a little reduction in price," Francis said.

Francis buys shoes and bags from Trade Fair Market and Eko Idumota and bring them to his shop in Ogba where he sells them.

He expressed delight that he made over 50 per cent profit during the festive season, compared to the gains he makes on a regular basis.

"But I cannot be specific with the amount of gains I make on regular basis," he said.

He added that he stayed for longer hours at the market during the Christmas season compared to the regular times.

Patience who sells OK female clothes, said that she had to visit Katangua Market, Abule Egba, Lagos three times a week to restock as people troop to her stall for

Christmas shopping.

She said with all sense of pride that she deals in what she described as Grade 1 second hand wears which she buys from Katangua Market, but added that the business was stressful.

"I sell off my wears very fast. I leave my house as early as 4:30am so I can get to the market early and select good materials. Once I open my bail, my customers rush them. That is how it is during Christmas period.

"I have to leave my house early to get to Katangua because if I delay, they will buy off all the good clothes before I arrive. I also have to take care of my home because I am a married woman.

"I rarely visit the bank to save money because I do daily contributions with other women in the market. I pay daily and use part of my money to restock my wares,"

Patience said.

In Jos, the Plateau State capital, buyers of second hand clothes as well as sellers lamented increase in prices, especially children wears. Children are always at the centre of attention during Christmas and new year shopping.

Istifanus Bako, a buyer, who came to the market with his wife, said that despite the high prices of clothes and economic hardship, he owed his children an obligation to buy Christmas clothes so that they would not look shabby among well dressed peers during the celebration.

A few sellers who spoke with our correspondent at the popular Terminus Market in Jos lamented low patronage. They also observed that the market was not as full as it used to be during Christmas.

A clothes seller, Ibrahim Lawan, attributed this to the rise in prices. He recalled that during the Christmas season last year, the market was always filled to capacity. He said that despite the COVID-19 pandemic characterised by lockdown and economic hardship, people still thronged the market in their numbers to buy and sell.

Lawan said last year, he bought certain clothes for N2,000 and sold at N2,500, while he bought others at N3,000 and sold them at N3,500 or slightly above.

"But this year, the prices of clothes bought for N2,000 last year rose above N3,500, while those sold between N3,000 and N3,500 last year rose to more than N5,000.

Despite selling some second hand clothes for between N1,200 and N1,500, depending on the quality, Lawan said he still recorded low patronage as buyers did not rush for the materials as they used to do during the season.

Another seller, Doro Ibrahim, who also bemoaned the low patronage, said he had more customers during last year's Christmas season than this year, so much that he found it difficult to attend to them adequately due to the huge patronage.

"But this year, I had to pursue customers to the road to drag them to my shop to patronise me. At other times, I stayed outside the market to woo customers because I was desperate to sell my stuff," he said.

Ibrahim expressed fears that if the economy failed to improve, he might not be able to sell all the bales of his second hand clothes before Christmas or until the end of the year.

He blamed the low patronage on what he described as intense economic downturn and lack of money in circulation.

He called on government to do all it could to address the hardship in the country before the living conditions of the helpless poor degenerate.



■ Istifanus Bako with his wife selecting clothes to buy



■ Doro Ibrahim at his shop

Congratulations

Rt. Honorable
**Kabiru
Alhassan
Rurum**

@52

On behalf of the Chairman, Executives, Trustees and entire traders of Mile 12 International Market, Lagos, we wish to congratulate **Rt. Honorable Kabiru Alhassan Rurum (Turakin Rano)**, member representing Rano/Kibiya/Bunkure Federal Constituency on his 52nd Birthday.

May Allah Almighty continue to grant you wisdom and good health as you determine to serve your constituents and good people of Kano state.

Once again, Happy Birthday

Alhaji Shehu Usman Jibril,
Chairman, Mile 12 International Market, Lagos
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Happy New Year





■ Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State (5th R); his deputy, Obafemi Hamzat (5th L); Attorney General/Commissioner for Justice, Lagos State, Moyosore Onigbanjo (4th L); Chief Judge of Lagos State, Justice Kazeem Alogba (4th R) and the 14 newly sworn-in Judges at State House in Ikeja, Lagos yesterday
PHOTO: NAN

New Year: Be hopeful, Buhari, govs, others tell Nigerians

- It's a miracle to survive under Buhari – PDP
- Tackle insecurity, focus less on 2023 polls, CAN urges FG

Muideen Olaniyi, Abdullateef Salau, Balarabe Alkassim, Abbas Jimoh, Faruk Shuaibu (Abuja), Salim Umar Ibrahim (Kano), Hope Abah Emmanuel (Makurdi), Abubakar Akote (Minna) & Jeremiah Oke (Ibadan)

President Muhammadu Buhari, yesterday said his administration would remain resolute with its programmes and plans despite persistent insecurity in parts of the country threatening to undo the gains of the federal government.

The president stated this in his New Year message to Nigerians.

He said it was on record that his administration had invested heavily in re-equipping the military in a bid to upgrade the platforms and firepower required to tackle the current challenges being faced in the country.

He added that this was a follow-up to the promise to re-energise and reorganise the security apparatus and personnel of the armed forces and the police.

Buhari said that despite the challenges in 2021, it was also a year his administration executed key projects, programmes and initiatives successfully.

He urged all citizens to hope for and envision a year of continued progress against "our combined challenges arising from security and socio-economic issues."

He said, "As it is said, the past is but a story told, the future will still be written in gold. Let us be united in our fight to keep our country united against all odds and with gratitude."

The president commiserated with Nigerians who had lost loved ones as a result of insecurity in different parts of the country, saying, "Every life matters, and every death caused by any form of

insecurity is a matter of personal concern to me, both as a citizen and the president of this great country.

"We remain fully committed to upholding the constitutional provisions that protect all Nigerians from any form of internal and external aggression."

The president said that in 2022 and going forward, his administration would intentionally leverage on information and communication technology (ICT) platforms to create jobs, saying that diversification of the economy created more support to other emerging sectors.

We need reawakening – Atiku
Former Vice President Atiku Abubakar has advocated the need for reawakening among Nigerians.

In his New Year message, Atiku urged Nigerians to eschew divisive and parochial tendencies.

"We must seek to do something different; and in doing so, let us become peace ambassadors of God. Hate and strife never build a nation; they even destroy faster. "Rather, unity and understanding bind a nation," he said.

Let's keep faith in Nigeria, Lawan urges

Senate President Ahmad Lawan, in his message, urged Nigerians not to lose faith in the country and its democratic institutions amid the plethora of challenges confronting her.

In his message, Lawan stated that although 2021 was challenging for people all over the world, the National Assembly would continue to pursue the common desire of a just, peaceful and prosperous Nigeria.

He said the federal parliament had passed many critical bills in 2021 and had many more to roll out in the New Year.

Gbajabiamila, Wase congratulate Nigerians

In the same vein, the Speaker

House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila and his deputy, Ahmed Idris Wase have felicitated with Nigerians, urging them to renew their hopes and be committed to the development of the country in the new year.

Gbajabiamila, in a New Year message signed by his special adviser on media and publicity, Lanre Lasisi, expressed optimism that Nigeria would come out better and stronger from its current challenges.

Similarly, the Deputy Speaker, in a message signed by his chief press secretary, Umar Muhammad Puma, called on Nigerians to unite against the current security and economic challenges in the country.

It's an era of peace, reconciliation among political parties – Ganduje

The Kano State governor, Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, in his message stated that 2022 would usher in peace and reconciliation among political stakeholders in the state and the country in general.

The governor, in a statement issued by the commissioner for information in the state, Muhammad Garba, noted that from all indications, a recent event in Kano would likely bring a new dawn in the political history of the state.

"The event, which saw Kano political gladiators emphasize on the need for reconciliation, elicited excitement from the people, who have been yearning for peace and conciliation in order to advance their cause for proper development in the political terrain and the society at large," he said.

Tackle insecurity, focus less on 2023 polls, CAN urges FG

Also, the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), in its New Year message, urged the federal government to tackle the protracted insecurity in the country and focus

less on the 2023 general elections.

The president of the association, Dr Samson Ayokunle, who made the call yesterday in his New Year message, called on all Nigerians, irrespective of their religious affiliations, to rise up and cry for the mercy of God.

"It appears as if our governments have got to their wits end over the menace of insecurity. Their major focus now is on the 2023 general elections. But can the 2023 elections happen if the country is overrun by criminals?"

"Our country must survive first and be at peace before an election can take place.

"It is only God who can make the 2023 general elections a reality. It is only God in his own way who can teach our leaders the right step to take," Ayokunle stated.

Furthermore, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), in its New Year message through its national publicity secretary, Debo Ologunagba, urged Nigerians to use the occasion to rekindle the virtues of love, unity, social justice, as well as the quest for good governance in our country.

The party stated that surviving 2021 under the All Progressives Congress (APC)-led administration not only called for a sober reflection but an unwavering determination to rescue our country from misrule.

He said it was a miracle that the country survived the last six years of "massive human rights violation, abuse of process, extra-judicial killings, stagnated infrastructure, excruciating economic hardship, escalated terrorism and mass killings that had characterised the APC administration.

He said the APC and its government should rather use the new year to review "their anti-people policies, end corruption and take urgent steps towards economic recovery".

Niger, Benue, Oyo governors see hope for Nigeria

Governor Samuel Ortom of Benue State has expressed hope for Nigeria in the New Year as he praised citizens of the country for their resilience in the face of daunting security and economic challenges in the out-gone year 2021.

The Niger State governor, Abubakar Sani Bello, in a message issued by his chief press secretary, Mary Noel Berje, also called on citizens to be hopeful as the new year begins.

Also, the governor of Oyo State, Seyi Makinde, an engineer, while congratulating residents of the state and Nigerians in general, urged them not to relent in their support and prayers for the state.

The governor, according to a statement by his chief press secretary, Mr Taiwo Adisa, equally enjoined the people to continue to live in harmony.

Let's end insecurity, corruption - N/Central People's Forum

The North-Central People's Forum said Nigerians must be resolute enough to find solutions to endemic corruption; kidnapping, banditry, terror and other forms of insecurity.

It stated that unemployment, disunity; sectionalism and other retrogressive realities that had plagued the country and left it behind most countries of the world should also be addressed.

The executive chairman of the Forum, Chief Gabriel Yakubu Aduku, stated this in a New Year message issued Friday on behalf of its chairman, Board of Trustees, Senator Jeremiah Timbut Useini.

He called for a collective decision that would promote the values of mutual tolerance and the determination to attain the status of an economically transformed and socially cohesive country driven by modern science and technology.

We should strive for new possibilities - Peterside

A former director-general of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), Dakuku Peterside, has urged the people of Rivers State to see the new year as an opportunity to strive for new possibilities.

In his message, Peterside criticised what he described as the anti-labour policies of the Rivers State governor, Nyesom Wike.

"As a state, we have a crucial year ahead of us. It is a year that could be decisive in determining the future of our state and people. It shall be an opportunity for us to correct the mistakes of the past and choose a new path. Please renew your mind and know that there are better days ahead," he stated.

Corrigendum

In our report of Thursday, December 30, 2021, with the headline 'El-Rufai presents staff of office to new Lere emir', we erroneously identified the Emir of Lere as 'Suleman Umar Sanda' whereas his name is 'Suleiman Umaru Lere'. Secondly, the name of the late emir and father of the present emir is 'Umaru Muhammad Lere' not 'Mohammed Umar'. The error is regretted
Editor

**BIRTHDAY WISHES TO
HON. KABIR ALHASSAN RURUM (TURAKIN RANO)
(FORMER SPEAKER, KANO STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY)
CHAIRMAN HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PENSION MATTERS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



@52



RT. HON. SANUSI GARBA RIKIJI
(Dan Iyan Maradun)
Chief of Staff to the Speaker,
House of Representatives

Life is a level worth marking with intensified unquantifiable thanks to Allah who in His Infinite Compassion and Mercy has made it easy for your humble self to withstand all obstacles towards attaining the ripe age so gracefully.

Much more gratitude to Allah we are, most especially as we join you in reflecting and rejoicing with you the great occasion, the many paths you have treaded so far, riding through all weathers as you mounted the horses of gallantry by the will of the Almighty all the way from scratch to your gentlemanly status.

As you ponder over the making of the moment and appreciate the special joy of Allah's Graciousness on you, ours remain hearty congratulations supported with prayers, wishing you long life and prosperity that may you continue to age with grace, rising and blossoming in healthy bubbling life well achieved.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

INSIDEPOLITICS

5 issues Ayu must resolve in PDP before 2023



■ Atiku Abubakar



■ Bukola Saraki



■ Nyesom Wike



■ PDP National Chairman, Iyorchia Ayu

Muideen Olaniyi

Less than one year and two months to the 2023 general elections, the leading opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is seriously working to dislodge the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) from power at the centre with its popular “Rescue and Rebuild Nigeria” slogan.

One man who is expected to lead the battle is the newly elected National Chairman of the party, Dr Iyorchia Ayu.

Before the emergence of the Benue State-born former senate president as the PDP helmsman, the party had several unresolved issues. And for the party to make any headway in 2023 the issues must be sorted out first.

Daily Trust Saturday, in this piece, highlights five key issues that Dr Ayu must address before the party can realise its ambition of dislodging the APC in 2023.

Presidential primary

Surely, the management of the process leading to the PDP presidential primary election is going to be a litmus test for Dr Ayu who assumed the mantle of leadership as a consensus candidate during the October 30 and 31, 2021, national convention of the PDP held at the Eagle Square, Abuja.

The forthcoming PDP presidential primary, pundits say, will either make or mar the leading opposition as key contenders struggling to pick the ticket need to be assured that a level playing field will be provided for them.

On this, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees (BoT) of the PDP, Dr Walid Jibrin, at a consultative meeting between members of the new National Working Committee (NWC) and BoT, advised Ayu to focus on his task of building a formidable institution instead of pursuing the individual ambitions of people struggling to become president, vice president, senate president, among other key positions.

Dr Jibrin told Ayu: “Do not be distracted by the ambitions of individual members, but keep the party as formidable as possible. Concentrate on your duties and not more on who shall be the president, vice president, senate president and others. Do not side any individual with self-ambition and try to reduce the state of godfatherism. Please

respect the divinity of individual and dynamism of a group.”

Reacting, Dr Ayu pledged that every member would have access to all NWC members, saying, “This party requires a lot of openness and courage to carry everybody along. That is the only way that this party will move forward successfully.”

“I personally have no any personal interest; I will not be part of factions in any state. Now, we’re not encouraging factions.”

In an interview with *Daily Trust Saturday*, the immediate past National Publicity Secretary of PDP, Kola Ologbondiyan, said the party would survive the looming challenge the coming presidential primary would pose to its stability.

Mr Ologbondiyan said, “How did we handle the 2018 primary? The number was larger than what you have mentioned now. Bootlickers thought the party would fail, the party would collapse and aspirants would tear themselves, and after the Port Harcourt convention, there would be no PDP. We went to Port Harcourt, elected a candidate, returned and ran the campaign of the election which we believe we won irrespective of the decision, with due respect to the Supreme Court.

“It was with the same passion we went to the national convention at the Eagle Square to decide elective offices. Some people said, ‘No, no, no, this time around, they cannot survive it’. But we survived. The party is still alive. You should give it to the PDP. Like I always say, we have our shock absorbers to manage situations.”

At the recent convention in Abuja, posters and banners of presidential aspirants of the party adorned strategic locations. Though none of them has declared to contest during the 2023 presidential election, their foot soldiers have been mobilising for their ambitions.

Posters of former Vice President Atiku Abubakar, a former Governor of Kano State, Sen Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso, a former Minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and incumbent Governor of Bauchi State, Bala Mohammed, the immediate past President of the Senate, Dr Abubakar Bukola Saraki, and Sokoto State Governor, Aminu Tambuwal, were on display within and outside the Eagle Square.

Zoning

One unresolved issue in the PDP is whether its presidential candidate will emerge from the Southern or Northern part of the country. The issue was partially resolved before the convention by the party’s National Executive Council (NEC) following the constitution of the Gov Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi-led Zoning Committee which strategically zoned the position of national chairman to the North on September 30.

Analysts said the PDP prevented “massive defection with the strategic” decision.

Traditionally, the party’s presidential candidate should emerge from the South with the zoning of the position of national chairman to the North.

However, *Daily Trust Saturday* gathered from stakeholders that the party should have thrown the position open following the recommendation of the Bala Mohammed committee that reviewed its defeat in 2019.

Ayu is expected to manage this issue which can equally make or mar the PDP with before 2023 as the “unwritten zoning arrangement” which has no clear cut evidence in the Nigerian constitution can still put the party in jeopardy again.

A presidential aspirant on the platform of the PDP and former Chairman of the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG), Sam Oluabunwa, recently said any attempt to jettison zoning ahead of the 2023 general elections would be a threat to national unity.

Mr Oluabunwa, who noted that the principle of power rotation between the North and the South must be sustained, said zoning had not outlived its usefulness in a multi-ethnic and multi-religious setting like Nigeria, adding that the time to jettison zoning would come when leaders stopped thinking about their region, zone, ethnicity and religion.

Outcomes of Ekiti, Osun gov’ship elections

No doubt, positive outcomes from the coming governorship elections in Ekiti and Osun states will be morale booster for the PDP party. Therefore, Ayu must resolve all obstacles that can prevent PDP’s victory in the two polls which dates the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has fixed for June

18, 2022 (Ekiti) and July 16, 2022 (Osun).

Internal strife in non-PDP controlled states

Another issue which Ayu must resolve is the internal wrangling among members in states which are not under the PDP across the country.

Pundits say the emergence of various political leaders in the absence of sitting governors in the affected states who will provide leadership and give direction ahead of 2023 will be costly for the PDP.

Tussle over control of party leadership in states

The new helmsman of the PDP, analysts say, needs to resolve the dangerous struggle for the control of party leadership and structure in states across the country before the next general elections.

The new NWC seems to have realised the need for this, going by Ayu’s remarks at a stakeholders’ meeting in Ekiti State.

Ayu, while speaking at the meeting, said the NWC took a crucial decision to start the process of sorting out problems in the state chapters to have a united and formidable force to go into any election, including the forthcoming presidential and other national elections in 2023.

The former senate president, who said the process which started with Ekiti State was directed at the party as a whole, stated that, “There is a need for dialogue with stakeholders so that the PDP would go into any election as a united force capable of fighting and winning elections.

“Once the party decides on the candidates, it is the responsibility of every member of the PDP family to fight for that candidate, because you’re not just fighting for that candidate, you are fighting for the PDP. So, you have a responsibility to support him. Anybody that does otherwise will be considered as working against the PDP. So, it will be regarded as anti-party.

“The mood of the PDP today is that anybody who works against the PDP will not just walk away, because we don’t want members of our party fighting against members of the party. We lost election because the leaders in various states and the followership were divided, with PDP winning or losing against PDP. That trend has to stop.”

Banditry: Kaduna communities deserted as attacks multiply

- Women, children spend night outside communities
- 'Informants aiding bandits'
- We need residents' support – Police

Mohammed Ibrahim Yaba, Kaduna

Persistent onslaughts by bandits have forced many residents to abandon their homes in some Kaduna communities, *Daily Trust Saturday* reports.

Juji and Angwar Gimbiya, which were once bubbling communities, are fast becoming ghost towns as persistent attacks and kidnappings have forced many residents to relocate to safer places.

Juji community shares boundaries with Kakau Daji, Ajaita, Babban Saura, Rido, Cidunu, Angwar Gimbiya and Angwar Gwari.

These communities, which are located at the outskirts of Chikun Local Government Area, witnessed many cases of attacks in recent times.

There have been reported cases of mass abductions in the communities, and ransoms were paid before the victims regained freedom.

For instance, in the first week of December 2021, bandits abducted over 28 residents at Angwar Gimbiya.

Two people were killed during the attack, which lasted for hours. Days later, the bandits returned to Angwar Gwari, a nearby community and abducted a police officer, his wife and daughter the very night he returned from a trip.

A house was also set ablaze by the bandits before leaving the community after they discovered that it was empty. An attack at Sabon Tasha GRA was repelled by security agencies on the same day.

A week to Christmas, the bandits again attacked Angwar Gwari, killing an ex-soldier and abducted few others. The ex-soldier was reportedly killed for refusing to follow his abductors after attacking his house.

Out of those abducted from the community, five, two women and three men, were later found dead around Sabon Gayan village days after the incident.

Similarly, over 60 worshippers were abducted at Kakau Daji earlier in November in a church and ransom was paid before they were released.

Our correspondent who visited these communities observed that their location and setting made it easy for the bandits to operate unchallenged.

Houses are scattered around the communities, and there are lots of uncompleted buildings there, which are surrounded with grass, especially in Juji and Angwar Gimbiya.

Our correspondent observed that the road linking Juji to other neighbouring communities was in a deplorable condition, which makes it dangerous to ply at night.

The problem of the community is further compounded by lack of electricity as the transformer expected to serve them is not functioning.

Locals stay at home during day time only

It was further gathered that the owners of the abandoned houses return only in the afternoon but leave before 8pm daily.

"It is true that people abandon their houses at night here in Angwar Gimbiya for fear of being kidnapped. This community



■ Houses abandoned in Juji community, Kaduna

PHOTOS: Mohammed Yaba



■ Juji major road linking the community with neighboring communities

came under a series of abductions lately, so people are afraid," Benjamin, a resident told our correspondent.

He said residents of the community lived under constant fear.

"I refused to leave because I don't want to abandon my house due to fear, but others are leaving," he said.

Another resident, Shehu Abgulu said, "We send our women and children to other communities to spend the night due to fear because nobody wants his family members abducted."

He explained that most men slept with one eye open so as not to be caught unawares by the bandits.

"We are not happy, especially at night, because you will be looking forward for the day to break. In fact, we hardly sleep inside our houses because you will be thinking the bandits would come," he added.

It was gathered that the head of the Angwar Gimbiya local vigilante group and another member of the community were killed during one of the attacks, an incident that further sent fears into the minds of the people.

'Informants aiding bandits'

Daily Trust Saturday also gathered that some informants are aiding the activities of the bandits in the communities visited. Majority of the people interviewed said the way the bandits raided houses showed

that some insiders within the affected communities supplied information to them.

"We are worried, and at the same time hoping that God would expose the informants among us. Although the last time we witnessed a mass abduction inside Juji community was in August 2020, all the neighbouring communities surrounding us are facing daily abductions, which is why our people are fleeing the area," a community leader who didn't want to be named said.

He is worried that many people are abandoning their houses to rent accommodation in other communities.

"Do you know that 60 per cent of Juji residents have fled because of what is happening in communities like Angwar Gimbiya, Angwar Gwari, Angwar Barde Bayan Tsauni and Angwar Bulus? If your neighbours are not safe, it means you are not safe," he said.

We are facing challenges – CJTF

A member of the Civilian Joint Tax Force (JTF) in the area who craved anonymity said Juji community had been battling insecurity for a long time before the problem spread to Angwar Gimbiya and other areas.

He described Juji as being safer when compared to other communities surrounding it because of the presence of soldiers in the area.

He, however, said the soldiers were not enough to secure all the communities, saying

the development was responsible for the rampant cases of abduction.

"We are a volunteer group, without salaries, but we are passionate about making our communities safe. As you know, we only use dane guns to engage the bandits, who attack us with sophisticated weapons. We need support from the government, in terms of weapons and finance," he said.

He described the abductions taking place in the area as terrible, saying that residents now attend church services battle-ready to protect themselves from unforeseen circumstances.

"We don't want to be taken unawares like the people of Kakau Daji, who were abducted during a church service," he said.

It was further gathered that the bandits terrorising the communities live in neighbouring Kubusu forest, which leads to Kachia and Kajuru local government areas, while others live in Kwanti forest, which leads to Rijana forest.

Villagers occupy abandoned houses

It was also observed that some villagers who were displaced by bandits from Kwanti, Angwar Ayaba, Kankomi, Kabai and Kidinu villages now find refuge at some abandoned houses in Juji.

A villager from Angwar Ayaba, who simply identified himself as Samson, described Juji town, where he moved with his wife and son, as a bit safer when compared to his village, which has been taken over by the bandits.

"We find Juji to be safer compared to our villages because the bandits are presently in full control of our farmlands and villages. We left because they kept attacking us at will," he said.

He said all the men displaced from other villages were staying temporarily in the abandoned houses while some are renting them.

He appealed to the state government to save their villages from bandits so that they could return to their farms.

Jummai Adamu, a daughter of the village head of Angwar Ayaba, said life had not been easy for her parents.

"Insecurity, feeding and lack of finance are the major concerns facing the men and our parents. The bandits displaced us from our homes, rendering us helpless," she said.

She said that as displaced people, they lacked freedom in their new environment, and pleaded with the government to provide enough security in rural areas as lives are equally important in those places.

We need support from the affected communities – Police

When contacted, the public relations officer of the Kaduna State Police command, ASP Jalige Mohammed, said that on the directive of the commissioner of police in the state, the Sabon Tasha divisional officer went round the area and had a meeting with various stakeholders at Angwar Gimbiya, Anwar Bulus, and Sabo GRA.

He said the meeting became necessary because the police needed support and collaboration from the people living in those communities to address the security issues.

"We believe there is a need for a serious collaboration with these communities. We are hoping the meeting would yield positive results," he said.

ASP Jalige said the command suspected that some insiders were aiding the bandits.

"But we can know these informants' when the people support us. We are also concerned about the insecurity in those communities, but we suspect there are informants among the people in these areas," he said.



AROUND THE STATES

OYO

How Makinde is repositioning economic fortunes of Oyo – Ex-Rep

Jeremiah Oke, Ibadan

A former member of the House of Representatives, Rita Orji, yesterday hailed the Oyo State governor, Seyi Makinde, for repositioning the state, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

She said the federal government was forced to emulate the model of the state to fight the pandemic.

Orji, who represented the Ajeromi/Ifelodun federal constituency in the 8th Assembly, stated this during a chat with journalists in Ibadan, the state capital.

She said that turning the economic fortunes of the state around and repositioning it had been the focal view of the governor since he assumed office.

Describing Makinde as a phenomenon, Orji said progress would always occur when courageous and skilful leaders made efforts to change things for the better for the people.

Sanwo-Olu signs N1.758trn budget for 2022

Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos

Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State yesterday signed the 2022 Appropriation Bill of N1.758 trillion into law.

The budget, titled Budget of Consolidation, was signed by about 48 hours after it was passed by the state House of Assembly.

Sanwo-Olu had in November 2021 presented a proposed budget size of N1.388 trillion to the Assembly for approval for the 2022 fiscal year, but the lawmakers on Wednesday passed a budget size of N1.758 trillion, showing an increase from the initial proposal.

He said the budget size, increased to N1.758 trillion, comprised of capital expenditure of N1.166trn (66 per cent) and recurrent expenditure of N591bn (34 per cent).

He also said the difference in the budget size followed the agreement to capture all the financing options the state had deployed for the blue line and red line projects, which it has raised sufficient funding for, and to be able to put up a level that would not put pressure on the state's cash flow and debt sustainability.

"We see a stronger 2022 and we believe that it will further consolidate all that we have started in the area of education, health, poverty alleviation, rail, job employment, technology and social intervention, among others, so as to bring the real dividend of democracy to the people," Sanwo-Olu said.

Clergy, 5 others killed in Bayelsa boat collision

Bassey Willie, Yenagoa

A 39-year-old clergy and five travellers drowned when two boats collided on the Ogbeinbiri community River in Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State.

Six other travellers involved in the boat mishap are still missing.

Some of the locals said one of the ill-fated boats was transporting a sick woman to a hospital in Yenagoa, the state capital on New Year eve when it collided with another boat, killing the pastor and five others.

The deceased pastor was identified as the general overseer of the Supernatural Church of God in Ogbeinbiri community, while three other victims of the accident were his relatives.

The travellers were travelling at 1:30am despite the restriction placed by the government on night movements in waterways.

Daily Trust Saturday gathered that the local divers searching for survivors have been able to rescue only one person.

They identified those still missing as Augustine Kieribo, Felix Azazi, Stephen Moses, Adibo Kekere's mother, Tou Kekere's wife and Pastor Salvation Degema.

It was learnt that the boat conveying the deceased was suspected to have been involved in a head-on collision with another while conveying a sick middle-aged lady to Yenagoa for emergency treatment.

The sick woman, according to a community source, was admitted to the Cottage Hospital in Ogbeinbiri but that hospital lacked oxygen, which was needed to bring her out of coma.

The senator representing Bayelsa Central in the National Assembly, Cleopas Moses, has commiserated with the people of Ogbeinbiri community and the families that lost loved ones to the boat accident.

The lawmaker said it was terrible to hear about the death of such a number of persons in a yuletide season.

KADUNA

Kaduna shuts 2 Islamiyya schools over rape, impregnation of minors

Maryam Ahmadu-Suka, Kaduna

The Kaduna State Schools Quality Assurance Authority (KSSQA) has shut down two Islamiyya schools indefinitely over the alleged rape of a six-year-old girl and impregnation of another 12-year-old.

The first school, located near the old Jumaat Mosque in Kachia, Kachia Local Government Area, was closed following an alleged impregnation of a 12-year-old girl by a 50-year-old teacher.

The second school, Madrasatul Ulumul Deeniya wa Tahfizul Qur'an,

located in Rigasa, was closed over the alleged rape of a six-year-old girl in the school premises.

The overseer of the KSSQA, Idris Aliyu, said the school authority covered it up and claimed ignorance of the incident.

Aliyu added that the information before the Ministry of Education showed that the survivor's grandmother went to the school authority to complain but was allegedly beaten by students and teachers of the Islamiyya.

However, the head teacher of the school, Malam Kabir Abdullahi,

denied the allegation, saying, "It was not rape, what we gathered was that an unidentified boy injured the girl in her private part with a stick."

Abdullahi said the case was already being investigated by the Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Rigasa, ASP Abubakar Bauranya.

The Commissioner of Human Services and Social Development, Hajiya Hafsat Baba, said her ministry would work closely with the police and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) to ensure justice for the minors.



Passengers boarding free train ride from Obafemi Awolowo Train Station in Ibadan to Lagos for the New Year celebration yesterday

PHOTO: NAN

NASARAWA

Gov Sule flags off 24km Idadu-Agbashi road

Umar Muhammed, Lafia

Governor Abdullahi Sule of Nasarawa State has flagged off the construction of the 24-kilometer Idadu-Agbashi road worth N3.2 billion.

While flagging off the construction of the road on Friday in Doma Local

Government Area of the state, Sule explained that the project was awarded to Road and Bridge International Nigeria Limited.

The governor disclosed that he had already saved money enough for the construction of the road before the contract was awarded.

He posited that the flagging off

of the road was in fulfillment of his pledge to construct the road during the 2019 electioneering campaign, noting that the promise had come to a reality.

He pledged to provide security to the company constructing the road to ensure timely completion based on specifications.

EKITI

YPP says Ekiti will move to greatness in 2022

Raphael Ogbonaiye, Ado-Ekiti

The chairman, Young Progressives Party (YPP) in Ekiti State, Comrade Owoola Daramola, has felicitated with the people ahead of the New Year.

Daramola said that Ekiti State, having journeyed for 25 years without

a proper direction, the new year would allow the state to change gear and move into the realm of greatness.

"At YPP, our core focus for the new year is to offer what has never been experienced in the states in terms of development and governance. A major shift from the directionless history to a purpose-driven quest for progress

is the minimum required imperative for achieving that fast-tracked development that Ekiti indigenes desire.

"May Ekiti State live up to its potentials embedded in her creation, and may we all create for ourselves as a people and our loved ones, the happiest New Year ever," he said.

LAGOS

Herbalist, 2 others arrested with human head in Lagos

Eugene Agha, Lagos

Detectives attached to the Lagos State police command have arrested a 64-year-old herbalist, Sola Kazeem and two others for allegedly possessing a human head.

The police claimed that the three suspects, who operate an illegal security outfit named Citizens for Peace and First Aid Mission of Nigeria,

allegedly severed the head of a corpse buried within their office environment in Ikorodu.

The Lagos State police boss, Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG), Hakeem Odumosu, while parading the suspects yesterday at the command's headquarters, Ikeja, identified them as Israel Okon, 42; Joe Nwoke Charles, 35; and Ishola Kazeem, 64.

Odumosu said detectives recovered

some human skeletons, 18 expended cartridges, eight dummy wooden guns, charms, a banner with the inscription of the name of the outfit, and their operational Golf car with plate number USR 158 HP.

He said the human skull was recovered from Kazeem, who confessed to being an herbalist.

AIG Odumosu said the suspects would be charged to court.



■ Tutu's coffin was carried into his old parish cathedral by six priests

PHOTO: BBC

Life and times of Desmond Tutu as he's buried today

Hamisu Kabir Matazu

The South African flag was flown at half mast as its grieving citizens gathered for the state funeral of a hero and anti-apartheid movement icon, Archbishop (emeritus) Desmond Tutu.

Tutu, also called the "moral compass" for the South African people, lived for 90 years and has left a legacy that transcends borders which will echo for many generations to come.

Today, Tutu who worked tirelessly, though non-violently, for the downfall of the brutal South African apartheid regime, will be laid to rest at the St George's Cathedral in Cape Town after a two-day lying-in-state that allowed mourners file past his body to say their final goodbye.

Last Thursday, priests burnt incense as Tutu's simple wooden coffin was carried into the cathedral.

Tutu's wish was that there be "no ostentatiousness or lavish spending" on his funeral and he even requested that "the coffin be the cheapest available", his foundation said.

Born on October 7, 1931, at Klerksdorp in the former Transvaal Province, Tutu aspired to be a doctor. While he was accepted to do a degree in medicine, he was not able to obtain a bursary to pursue the ambition, so he settled for teaching; a career his father had followed.

In 1951, he enrolled at the Bantu Normal College outside Pretoria where he studied and

obtained a teacher's diploma.

He taught at his old school, Madipane High in Krugersdorp, and in 1955 he obtained a Bachelor of Arts (BA) from the University of SA (Unisa), according to sahistory.org.za.

On July 2, 1955, Tutu married Nomalizo Leah Shenxane, after which he began teaching at Munsieville High School, where his father was headmaster.

Tutu and Leah gave birth to four children: Trevor Thamsanqa, Theresa Thandeka, Naomi Nontombi and Mpho Andrea.

In 1955, Tutu enrolled at St Peter's Theological College in Rosettenville, Johannesburg.

Though he was baptised as a Methodist, his family had joined the Anglican Church in 1943. Tutu was ordained a deacon in December, 1960, at St Mary's Cathedral, Johannesburg, and took up his first curacy at St Alban's Church in Benoni location.

Tutu became the first black archbishop of the Anglican Church.

Though short in stature, Tutu was a giant in South African politics, notable for his drive, infectious laughter and witty critique of apartheid's absurdities.

He always told his followers: "Be nice to whites; they need you to rediscover their humanity."

In 1984, he won the Nobel Peace Prize for his non-violent opposition to apartheid. A decade later, he witnessed the end of that regime and he chaired the Truth and Reconciliation Commission set up to unearth atrocities

committed during the segregation period.

Tutu led numerous marches and campaigns to end apartheid from St George's steps, and as a result it became known as the "People's Cathedral" and a powerful symbol of democracy, according to the local government.

Tutu was a longtime friend of Nelson Mandela and lived for a time on the same street in the South African township of Soweto, Vilakazi Street, the only one in the world to host two Nobel Peace Prize winners.

Tutu used his senior position in the Anglican Church and the acclaim the Nobel Peace Prize brought to spread his anti-apartheid message internationally and elevate the experiences and lives of Black South Africans while leaders such as Mandela were in prison.

Tutu brought Mandela onto a balcony at Cape Town City Hall

after his release from jail after 27 years where he gave his first public speech.

Tutu compared voting in the first democratic elections in the country that brought Mandela to power in 1994 to "falling in love". He was present when Mandela was sworn in as the country's first black president.

Befitting tributes by world leaders

President Joe Biden has described Tutu as the true servant of the people and God, and a former US President, Barack Obama, said he had lost a mentor and friend. Obama called Tutu a universal spirit who was grounded in the struggle for the liberation of his country.

Queen Elizabeth II said his death would be felt by many in Great Britain who held him in high affection and esteem.

South Africa President, Cyril Ramaphosa, said his demise was

"another chapter of bereavement in our nation's farewell to a generation of outstanding South Africans who have bequeathed us a liberated South Africa."

President Muhammadu Buhari said the life of Archbishop Tutu was a message of love and forgiveness and his legacies "will resonate through generations, bringing more light and clarity to religious diversity, democracy and good governance."

According to a statement: "The president prays for the repose of the soul of Archbishop Tutu whose life and times sent an unforgettable message on love and forgiveness."

French President, Emmanuel Macron, said in a tweet that Tutu had "dedicated his life to human rights and equality between peoples. His struggle for the end of apartheid and for reconciliation in South Africa will remain in our memory."

The Vatican said in a statement that Pope Francis was saddened and offered "heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. Mindful of his service to the gospel through the promotion of racial equality and reconciliation in his native South Africa, his holiness commends his soul to the loving mercy of Almighty God."

Waseel Abu Yousef, a member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), remembered Tutu as "one of the biggest supporters of the Palestinian cause."

"He always advocated the rights of the Palestinians to gain their freedom and rejected Israeli occupation and apartheid," Abu Yousef said.

Recall that in one of his bold speeches to power, Tutu ruffled Israeli feathers by comparing the treatment of Palestinians with apartheid South Africa. This made him lose favour among the Israelites. Even in 2021, Israel continued to block Tutu's visit to Gaza.

Tutu's wish was that there be "no ostentatiousness or lavish spending" on his funeral and he even requested that "the coffin be the cheapest available", his foundation said.

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

I formerly known and addressed as **FATIMA USMAN MOHAMMED** now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA ABBA MAMMAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known as **ADAMU NUHU** now wish to be called and addressed as **BAHARI SALISU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and general public to take note.

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

ABDULKAREEM: I, formerly known as **ADAMU MANZO**, now wish to be known and called **ABDULKAREEM ADAMU MANZO**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

HADIZA: I formerly known as **YA NGARO**, now wish to be known as addressed as **HADIZA IBRAHIM WARDA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ACHANYA: the change is because during the registration of my national Identity card (NIN). My name was captured as **EWAOCHIE CHARLES OCHE** instead of **ACHANYA OCHE KINGSLEY**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **SABINA JULIUS** now wish to be known and addressed as **SABINA MANAS**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

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

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

SHOSOWEN: I, formerly known as **MISS BABAFEMI GRACE JESUSEUN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs SHOSOWEN GRACE JESUSEUN**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

I, formerly known as **SULEIMAN SALAMATU** now wish to be known and called **SALAMATU SULEIMAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

IERKPEN: I formerly known as **TAKPA KPENBEEN RITA**, now wish to be known as **IERKPEN KPENBEEN RITA**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **ISMAIL ISMAIL** now wish to be known and addressed as **ISMAIL YUSUF KAKAS**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known as **ZARATU DAFUWA DAUDA**, DOB: 18/01/1992, now wish to be called as **ZARATU DAUDA**, DOB: 18/01/2000. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concern and the general public to take note.

ABDULLAHI I formerly known as **HADIZA NACIDI ABDULLAHI** now wish to be called as **HADIZA SULE BABA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concern and the general public to take note.

OCHEME: I, formerly known as **MOSES OCHEME**, now wish to be known and called **OCHEME MOSES MABE**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

GONI I, formerly known as **KUR BABAGANA**, now wish to be known and called **BABAGANA GONI KUR**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

MUHAMMED: I formerly known as **HAFSAT ABDULLAHI MOHAMMED**, now wish to be known as **MUHAMMED HAFSAT BAWA**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **JONAH JANDIYA** now wish to be known and addressed as **JONAH JANDIYA KALAH**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

ABUBAKAR: I formerly known as **SALIM SANI** now wish to be called and addressed as **SALIM SANI ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **ABDU IBRAHIM** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABDU IBRAHIM JOGANA**. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as **MAIKUDI TELA**, now wish to be known as **MUHAMMAD AMINU MAIKUDI TELA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ESTHER I formerly known as **ESTHER VICTOR** now wish to be known and addressed as **ESTHER VICTOR DYERI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and general public should please take note.

IORTIM: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **IORTIM SIMEON TERFA** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **IORTIM TERFA SIMEON**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

ADEROJU: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS AKINOLA SURURAT ADEROJU**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS ADELU SURURAT ADEROJU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

AMINU: I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR AMINU KURFI** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABUBAKAR NUHU NAABBA**. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **MARAKISIYYA MADAKI** now wish to be called and addressed as **FATIMA MADAKI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MUSA: I formerly known called and addressed as **MIKAITA MUSA** now wish to be known called and addressed as **MUSA MIKAITA** all documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

HALIMA: I formally know as **HALIMA BINTUBE** now wish to be known and addressed as **HALIMA ABDULKADIR BINTUBE**. All former documents remain valid, authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

BER: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **BER MZUGWEA ERNEST** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **BER MZUGWEA ERNEST** AND MY CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS 12/10/1992. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

SELU MANU: I formerly known and addressed as **SULEMANU GANIYU**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **SELU MANU ABDULGANIYU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

AHMAD: I formerly known as **ALHAJI UMAR MUHAMMAD** now wish to be called and addressed as **AHMAD UMAR MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **ABDULRASHID BAFFA** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABDULRASHID HAMISU BAFFA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

AKANO: I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS MEROYI OLUBUSOLA DORCAS**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs AKANO OLUBUSOLA DORCAS**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

AMINA I, formerly known as **AMINA ABBA** now wish to be known and called **AMINA IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

ABUA: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **UKOR MEMBER MARIA** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **ABUA MEMBER MARIA** & MY CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS 12/10/1994. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

SHINING: I formerly known and addressed as **DAMISA AMINAT SHINING**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ATAIRU AMINAT SHINING**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as **SANI MUHAMMADU**, now wish to be called and addressed as **MUHAMMAD GARBA SANI**. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **ALHAJI SUNUSI ABDULLAHI** now wish to be called and addressed as **SUNUSI TASIU ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME SHAFIU: That my name was wrongly written as **IDRIS SHAFIU** instead of **SHAFIU IDRIS**. That my correct spelling of my name is **SHAFIU IDRIS**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

CHRISTOPHER: I, formerly known as **REJOICE THOMAS KAIGAMA**, now wish to be known and called **REJOICE CHRISTOPHER YAKUBU**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

JOY: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **JOY SEEMBER ADACHI** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **JOY SEEMBER ADACHI**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

HASSAN: I formerly known and addressed as **HASSAN AMINU AWAMHOB** now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM KUADRI HASSAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I was formerly known as **YUSUF ABDULLAHI ADAMU** now wish to be known and called as **YUSUF ABDULLAHI**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **DANLADI ABDULLAH** now wish to be called and addressed as **ZANGINA ABDULLAHI ZAKARI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

ADEMOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as **DEMOLA OLAWALE MATTHEW**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEMOLA ADEWALE MATTHEW**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as **FATIMA MOHAMMED BAMA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA MUHAMMAD GAMBO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I was formerly known and addressed as **HUSSAINI SHAMSUDEEN**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **HUSSAINI SHAMSUDEEN HASSAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **LAWAL MUHAMMAD HUSSAINI** now wish to be known and addressed as **HUSSAINI MOHAMMAD LAWAL**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

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

I formerly known as **MUHUSIN ABUBAKAR** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABDULLAHI MUHSIN ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

SOYEMI: I, formerly known and addressed as **SOYEMI OLUWASEUN ADETAYO**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **SOYEMI OLUWASEUN SOLOMON**. My date of birth was mistakenly written as 4th day of July, 1978 instead of 4th day of July, 1980. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ATANOSEN = I, formerly known as **INEGBENBOR ENDURANCE PROSPER**. Now wish to be known as **ATANOSEN ENDURANCE PROSPER**. All former documents remain valid. The general public please take note.

RASHIDA: I formerly known as **ZAINAB SULAIMAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **RASHIDA SULAIMAN INUWA**. My correct DOB is 14/10/1998 not 18/01/2003. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned **STERLING BANK** and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **Maryam Sani Umar** now wish to be known as **Maryam Sani**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

SALAHA: I formerly known as **SALAHA MUSTAPHA IBRAHIM** now wish to be called and addressed as **SALAHA IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

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

AMADIKE: I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS OBAROIGHORO ESTHER AJIROGHENE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs AMADIKE ESTHER AJIROGHENE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

EFERHIUNU-IJAVE = I, formerly known as **JONATHAN OGHENEKEWE EFERHIUNU**. Now wish to be known as **EFERHIUNU-IJAVE JONATHAN OGHENEKEWE**. All former documents remain valid. The general public please take note.

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

HAUWA: I formerly known as **HAUWA ADAMU ABUBAKAR**, now wish to be known as **MUHAMMED HAUWA ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

AHMED: I formerly known as **USMAN HALIMAT ALI** now wish to be called and addressed as **AHMED HALIMAT ALI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **ATSOKPE JOSEPH** now wish to be called and addressed as **ATSOKPE JOSEPH AMALATS**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS MARYAM TITILAYO BABATUNDE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs MARYAM TITILAYO ADELAKIN**. All former documents remain valid. Any authority concerned and general public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME: I, ONNIYE ISAAC ZIMINIYAIN, wish to correct that on my cac documents and **BN** my name appeared as **ONNIYE BOKODIA ZIMINIYAIN ISAAC** and **ONNIYE ISAAC ZIMINIYAIN** instead of **ONNIYE ISAAC ZIMINIYAIN**. That my correct name is **ONNIYE ISAAC ZIMINIYAIN**. The general public should please take note.

ABIGAIL: I, formerly known as **ORJI ABIGAIL OGOCHUKWU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **EPHRIAM ABIGAIL OGOCHUKWU**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ESTHER: I, formerly known as **ESTHER OYEWOLE**, now wish to be called as **ESTHER OYEWALE AKINWUMI**. All former documents remain valid. General Public and authorities concern should please take note.

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

I formerly known as **JAFARU SHUAIBU** now wish to be called and addressed as **JAFARU SHUAIBU MAGAJI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

DAUDA: I formerly known as **DAUDA BAKO KANGIWA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAUDA BAKO**. All former documents remain valid. **ACCESS BANK PLC**, And General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1987** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1995**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

PROMISE: I formerly known as **ANYANWU AMANDA IJEOMA**, now wish to be called **ANYANWU PROMISE IJEOMA**. All former documents remain valid. General Public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **SULE KOMOLAFE SULE MOHAMMED AUSTIN**, now wish to be called **SULE MOHAMMED AUSTIN**. All former documents remain valid. General Public and authorities concern should please take note.

ABDULWAHAB: I formerly known as **ABDULWAHAB ABDULWAHEED ABIODUN** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABDULWAHAB ABDULWAHEED OLUWASHOLA** DOB FROM 9-9-1991 TO 9-9-1992. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

AMOS: I, formerly known as **AMOS ODIDI**, Old D.O.B: 10/01/1959, now wish to be known and called **AMOS ODIDI AKWAJI**, New D.O.B: 01/05/1965. All former documents remain valid. Zenith Bank Plc, general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

Yakubu: I, formerly known as **ABUBAKAR RASHEED YAKUBU** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAKUBU ABDULKADIR RASHEED**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as **NAFIU LAWALI** now wish to be known and addressed as **NAFIU LAWALI GARBA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

LAWAL I Formerly known and address as **AMINAH YETUNDE ABDULGHANI** now wish to be known and address as **AMINAH YETUNDE LAWAL** all former documents remain valid general public should take note.

AGATHA: I, formerly known as **USHIE AGNES ISHOBA**, now wish to be known as **USHIE AGATHA ISHOBA**. All former documents remain valid. Eco Bank, GTbank, **UBA** and general public take note.

ABDULLAHI I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD MUDANSIR ABDULLAH** I Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED MUDASIR** And my DOB 12/03/1990 All my documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM YAQUB**, now wish to be known as **ILIYASU YAKUBU IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

DAUDA: I formerly known as **DAUDA BAKO KANGIWA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAUDA BAKO**. All former documents remain valid. **ACCESS BANK PLC**, And General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1987** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1995**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **ZUWAIIRA ABUBAKAR** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ZUWAIIRA ABUBAKAR** All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public Should take note.

SULE: I formerly known as **NURA SULAIMAN MUHAMMAD**, now wish to be known as **NURA SULE**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

ABDULLAHI I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD MUDANSIR ABDULLAH** I Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED MUDASIR** And my DOB 12/03/1990 All my documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM YAQUB**, now wish to be known as **ILIYASU YAKUBU IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

DAUDA: I formerly known as **DAUDA BAKO KANGIWA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAUDA BAKO**. All former documents remain valid. **ACCESS BANK PLC**, And General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1987** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1995**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **SANI SUDA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI ABUBAKAR** All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public Should take note.

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

ABDULLAHI I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD MUDANSIR ABDULLAH** I Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED MUDASIR** And my DOB 12/03/1990 All my documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM YAQUB**, now wish to be known as **ILIYASU YAKUBU IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

DAUDA: I formerly known as **DAUDA BAKO KANGIWA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAUDA BAKO**. All former documents remain valid. **ACCESS BANK PLC**, And General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1987** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1995**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MUHAMMAD MUDANSIR ABDULLAH** I Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED MUDASIR** And my DOB 12/03/1990 All my documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should take note.

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

ABDULLAHI I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD MUDANSIR ABDULLAH** I Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED MUDASIR** And my DOB 12/03/1990 All my documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM YAQUB**, now wish to be known as **ILIYASU YAKUBU IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

DAUDA: I formerly known as **DAUDA BAKO KANGIWA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAUDA BAKO**. All former documents remain valid. **ACCESS BANK PLC**, And General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1987** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1995**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **BAWA MUHAMMADU GIDAN GOGA** now wish to be known and addressed as **BAWA MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. **GTBANK** and the general public to take note.

I formerly known as **HUSNA JAMILU** now wish to be called and addressed as **HUSNA JAMIL**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and general public to note.

ABDULLAHI I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD MUDANSIR ABDULLAH** I Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED MUDASIR** And my DOB 12/03/1990 All my documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM YAQUB**, now wish to be known as **ILIYASU YAKUBU IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

DAUDA: I formerly known as **DAUDA BAKO KANGIWA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAUDA BAKO**. All former documents remain valid. **ACCESS BANK PLC**, And General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1987** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI MODI MURTALA** with **D.O.B 01-01-1995**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF KATSINA STATE OF NIGERIA
PROBATE DIVISION

WHEREAS the person/persons whose names are set out in the first column hereunder died interstate on the date and at the place stated in the said column.

AND WHERE AS the person/person (s) whose addresses claimed relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder have applied to the High Court of Justice Katsina for a grant of "letter of Administration" of the personal property of the said deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the "letter of Administration" will be granted to such person/persons unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" is filed in the Probate Registry, High Court of Justice Katsina within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice.

NAME OF DECEASED PERSON LATE ZILKIFILU MUSA OF SUBEB KANKARA DIED ON 20/11/2021 AT KANKARA	APPLICANT DALUTA MUSA OF MATSIGA VILLAGE, MUSAWA LGA BROTHER OF THE SAID DECEASED.
NAME OF DECEASED PERSON LATE FALILA ISMAIL OF SUBEB KATSINA DIED ON 25/5/2021 AT KATSINA	APPLICANT YUSUF MAI KANO OF DANDAGARO, KATSINA HUSBAND OF THE SAID DECEASED.

DATED THIS 31TH DECEMBER, 2021.

AT THE PROBATE REGISTRY, HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, KATSINA. (Nuraddeen El-Ladan Ahmed) PROBATE REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF KATSINA STATE OF NIGERIA
PROBATE DIVISION

WHEREAS the person/persons whose names are set out in the first column hereunder died interstate on the date and at the place stated in the said column.

AND WHERE AS the person/person (s) whose addresses claimed relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder have applied to the High Court of Justice Katsina for a grant of "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" of the personal property of the said deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" will be granted to such person/persons unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" is filed in the Probate Registry, High Court of Justice Katsina within TWENTY-ONE DAYS from the date of publication of this notice.

NAME OF DECEASED PERSON LATE MOHAMMED HASSAN OF NIGERIA POLICE FORCE DIED ON 7/10/2021 ZAMFARA	APPLICANTS BISHIR MOHAMMED & FAIZA AHMAD ALL OF DANGANI VILLAGE, MUSAWA LGA SON & WIDOW OF THE SAID DECEASED.
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DATED THIS 31TH DECEMBER, 2021.

AT THE PROBATE REGISTRY, HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, KATSINA. (Nuraddeen El-Ladan Ahmed) PROBATE REGISTRAR



A PHYSICIAN'S DIARY

BY FATIMA DAMAGUM
drfatima0984@gmail.com



Festivities: Second hand wears to the rescue as prices soar



>>> Page 30

A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT GIFTS

The myth of Santa Claus or Father Christmas as he is more popularly known in these parts, is a legendary character originating in Eastern Christian culture who is said to bring children gifts on Christmas Eve of toys and candy or coal or nothing, depending on whether they are "naughty or nice". He is said to accomplish this with the aid of Christmas elves, who make the toys in his workshop at the North Pole, and a flying reindeer who pull his sleigh through the air.

A few days ago, I watched a movie about Santa delivering goodies to families whose children had been good. There was a child who did not receive any gift that year because he was portrayed as a bully with sticky fingers. He frequently hit younger kids and sometimes stole money from his parents. For that, he was punished by his parents and the mythical Santa did not deem it fit to grace him with Christmas gift that year. The boy was of course, heartbroken.

As I watched the movie, I could not but compare the metaphor with our Nigerian situation.

This week, I intended to write about 2021. The headline was imprinted in my mind;

2021: The year of resilience.

A year which began with hesitancy and hope, flirted with fire and shuddered to an abysmal end. 2021 in a way, is a lot like buying a new 'tokunbo' car. It showed promise at first, all shiny and new and exciting and then along the way, the engine starts to stutter, coughing up black smoke and so you go the mechanic to get plugs cleaned and the carburettor fixed. Things seem to go well for a while and then all of a sudden, the engine gives a loud cough and dies. That's it. The story of 2021.

I had written a few points that I remembered from the beginning of the year till the end. I wanted to write on only the good stuff; things like the development of the COVID vaccine and its availability in Nigeria, infrastructural development and the government's numerous bail out schemes. Okonjo-Iwela's win at the World Trade organization. All good, positive stuff. Until I went to Wikipedia to refresh my mind and counted the number of mass kidnappings this year. Government Science College, Kagara, Niger. Government Girls Science Secondary school,

Jangebe, Zamfara. Federal College of Forestry, Kaduna. Greenfield University, Kaduna. An Islamic school in Tegna, Niger. Bethel Baptist Secondary School in Chikun, Kaduna.

Remember that this list is exclusive to schools and does not include the individual cases of kidnappings that are happening on a daily basis.

Other headlines included Sowore's arrest, Military plane crash, Invictus arrest, Owerri prison break, Nigeria's Twitter ban, Kebbi boat disaster, Lagos building collapse, End SARS report, Sokoto bus passengers burnt alive, and the death of a child in an elite boarding school at the hand of bullies.

So much for my positive list.

As I perused the events one by one, I realised something; Evil does live among us. However much I would love to relieve 2021 through a prism of optimism, the cold hard truth remains that the bad stuff ultimately outweighs the good stuff. Which begs the question: Are we the bad children that do not deserve Christmas gifts?

None of these kidnappings or killings was carried out by President Buhari himself. These acts are perpetrated by Nigerians themselves. PMBs failure lies squarely on his inability to secure the country. But why the cold-hearted killings in the first place? When did we become so corrupt that we turn a blind eye to high rise buildings being built on faulty foundation? Where is our humanity that we can watch as passengers scream as they are being burnt alive? How did we arrive at this place where Nigeria is third place as the most terrorised in the world? Why the green passport is being treated with contempt and disdain? How?

Nigeria has received several blows this year, both internationally and locally. The travel bans and the diplomatic feud between Nigeria and the UAE has pinched us hard in the butt. A few years ago, a Saudi government official, on national TV, said: '...If not for religion and ethical judgement, the one set of people he would have loved to deny entry into his country would be Nigerians...'

There was a national outcry after this, with some light hearted banter here and there. But did we change? No. Instead we sunk lower on the ladder of humanity. More prostitutes on the streets of Saudi,

As I perused the events one by one, I realised something; Evil does live among us. However much I would love to relieve 2021 through a prism of optimism, the cold hard truth remains that the bad stuff ultimately outweighs the good stuff. Which begs the question: Are we the bad children that do not deserve Christmas gifts?

more Cybercrime internationally, more kidnapping, more terrorism.

It is as if there is something in the air, or maybe it's the corona virus, that has turned us against ourselves.

There is a verse in the Quran which says: "Verily, Allah will not change the condition of a people as long as they do not change

themselves (by committing sins and by being ungrateful and disobedient to Allaah)" [13:11]. Every time I remember this verse, I cringe. I feel it is like a doomsday prophesy because I do not see the world changing for the better. There is so much criminality and sin going on that it is impossible not to feel dejected.

Sometimes though, just a few times, we see or hear of people dedicating their lives to doing wonderful things. Take Zannah Mustafa, a 2021 CNN hero, for example. Watching all the good things he has done for IDPs as a result of the ongoing Boko Haram work warmed my heart. Same goes for all the heroes: Jenifer Colpas for her work to bring water and electricity to rural Columbia; David Flink for his 'Eye to Eye' educational programme pairing children with learning disabilities to mentors who will help them figure out their path in life and a whole lot of others who made the list.

I am well aware that there are many unsung heroes among us. Indeed, even within the medical community, I know of many, many people who provide services pro-bono and go out of their way to solve a patient's need. Alhamdulillah, for that.

And yet.

The bad is taking over.

This year, we got no Christmas presents, because we were bad citizens. Maybe next year we will improve. As much as we like to lay the blame on the government, we must face the bitter truth: we must change our ways.

May 2022 be better. Happy New Year!

BACK-HAND

BY ABDULKAREEM BABA AMINU

