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TRUST IS A BURDEN

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MR. Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa (left) being sworn-in as the Kaduna State Governor by Chief Judge of Kaduna State, Justice Rahila Kudjoe, at the Hassan Usman Katsina House in Kaduna, yesterday.

Yakowa: I am not governor for Xtians

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

MR. Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa took the oath of office as governor of Kaduna State yesterday, with a pledge to serve as an impartial leader for people from all ethnic backgrounds and religious affiliations in the state.

"Please note that I am not a Christian Governor," Yakowa said shortly after being sworn in to replace Alhaji Namadi Sambo, who assumed office as Vice-President on Wednesday.

Yakowa became the first Christian civilian governor of the state and also the first person to occupy the post from the minority, mainly Christian Southern Kaduna. There were reports of tension in the state since last week because some people were not comfortable with a Christian becoming governor of the state.

But speaking at the Hassan Usman Katsina House in Kaduna yesterday, Yakowa said: "I am governor for all, irrespective of religious or tribal affili-

ation. None of us has any reason to be afraid or to feel threatened. God gave us our great religions of Islam and Christianity so as to build a world of love."

Yakowa, 62, was deputy governor of the state since 2005.

The oath of office and oath of allegiance were administered to him by state Chief Judge Rahila Kudjoe at about 2.48pm yesterday.

The governor said the fact that

Continued on page 5

OBJ's men flock to PDP Reform Forum

By Muideen Olaniyi

NOTABLE politicians loyal to former President Olusegun Obasanjo yesterday joined the rebel People's Democratic Party group, the PDP Reform Forum, which is working to upstage the leadership of the party ahead of next year's elections.

Obasanjo's men who attended the forum's conference on electoral reform held in Abuja include

"Our party has for some time now been characterised by intolerance. It mustn't be so. We are in a learning process

former FCT minister Nasir el-Rufai, former aviation minister Femi Fani-Kayode, former presidential adviser Akin Osuntokun and former foreign affairs minister Ojo Maduekwe.

Their joining the rebellious group could energise the campaign for the dissolution of the PDP national working committee, until recently headed by Vincent Ogbulafor.

Maduekwe sneaked into the venue while the programme was starting. For his part, el-Rufai was hailed when his name was mentioned while Fani-

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CHAIRMAN Media Trust Limited, Malam Kabiru Yusuf (left) presenting souvenir to Kano State Governor, Malam Ibrahim Shekarau, during the chairman's visit to Government House, Kano.

Fulani nomad kills colleague over ram

From Sharafa Dauda, Maiduguri

ONE Janyo Mohammed of Mafio in Ngala Local Government Area of Borno State has been arraigned before a Maiduguri High Court for killing his colleague, Bello Kachalla Ibrahim over a ram gift.

The offence was allegedly committed on November 18, 2007 after both cattle rearers engaged each other in a fight which resulted from a misunderstanding over a small-sized ram which was purportedly given to the accused by one Malam Bello Isa, court papers obtained in Maiduguri revealed yesterday.

The fight resorted to the use of knives and cutlasses, and the accused was said to have stabbed Ibrahim, his fellow cattle rearer, in the back, leading to his death. Mohammed is charged with culpable homicide as provided for in Section 224 of the Penal Code, where the offence is not punishable with a death sentence. The presiding judge, Justice Abdullahi Sanya Yerima, said the case is to continue on June 24, 2010 for ruling, saying it was his last chance to give the prosecutors the opportunity to present their witnesses before the court after several failed attempts.

Cop shot as robbers besiege Ibadan banks

From Yemi Bamidele, Ibadan

A policeman was shot but did not die as about 25

armed robbers yesterday attacked two banks beside the Ajayi Crowther University (ACU) along Ogbo-

moso Road in Ibadan, taking away unspecified amounts of money.

Another report said a

farmer working on his farm around the area was hit by a stray bullet and died. That report could not be independently verified before press time. The robbery lasted for about 50 minutes after which the robbers escaped through Awe Road in the city.

The bank robbers descended on the banks in four vehicles at about 9:50 am, wielding heavy weapons and shooting sporadically just as they asked for one Toyin, who was said to have the keys to the vault of one of the banks.

Customers and members of the public ran helter skelter as gun shots rang, our correspondent said.

A witness said the robbers told a National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) member who was trying to escape from the scene to stay put, saying, "We were also corps members like

you. We won't hurt you. But is what the government doing good?"

It was further gathered that the robbers broke security doors of the banks to gain entry.

They also shattered the windscreens of some vehicles parked within the premises of the banks in their bid to ensure that no security agents were hiding inside them.

Our correspondent also gathered that the robbers had earlier snatched a Hiace bus late Wednesday, holding four occupants hostage.

"They loaded their guns for hours last night. They boasted that if 1,000 policemen faced them, they would overpower them with the sophisticated weapons they were carrying," a hostage, the bus driver, said.

Though the police at

their Durbar headquarters in Oyo blocked the road with an articulated vehicle and logs of wood in an effort to stop the robbers from escaping, they escaped through Awe, dodging the blockade.

Oyo State Commissioner of Police Alhaji Baba Adisa Bolanta told inquisitive newsmen that he was too busy at the time of inquiry, saying "I beg, call me back, call me back."

The Public Relations Officer (PPRO) for the state Command DSP Bisi Okuwobi said, "There is nothing anybody can say now. The men are still engaging our men and we are on operation now."

We have got one of them and some of them have sustained injuries, although one of our men was also injured. Our men are still chasing them around now."

In tomorrow's

WEEKLY TRUST

How Edo politician got nabbed with over 200g of cocaine

INSIDE HARD LIVES OF HIV/AIDS COUPLES

Marriage is not easy. How tough, then, would it be for a HIV-positive couple? Our story follows some of such couples and the result is not what you would expect.



She's beautiful, super-stylish and very talented. Did we mention she's Nigerian? Well, in our interview with Canada-based singing sensation Hadiza Blell (Di'ja), she tells us everything about the international music industry, opening for Akon, growing up in Kaduna and more!

Shehu Ladan may become Kaduna deputy governor

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

AS Mr Patrick Yakowa assumed governorship of Kaduna State yesterday, the race for his deputy has entered the final lap and Alhaji Shehu Ladan, the former Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company (NNPC) may emerge the deputy governor before the week runs out, our correspondent has gathered.

A source told *Daily Trust* that the new governor had already spoken with the former GMD who has agreed to serve as his deputy. The choice was informed by strong lobbyists said to have entreated Vice President Namadi Sambo and President Goodluck Jonathan directly. While the emir of Zazzau and the governor enjoy a very warm

relationship, the governor also respects the vice president whom he considers his boss and benefactor, the source noted. Similarly, the vice president has tremendous respect for President Jonathan, he also said. So, the combined lobby for Shehu Ladan must have tilted the scale in his favour, contrary to speculations that the deputy governor would come from Zone 2 from where former Governor Sambo hails.

Shehu Ladan's choice may anger Zone 2 senatorial districts comprising Igabi, Giwa, Birnin Gwari, Kaduna North and Kaduna South, as well as Chikun Local Government Areas. The popular thinking had been that the deputy governor would be picked from Zone 2 from where the former governor comes.

ICPC to inspect N797bn capital projects

By Baco Edet

INDEPENDENT Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) has set up a committee to inspect on-going capital projects in all Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) in Nigeria.

Chairman of the commission Justice Emmanuel Ayoola had informed the Attorney General of the Federation Mohammed Adoke who paid him a courtesy visit on April 14 that he ordered a probe on the implementation of N796.7billion earmarked for capital projects in the 2009 budget.

He said, "Currently we are studying the capital project vote for 2009. We believe that the greatest acts of corruption are committed where the money is greatest and it is in the capital votes segment that you have so much money voted and that is the area of activity in which those people who want to make quick profit out of the nation would make such profit."

Already, some MDAs have started submitting progress reports on capital projects under their supervision to ICPC.

The committee set up by Justice Ayoola is also to work with Anti-Corruption and Transparency Monitoring Units (ACTUs) in all MDAs to ensure completion of projects in this year's budget.

Earlier in the year, ICPC commenced a comprehensive review of the template for ACTUs in MDAs to improve the efficiency of its function to prevent corruption in Nigeria.

Under the review, ACTU units would be actively involved in the inspection and supervision of capital project and other procurement matters.

Nnamani group insists on PDP NWC's dissolution

By Muideen Olaniyi

SENATOR Ken Nnamani-led Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Reform Forum yesterday reiterated its call for the dissolution of the party's National Working Committee (NWC).

The call was however described as irresponsible, undemocratic, unconstitutional and a deliberate attempt to ridicule the party's laid down procedures by PDP National Publicity Secretary Professor Rufai Ahmed Alkali.

In a communiqué read by former Minister of Education Mrs Chinwe Obaje, the PDP Reform Forum called for reconstitution of NWC members with men and women of high probity, integrity and commitment to the ideals of the party in the interest of the country.

The forum said all government functionaries must always see themselves as members who are subject to party rules and regulations, adding that PDP must revisit all sections of its constitution that militate against internal democracy.

The forum also mandated its steering committee to produce and forward a detailed proposal for reforms and party Constitution Amendments to the PDP National Convention. Reacting to the forum's communiqué, Professor Alkali said the call for the dissolution of NWC is not founded on any proven allegation of misconduct, noting that "it is reflective of the arbitrary nature of the conveners who are used to the disregard of laid down rules and procedures in pushing through an agenda."

He said: "We wish to bring to the notice of Nigerians, particularly our party members the inconsistencies of this group which has become an insensitive irritant in our body polity."

...as party shops for Ogbulafor's successor

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Board of Trustees (BOT) and the National Executive Committee (NEC) of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) are expected to meet on Monday and Tuesday respectively following a stalemate over the person to replace the party's former National Chairman Prince Vincent Ogbulafor.

Daily Trust gathered yesterday that two separate meetings in Owerri and Abuja to get a candidate among former PDP National Secretary Okwesilieze Nwodo, former Senate President Anyim Pius Aiyem and former House of Representatives member Mao Oluabunwa failed to reach a consensus.

It was learnt that the struggle, which led to the current deadlock, was between PDP governors and members of the National Assembly who are rooting for their respective candidates.

Several names including Bernard Eze, Ezekiel Izuogwu and Polycarp Nwite among others are also being touted as possible candidates.



MALAM Aminu Nyako (middle) flanked by his father, Governor Murtala Nyako (right) and his mother, Dr. Halima Nyako soon after his graduation with 1st class degree in Economics from Pennstate University, Pennsylvania, USA, recently

Reps reject two-party system

By Turaki A. Hassan

THE House of Representatives has rejected the proposal for the re-introduction of a two-party system in the nation's political process.

The clause, which was introduced by Minority Leader Rep. Mohammed Ali Ndume (ANPP, Borno), seeks to reduce the number of political parties in the country from 54 to 2.

The House was thrown into a rowdy session for two hours with members lobbying for and against the clause introduced in the bill seeking to amend the 2006 Electoral Act.

Amidst the confusion Speaker Dimeji Bankole announced that the House will use a simple voice vote to either accept or reject the clause.

But the decision did not go well with

some members, leading Rep Ndume and his colleagues to stage a walk out.

After a heated argument, the speaker put the question but there was no clear winner. He however went ahead to bang the gavel in favour of the nays. Many members protested the result.

The speaker then said those for two-party system should move to the left side of the chamber while those against should move to the right.

Still, proponents of the two-party kicked against the decision and demanded that members be allowed to vote using the electronic voting machine.

But Bankole said there were some members who did not bring their cards into the chamber and argued that their votes should count.

Even with members refusing to sit as said by Bankole, the speaker asked the Clerk of the House Mohammed Sani-Omolori to count those seated on either sides of the divide after which he announced that, "The House in a committee of a whole considered the clause seeking to provide for two-party system and 1 member abstained from voting, 48 voted for while 172 voted against." Thus, the plenary session was ended amidst confusion and disorder.

Rep. Abdul Ningi (PDP, Bauchi) told journalists after the session that using the electronic voting machines would have allowed people to vote from their consciences, adding that still "those against the two-party system will have had their way if we used the electronic voting machines."

Sambo resumes duty, visits Kaduna today

By Mohammed S. Shehu

VICE President Mohammed Namadi Sambo has officially resumed work in his new office at the Presidential wing of the State House a day after he was sworn-in.

Sambo arrived at the State House at about 11am and was received and taken round the VP wing by a Federal Government delegation led by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation Mahmud Yayale Ahmed.

Finance Minister Olusegun Aganga, state Minister of Finance

Remi Babalola and Minister for National Planning Shamsudeen Usman, who fall under Sambo's supervisory purview as the head of the economic team of government, were there.

The tour took Sambo round various offices under the VP office while his protocol staff introduced him to top bureaucrats of the office.

The new VP is billed to visit his home state Kaduna to officially handover to his former deputy Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa who was elevated to the position of governor following Sambo's confirmation as

vice president.

Yakowa was sworn in yesterday by Kaduna State Chief Judge Justice Rahila Cudjoe.

Sambo remained in Abuja yesterday as President Goodluck Jonathan travelled to Cameroon to grace the country's 50th independence anniversary celebration. Jonathan has since returned.

The former Kaduna State governor will use the opportunity of the visit to officially bid farewell to the state and round up official and family related business before returning to settle down for work.

Nigerians will benefit from their oil, says new NNPC boss

By Hamisu Muhammad

THE new Group Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Engr Austen Olusegun Oniwon has officially resumed duties assuring that he would use

his wealth of experience to impact on the oil and gas industry in Nigeria.

Engr Oniwon spoke after taking over from his predecessor Alhaji Shehu Ladan who occupied the position for 41 days.

He said he was prepared

to turn around the fortunes of the corporation for good, adding that he would ensure that Nigerians enjoy the benefit of being an oil producing country.

Oniwon expressed his readiness to ensure efficient distribution and supply of

petroleum products across the nooks and cranny of the country.

He noted that several feats were achieved during Mallam Ladan's time, which he listed to include the cementing of the relationship between the NNPC and the

National Assembly as well as the International Oil Companies (IOCs).

The new GMD commended Ladan for carrying all the management and staff along and promised to operate an open door policy that would meet the needs of all

stakeholders in the oil and gas industry in the country.

In his remarks, the outgoing GMD Mallam Shehu Ladan thanked the management and staff for their cooperation and urged them to give their maximum support to the new man in charge.

Jonathan tasks states on use of UBE funds

By Abdullahi M. Gulloma

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan yesterday urged the 36 states of the federation and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to utilize the Universal Basic Education Board (UBE) intervention funds to enhance the quality of education in the country.

Speaking at the 2007 and 2008 good performance award organised by the Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) in Abuja, Jonathan said UBE programme is the key framework for achievement of the Education For All Goals.

The president, who was represented by the Minister of Education Professor Ruqayyatu Ahmed Rufa'i said the programme is "part of the strategies of the Federal Government to effectively reposition the basic education to play its strategic role in the systematic production of skilled manpower."

He said the Federal Government has redoubled its efforts in evolving education policies that can serve as a catalyst for other sectors of the economy.

On her part, the Education Minister said steps have been taken through the UBE programme towards providing interventions that will address the challenges of vulnerable groups who were denied access to basic education facilities and opportunities.

In his remarks, chairman of the Governing Board of UBEC Professor Tunde Adeniran, said the commission encourages the involvement of all stakeholders toward ensuring that basic education was the responsibility of all.



VICE President Mohammed Namadi Sambo with Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Alhaji Yayale Ahmed (left) after Sambo assumed duties at the Presidential Villa in Abuja, yesterday.

Reps to establish employee compensation fund

By Turaki A. Hassan

THE House of Representatives will soon pass the bill seeking to establish the Employee Compensation Fund (ECF) to adequately compensate those who sustain injuries, disabilities or die in the course of their work.

When established, the fund would be pooled from 1% total pay package of employees which will be paid to the Nigerian Social Insurance Trust Fund (NSITF) as contained in Section 57 and 58 of the act which mandates the NSITF as the public agency to manage the Employees Compensation Fund (ECF).

The House held a public hearing on the bill yesterday.

The employee compensation bill seeks to repeal the 58 year old Workmen Compensation Act that was enacted during the British Colonial era.

Declaring the public hearing opened, Speaker Dimeji Bankole said workers deserve to work under decent, humane conditions, and hailed the proposed fund as timely.

Represented by the Deputy Leader of the House, Rep Baba Agaie (PDP, Niger), Bankole said the working conditions of millions of Nigerian workers would improve under the new law.

Committee Chairman Rep Ado Audu Dogo (PDP, Kaduna)

said, "The new Bill will enhance productivity of workers as a result of the motivation they would get from many provisions in the proposed law." Minister of Labour and Productivity, Chief Emaka Nwogu, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary of the ministry, Mr. Chike Alex Anigbo, said the proposed law was carefully thought-out with the interest of workers at heart.

Secretary General of the Nigerian Labour Congress Comrade Isa Aremu commended the bill and called for its speedy passage.

The committee is expected to submit its report to the House for further legislative action and possible passage next month.

Poly, COE lecturers to commence strike June 7

By Francis Okeke

MEMBERS of Colleges of Education Academic Staff Union (COEASU) and Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics (ASUP) have given the Federal Government 14 days to implement the terms of a renegotiated agreement

on lecturers' welfare or face strike action.

In a joint letter dated yesterday and issued to the Minister of Education Prof Rukaiya Ahmed, the unions regretted the "penchant of government listening to only militant unionists while taking the maturity exhibited by

both of us for granted."

President of COEASU Mohammed Awwal Ibrahim and his ASUP counterpart Mohammed Kabir lamented that "colleges of education and polytechnics have become the exclusive domain of the less-privileged in Nigeria and this could

be adduced for why issues affecting these subsectors get the quality of attention that exhibits a glaring non-attention"

They said that "the non-implementation of the Renegotiated Agreement signed in February this year which among other things, include

the payment of CONPCASS, the Peculiar Academic Allowances (PAA) and their full arrears is sincerely unfortunate."

The workers had earlier suspended a planned strike action scheduled to take effect last March after the expiration of 21 days ultima-

turn so as to allow for further negotiations.

"If the foregoing demands are not addressed within 14 days from 20th May, the unions will be forced to embark on a full scale nationwide industrial action from 7th June, 2010," they said.

PHOTO: NAN



FROM left: Mr Philemon Yang, Prime Minister of Cameroon with President Goodluck Jonathan on arrival at the Nsimalen International Airport, Yaounde, for Cameroon's 50th Independence Anniversary, yesterday.

Health minister vows to deliver within 3 months

By Ruby Leo

MINISTER of state for Health Alhaji Bello Suleiman has vowed to ensure that Nigerians begin to enjoy better health services within three months of his appointment as directed by President Goodluck Jonathan.

Commissioning six projects at the Federal Medical Centre, Katsina, yesterday, the minister said the president has instructed all ministers to deliver positive results within the first three months of their appointment.

The projects commissioned at the centres are: Accident Emergency complex, Eye, North and Throat Department, Medical / surgical Out patients Department, Dialysis complex unit, Consultant Block and the Endoscopic Unit.

Earlier in his speech, the medical director of the Federal Medical Centre, Katsina, Dr Umar Faruk AbdulMajid said the projects being commissioned were the efforts of the board of directors, management and staff of the centre as well as philanthropic organisations and private individuals.

"This was made possible through philanthropic individuals and corporate organisations who believe in us and what we stand for," he said. He advised that funding of the Health sector must not be left to government alone, urging other stakeholders to partner with the sector

Police produce more widows

By Misbahu Bashir

THE frequent death of married policemen due to work related hazards has led to the increase in the number of widows, police authorities have said.

The Police Force Public Relations Officer Emmanuel Ojukwu said more policemen are being killed by hoodlums leaving their married partners as widows. "For instance, in 2009, over 250 policemen were shot dead by hoodlums while on duty.

The officers have wives and children; their wives are now widows and the children orphans. The police have produced the largest number of widows among the public servants," he said.

"The rush in crime and violence in the country is associated to poor infrastructure and high poverty rates," the PPRO also said.

I am not governor for Xtians

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Nigeria has both Christians and Muslim should be considered a blessing and not seen as a threat.

"We must overcome fear," he said "We must use the blocks of differences among us, whether they are those artificially erected by tribe, gender or faith, to build bridges of hope not walls of hatred. I implore you all to take my hand, take the hands of one another and together, we shall show the rest that Kaduna is really the heart of Nigeria," he added.

Kaduna State has witnessed violent ethno-religious crisis in the past, though the state has been calm for many years now as a result of measures taken by previous administrations.

Yakowa, while affirming his commitment to zero tolerance to violence, said, "My administration shall remain relentless in our struggle towards sustaining peace, equity and justice. We shall be committed to ensuring that no citizen of this state feels threatened or discriminated against on grounds of his or her status in life, gender, class or any disability. Your security will remain our investment."

The governor, who said peace and justice were the primary goals of

his administration, pledged to use his experience to sustain the foundation his predecessor laid in the maintenance of peace in the state.

He pledged to continue with the 11-point agenda of his predecessor, saying there would be no break in the implementation process. "We shall pursue with vigour those areas that we can deliver on in the period of time that God has given to us. I want to assure the people of Kaduna State of my unflinching commitment to implementing these agenda which has served as the basis of the social contract between us and our good people, so as to reduce poverty and enthrone speedy socio-economic development of the state."

He also urged the people of the state to continue to pray for the state and the country for accelerated development.

He commended President Goodluck Jonathan for selecting his former boss as the Vice President.

The swearing in ceremony was attended by many prominent people, including former governor Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi, former finance minister Esther Usman, top traditional rulers, deputy governors of Nassarawa and Plateau states, Senator Isaiah Balat and Alhaji Samaila Yakawada.

OBJ's men flock to PDP Reform Forum

Continued from page 1

yode assisted Prof. Femi Otubajo to anchor the programme. The former aviation minister called for a minute's silence in honour of the late President Umaru Yar'adua. The PDP Reform Forum was set up during the crisis that characterised the period of President Yar'adua's illness and the ascension of Goodluck Jonathan as acting president.

Led by former speaker of the House of Representatives Aminu Masari, the group is believed to be fronting for Jonathan in his quest to wrestle the PDP machinery from the apparent stranglehold of the governors, ahead of next year's general elections.

Some of the Obasanjo men at the event are known to be interested in standing for elections next year. Fani-Kayode has already declared for governor in his home state.

For his part, el-Rufai has since his return to Nigeria early this month been canvassing support for Jonathan in the 2011 presidential poll. Masari, who spoke at the event as chairman of the occasion in the absence of former Senate President Ken Nnamani, insisted that there was a need to have the right kind of leadership in the PDP ahead of the general elections so as to check the falling fortunes of the ruling party.

He said the forum was not aimed at dislodging any particular individual from his position, but said it was not acceptable for governors or local government chairmen to select candidates for elections.

"Let the people decide who will govern them. With what we have in PDP today, instead of the dog wagging the tail, it is the tail wagging the dog. This is unacceptable," he said. Delivering a lecture on the theme of the conference "Political Party Reform as a Sine-Qua-Non

for Electoral Reform,' former attorney-general of the federation Kanu Agabi said there was need for tolerance and internal democracy in the ruling party.

Agabi, who said parties were supposed to act as agents of change, noted that the responsibilities vested on all politicians by the nation's founding fathers could not be discharged without objectivity and honesty. He warned that if the infighting among PDP members continued, opposition parties would "have a feast on the PDP"

"Our party has for some time now been characterised by intolerance. It mustn't be so. We are in a learning process. In dealing with one another, we have to be patient. However intelligent we may be, there must allowance for error. That is what this reform group is all about," Agabi said.

"The party must reform itself. It has no alternative. Your commitment to reform must be rigid. You must not relent. It is the conformists who must relent. PDP has a constitution, no one has the right to go outside that constitution in conducting the affairs of the party," he added.

Former transportation minister Abiye Sekibo, who was giving an appraisal of the reform agenda of the forum, said the forum wanted to galvanise all PDP stakeholders to recognise the need to separate the party from the government and return to participatory democracy.

Former Imo State governor Achike Udenwa, who spoke on behalf of other former governors, said a letter has been sent to President Jonathan on the need for him to listen to the forum.

Others at the occasion include former education minister Mrs Chinwe Obaje, Obasanjo's former aide Prof. Julius Ihonbhere and former Senate President Adolphus Wabara.

Oshiomhole flags off 4 new roads

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

EDO State Governor Comrade Adams Oshiomhole has flagged-off the construction of four roads in Etsako West, Etsako East, Akoko Edo and Esan Central Local Government Areas of the state with a promise to ensure justice and fairness in the execution of projects across the state.

The governor said the road projects being executed were selected according to how they affect the people, adding, "My mandate is to develop every part of the state".

While flagging off the construction of the 5.5 kilometer Iya-

mho-Iyora road in Etsako West Local Government Area, Comrade Oshiomhole maintained that the relationship between the two communities would be strengthened as the movement of farm products would become easier.

The 10 kilometer Ivbioghe-Igiode-Uzanu road in Etsako East Local Government Area was also flagged-off and the governor pointed out that there was no way the rural communities could be integrated without road networks.

He said all the road projects being embarked upon across the state would be properly super-

vised to ensure that the contractors execute quality jobs.

"The state government will not pay the contractors on the basis of certificates alone but on what has been certified physically", he noted.

At Akoko Edo Local Government Area where he flagged-off the construction of the 22 kilometer Igarra - Enwan - Akuku-Ojirami - Dangbala - Uneme Osu - Oja and Ososo road, the governor said governance must translate into changing the lives of the people, stressing that when communities are linked with roads, their economy would be integrated into the

national and state economies.

While acknowledging the fact that Akoko Edo is one of the marginalized communities in the state, Oshiomhole promised that the state government would tackle it from all fronts.

The governor said every part of the state would get justice and assured the people of Okpe that the road in their community would not be left out.

At Esan Central where the Eguare - Usugbenu - Irrua-Eguare-Ebudin-Ugbegun - Izo-gen-Ujogba road was also flagged-off, Oshiomhole said though the state government could not fix all the roads in the state in one day,

a bold statement would be made towards that.

"I feel fulfilled that God has used us to formally flag-off these roads which were designed with all features and specifications that will make them last for a long time like those in developed countries.

The contractors for all the roads have been paid and they have all mobilized to site.

It is therefore the responsibility of our traditional rulers and the youths to monitor the road projects.

Apart from the roads, schools, hospitals, water and electricity will be provided in the communities", the governor added.

PIC: NAN

Emir of Dass honours Doma

From Hlr Joseph, Lafia

EMIR of Dass Alhaji Usman Bilyaminu Othman has conferred on Governor Aliyu Akwe Doma of Nasarawa State the title of "Ambassador of the Dass Emirate" as a result of the governor's relationship with his late father.

The ceremony was done in Government House, Lafia during a recent visit by the emir who said he was in Lafia to express the emirate's gratitude to the governor for his role as chairman during the presentation of the first class staff of office to him in Bauchi.

He said Doma extended his friendship ties with his late father to him and the entire emirate.

Doma thanked the emir for the honour and promised to keep the relationship and justify the title.

Emir of Bajoga dies at 80

From Aliyu M. Hamagam, Gombe

THE Emir of Bajoga in Funakaye Local Government Area of Gombe State, Alhaji Muhammad Kwairanga, who died Wednesday in Gombe was yesterday buried in his palace in Bajoga.

The late monarch who was an elder brother to the Emir of Gombe Alhaji Shehu Abubakar died after a brief illness. The funeral prayer was conducted by the Chief Imam of Bajoga Malam Ba'isa Muhammad and in attendance were Governor Alhaji Danjuma Goje, his deputy, the emir of Gombe and top government officials.

Alhaji Kwairanga died at the age of 80, leaving behind four wives and 40 children.

The deceased started his career as a district head in 1961 and became an emir in 2000.



GOVERNOR Aliyu Wamakko of Sokoto State cutting the tape to inaugurate the 17KM Wurno-Nassarawa-Tambagarka road in Wurno, yesterday.

Jos crises c'ttee member urges probe of publication

From Maryam Ahmadu-Suka, Kaduna

THE Kaduna State Commissioner of Police Alhaji Mohammed Tambari Yabo has been asked to investigate a publication by one Ibrahim Abdullahi against Alhaji Sale Bayari, a member of the Presidential committee on the Jos crises and Secretary of the Sultan's committee on Farmers/Cattle Rearers Conflict Resolution.

In a petition addressed to the commissioner, Bayari said he was never at any security meeting which was purportedly held at the Government House Kaduna on April 19, 2010, where he was alleged to have made comments using the name of the National Security Adviser, retired General Aliyu Mohammed Gusau as recently reported in a national daily.

According to the petitioner, he was attending the Presidential Advisory Committee

meeting on the Plateau crises in Jos on the day of the said security council meeting in Kaduna.

Bayari said he wants the commissioner to investigate the source of the report because both he and the NSA are people with reputation and responsibility.

According to him, Ibrahim Abdullahi who signed the statement maligning him, is someone that he knows.

'Fight for Apa State must be with genuine motive'

From Hlr Joseph, Lafia

THE Idoma people of Benue State have been advised not to be carried away by the renewed agitation for the creation of Apa State, saying the agitation comes up only during electioneering periods and dies off as soon as elections are over.

Describing the current call for Apa State as "mere antics for 2011", Comrade Daniel Onjeh, an Action Congress (AC) aspirant

for Benue-South Senatorial seat, said it is an agitation not being vigorously pursued with genuine interest by those involved.

Onjeh, an anti-corruption campaigner and former leader of the West African Students' Union (WASU), told Daily Trust yesterday that he was not against Apa State but that the agitation for its creation must be genuinely pursued, and not cornered by the same politicians who touted it in the past for the purpose of

remaining in power against the interest of the generality of the people.

Onjeh criticized a recent visit by the movement for the creation of Apa State to the House of Representatives in Abuja where the group presented its memorandum.

He said, "For how long shall we be fooled as a people? Is it not ridiculous that the much touted Apa State's memorandum is just going to the National Assembly

when the Senate has concluded the proposal for constitution review?"

The drums of deception are being rolled out again, the decoy is back. Yes, we need Apa State, but this quest transcends parochial interest of an individual or group.

It must be agitated for with genuine intent and purpose. Let us change our dance steps this time around for change 2011", Onjeh added.

Court orders remand of Kenny Martins as surety withdraws

By Atika Balal

FORMER Chairman of Police Equipment Foundation Kenny Martins has been remanded in prison custody after a Federal High Court in Abuja ruled that one of the persons who stood as his bail surety had a right to withdraw his position.

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) had filed a four count charge of advanced fee fraud against Martins

who has since pleaded not guilty.

He is being accused of breaching a loan agreement amounting to \$97.5m it entered into with an American company, Cavalry Security Group LLC.

Dele Obaje Jacob, one of the persons who stood as his bail surety to Martins, had applied seeking an order discharging him from further acting as surety. He told the court that his interest in that position will be affected due

to the prolonged time the matter has taken.

His counsel, Abdulrahman Abubakar, told the court that said since section 134 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Act (CPA) states that a surety who seeks to withdraw his position may not necessarily give any reason why he is doing so, his client has chosen not to state reasons why he seeks to withdraw.

Counsel to Martins, Chief J. I

Ucheaga, opposed the application arguing that the various adjournments cannot be blamed on Martins as he never failed to appear in court since the matter began.

In granting the application yesterday, Justice Adamu Bello said the court cannot compel a surety to remain as one if he is unwilling and ordered that the accused should remain in prison custody pending when he is able to provide another surety.

Martins was last year granted bail in the sum of N100m with two sureties who must have landed property in Abuja worth the bail sum.

He had also deposited his international passport with the court as one of the bail conditions and was ordered not to travel outside the country without the court's approval.

The case has been adjourned till July 13 for trial.

EFCC: 1, 200 pending cases, 100 convictions

By Boco Edet

ECONOMIC and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) has only succeeded in securing about 100 convictions out of the over 1,200 pending cases in different law courts across Nigeria.

It took the anti-graft agency nearly two years to institute about 50 high profile cases and move convictions to about 100 including those against Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs).

The Chairman, Mrs. Farida Waziri on Wednesday blamed the situation on the judiciary describing the court process as "slow because of many adjournments."

Addressing Nigerians in Diaspora Europe Chapter who paid her a courtesy visit at the headquarters of the Commission in Abuja, Mrs. Waziri said, "as at today we have over 1,200 cases pending in our law courts while our strategic intervention

along with other institutions like the CBN in the banking sector has in no small measure restored sanity and public confidence in that sector of the economy."

She also said the Commission has so far recovered over \$6.5 billion as proceeds of crime.

Alister Soyode, spokesman for Nigerians in Diaspora advised EFCC to broaden its activities with an international presence so Nigerians abroad would be actively involved in the fight against corruption.

Soyode urged the Commission to be total in the discharge of her responsibilities and not resort to favouritism no matter the pressure. "For EFCC to fight the international side of corruption it might consider the option of establishing an office based in Europe so it can use security officials that are Nigerians," he said.



Gov Ibrahim Gaidam (middle), ANPP National Chairman Chief Edwin Ume-Ezeoke (left) and the party's Deputy National Chairman North, Dr. Yusuf Musa at the inauguration of the ANPP National Convention Committee in Abuja yesterday.

Adamawa wins N900m UBEC performance award

By Abdullahi M. Gulloma

THE Adamawa State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) yesterday won a total of N900m out of the N3.9bn earmarked for the 2007 and 2008 Universal Basic Education Commission's good performance grants.

The board emerged 2nd in the 2007 national position with cash a reward of N300m and 1st in the 2008 ranking with a cash reward of N600m.

In the 2008 category, Katsina State came second, Jigawa State third, Bauchi State fourth, Federal Capital Territory (FCT) fifth and Kogi State sixth with a cash reward of N450m, N350m, N250m, N200m and N150m respectively. For the 2007 national position, Ondo State came first with a prize of N500m, Adamawa State second with a prize of N300m, Katsina State third with a prize of N200m.

For the 2007 geographical winners, Federal Capital Territory, Taraba State,

Jigawa State, Abia State, Rivers State and Ekiti State emerged first in North-central, North-east, North-west, South-east, South-south and South-west respectively. They all received a cash prize of N70m each.

In the same vein, Niger, Gombe, Kebbi and Oyo states were given N50m each for emerging second in their zones while Kogi, Bauchi, Zamfara and Ogun states received N30m each for emerging third in their zones for the 2007 category.

17 police officers sacked

By Misbahu Bashir

THE Police Service Commission (PSC) has approved the dismissal of 17 police officers for various acts of misconducts.

The Police Force Public Relations Officer ACP Emmanuel Ojukwu said the affected officers were found guilty for various acts of misconducts and indiscipline. The officers who included superintendents served with various police commands and formations.

Ojukwu said the police do not condone indiscipline no matter the officer involved and urged the public to report cases of police brutality and assault to the nearest police station or to the police PRO's. "Policemen found guilty of assaulting

suspects or the public are punished and in some cases dismissed from work. Police are trained to treat people in a reasonable manner not in a cruel ways," he said.

He said police have rules engagement especially when addressing crime and violence and any officer that violates the orders must be punished accordingly. "There are instances to use fire arms and there are situations in which police don't use fire arms," he said.

Police will be allowed to use minimum force to quash civil unrest or arrest suspected criminals and mostly avoid the use of excessive force to keep away from hurting innocent people. But the public are also expected to cooperate with policemen and avoid resistance.

Armed robbery, sea piracy worry FG

By Shehu Abubakar

PERMANENT Secretary in the Ministry of Transport Dr. Edugie Abebe has stressed the need to expedite action to combat the issue of armed robbery and sea piracy on Nigerian territorial waters.

She said the absence of existing legislations to effectively punish criminals who engage in this type of offences have contributed to the inability of the country to make much progress in tackling the menace.

The permanent secretary spoke when a maritime expert from the International Maritime

Organisation (IMO) Mr. Augustine Blanco Bazan visited her in Abuja yesterday. She enjoined the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, (NIMASA) and its lawyers to expedite work so that the problems could be laid to rest soonest.

Mrs Abebe suggested that existing laws in the country could be looked into and worked on to serve in the interim while the legislations are reviewed by the National Assembly.

Earlier in his remarks, Mr. Bazan said the problem of armed robbery and piracy is an issue that IMO bureau is seriously tackling especially in Somali

waters. He said that while the problem around the Somali waters could be dealt with as it occurs in international waters, Nigeria has a peculiar problem as the present legislations existing in the country do not adequately address the problems.

Earlier, in his introductory remarks, the Director-General of NIMASA Barrister Temisan Omatseye said Mr. Blanco came as a way of realizing the decisions reached at the Seminar on Armed Robbery and Piracy at Sea which NIMASA hosted last year and which was attended by the Secretary-General of the IMO.

Prison officials stall bail of Boko Haram suspect

From Sharafa Dauda, Maiduguri

THE bail application of Babagana Gaji, a suspected member of the Boko Haram sect, awaiting trial at High Court 11 in Maiduguri, Borno State was yesterday stalled as officials of

the Maiduguri Maximum Prisons failed to produce the accused person in court as earlier pledged. The defence counsel to the accused, Barrister Zanna Hamza, told the court that he was suspending the motion for bail because neither he nor his client's

relations know the suspect's whereabouts. He said when Gaji's relations visited him on Tuesday (May 18, 2010) he was not in the prison, adding that, they were only told by the prison officials that he had been transferred to an undisclosed location for "security rea-

sons" based on administrative orders. The defence counsel said his motion for bail would be suspended until his client is produced, saying he was not sure his client was alive. He added that his client had the fundamental right to talk to his lawyer before every

trial and wondered why Gaji was been denied that right. The court was earlier served a letter, notifying it of the transfer and the presiding judge, Justice Alkali Gana Wakili had consented because it was premised on "security reasons". He however ordered

the prison officials to produce the accused at every hearing. Barrister Hamza then urged the court to grant him permission to file an application to compel the prison officials to produce his client. The case has been adjourned to May 31, 2010.

Politicians warned against causing crisis

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

POLITICIANS have been warned against actions capable of plunging the country into another civil war. The organising Secretary of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Kogi State, Mr Peter Salihu, gave the warning yesterday in Lokoja at the public presentation of his new book titled, "The Nigerian Civil War".

Salihu, who is a retired military officer lamented that the kind of corruption and political instability that led to the first civil war in 1967, was resurfacing gradually.

Salihu said he wrote the

book to remind Nigerians of the traumatic experience of the civil war and called on politicians to allow patriotism and love for the country to guide their actions. He urged political parties to allow internal democracy and present only candidates of unquestionable characters for the 2011 general elections to ensure good governance at all levels in the country. The state Chairman of the PDP, Hassan Salawu, representing Governor Ibrahim Idris, called on aspirants to abide by the rules and regulations of the party, pledging that the party would guarantee a level playing field for all.

Borno govt appoints new emir of Uba

From Isah Umar Gusau, Maiduguri

THE Borno State government yesterday appointed Alhaji Ali Ismaila Mamza as the new Emir of Uba. He succeeded his late father, Alhaji Ismaila Mamza who died on April 4, 2010 at the age of 74, after ruling for 38 years. The late emir ascended the throne in 1972.

The state Commissioner for Local Governments and Chieftaincy Affairs Alhaji Abdul-Rahman Terab presented an appointment letter to the new emir on behalf of government, according to a statement from the min-

istry yesterday.

The statement noted that Governor Ali Modu Sheriff confirmed Alhaji Ismaila's appointment based on "a unanimous decision" reached by the kingmakers, comprising of 14 village and district heads in Uba. The statement added that the government was satisfied with the choice and urged the new emir to provide quality leadership. The new emir has promised to sustain the unity, peace and tranquillity which reigned during the time of his late father. The new emir was until his appointment, the Secretary of the Uba Emirate Council.



PIC: Felix Onigbinde

Senior Programme Manager, Human Rights Writers Association of Nigeria, Ogom Kifordu (left) and National Coordinator of the association, Comrade Emmanuel Onwubiko (middle) presenting a certificate of induction to former Presidential Adviser on Constitutional Matters, Prof Auwalu Hamisu Yadudu, in Abuja yesterday.

Judge seeks review of judicial procedure

From Sharafa Dauda, Maiduguri

THE Borno State Judicial Council should review judicial procedure in the state to enable a speedy dispensation of justice, Justice Abdullahi Sanya Yerima has said.

Justice Yerima made

this recommendation yesterday while lamenting over the inability of the police to produce witnesses in the Boko Haram case at the High Court 11 in Maiduguri.

He said the present judicial procedure in the state which saddles only one police officer with

the responsibility of serving witnesses with court orders and papers in an entire senatorial zone is ineffective and was delaying justice.

The judge said there was a need to engage more process servers and suggested a possible recruitment of civilians, who

could liaise with the police. He said this would help to discontinue the current process where persons who commit offences are allowed by judges to go scot-free because the judges could not continue to keep such persons in detention if prosecutors fail to produce witnesses.

FRSC nabs traffic offenders in Sokoto

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

OVER 2,500 people were nabbed for various road traffic offences while a

total of 1,626 cars were impounded in Sokoto State between January and April. Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission

(FRSC) in Sokoto Aliyu Bawa Datsama who spoke yesterday in Sokoto said the impounded vehicles include 1,142 motorcycles and 484 trucks/

cars. He said the command would soon set up mobile courts to prosecute offenders.

Datsama however said seat belt compliance level

is now high in the state. The sector commander added that 62 accidents involving 391 people were recorded between January and April and that 33 per-

sons died in the crashes while 220 were injured.

He stressed the need for all stakeholders in the state to work together to address traffic concerns.

Kebbi begins campaign against Lassa fever

From Ismail Adebayo, Birnin Kebbi

THE Kebbi State government has begun campaigns to prevent the spread of Lassa fever from the three affected communities to other parts of the state. The state's Ministry of Health has also

equipped the Epidemiological Unit of the Sir Yahaya Memorial Hospital in Birnin Kebbi and other general hospitals in the state with adequate drugs to treat infected persons. The state Chief Epidemiologist, Alhaji Shehu Muhammed, who spoke with our correspondent

yesterday on phone said there was a need for the people to be sensitized on the cause/causes of the disease and how it could be prevented. He added experts had arrived in the state to attend to those already affected.

"There is an urgent need to educate our people on the disease. We cannot afford more deaths, medical experts are already attending to the affected people, so in the next few weeks, Kebbi will be free of Lassa Fever," he said. He said no death had been

recorded since last Saturday, when they lost a nine year old girl to the disease after battling for hours to save her. For about three weeks now, Kebbi State has been battling with Lassa Fever, with 17 people dead in three local government areas of the state.



PIC: Felix Onigbinde

FROM left: Former Speaker, House of Representatives, Alhaji Aminu Bello Masari, former Rivers State Governor Peter Odili and former Minister of Commerce and Industry, Achike Udenwa during the PDP Reform Forum's meeting in Abuja yesterday.

COE student held over heroin

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

FESTUS Omokoro, a 26 year old student of the College of Education, Minna, Niger State has been arrested with 4.5 kilograms of heroin. Speaking with our correspondent shortly after his arrest yesterday, he said he was only working for a syndicate.

The student of the Department of Economic and Social Studies said he was lured by the syndicate because of the harsh economic situation in the country.

"This is my first time of participating in such a business. I was dragged into it by one Mr Steve, I do not know where the substance came from or where it was to be taken to. All I know is that, I was asked to give it to someone, who was to come to my room for it," he said.

The Niger State Commander of the Nigerian Drug Law enforcement Agency (NDLEA) Alhaji Abdullahi Abdul lamented that drug syndicates now used students to perpetrate the crime. He stressed the need for people to be vigilant, saying most arrests made by the agency were due to the assistance of informants. He said the arrest of Omokoro had led to further arrests. He reiterated the resolve of the NDLEA to combat drug related crimes and called on youths to stay away from illicit drugs.

Labour Party faults Imo LG poll procedure

From Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri

CHAIRMAN of the Labour Party in Imo State Barrister Chukwumeka Samuel Osuji has picked holes in the procedure adopted by the state Independent Electoral Commission (ISIEC) for the August 7, 2010 local government election.

Osuji told Daily Trust in Owerri yesterday that a situation where ISIEC collects N25,000 from every chairmanship aspirant and N10,000 from councillorship aspirants was condemnable.

He also described it as fraudulent for ISIEC to demand another N100,000 and N25,000 from the aspirants on return of the forms.

He said ISIEC had no business with aspirants, pointing out that the proper procedure was for parties to hold primaries and send names of aspirants to ISIEC and not otherwise. He noted that the fraudulent exercise does not guarantee return of monies to aspirants who would not make it to the election.

Osuji said the party was warm-

ing up for the local government election given a level playing ground. He said most members of ISIEC were PDP card carrying members which threatens a level playing ground for the election, adding that some individuals and parties were already in court over the election which has not even been held.

AIG cautions police patrol teams on use of fire arms

From Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

THE Acting Assistant Inspector General of Police zone 12, Danlami Yar'adua who is also the Commissioner of Police, Bauchi State has advised police patrol teams to be cautious in the use of fire arms while discharging their duties. Mr Yar'adua who spoke in Maiduguri, Borno

State, yesterday during the launch of the "Strategic Crime Prevention and Control Plan in Seven Pilot Cities" for the North-east zone, urged the men to be guided by the provisions of the Force order, 237 on the use of fire arms.

Yar'adua added that seven cities had been selected from the six geo political zones and the FCT for

the implementation of the scheme. The cities include Maiduguri, Lagos, Kano, Ibadan, Abuja, Port-Harcourt and Onitsha.

"Each of the cities under the scheme has been divided into three zones to be effectively patrolled by a team of seasoned and well trained police officers and men round the clock. It is therefore an additional

impetus to the usual police patrols. Each team is expected to promptly respond to distress calls. To bring their services closer to the public, it is also the Inspector General of Police directive, that their offices be strategically located within their operational areas," he said.

The acting AIG said three divisions of ITE, Lamisula and Gwange

had been selected as pilot divisions from the Maiduguri zone, owing to the high rate of crime in the areas.

Twelve patrol vans and a truck have been donated by the police headquarters for the take-off of the scheme in the state.

Earlier, Borno State Police Commissioner Ibrahim Abdu assured the people of adequate security.

FCE Okene to run degree programme

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

THE Federal College of Education Okene in Kogi State will soon start a degree programme in Education, the College Provost Dr Iyeye Ajayi has said.

This, according to him, followed the approval by the University of Ibadan of the college's accreditation to run a Bachelor of Education degree programme in affiliation with the university.

Ajayi said with the approval, the

college would intensify preparations for the take-off of the programme before the end of this year. He said the college had already inaugurated some committees to work on admission modalities, initial course combination and requisite external formalities. It would be recalled that the provost earlier established the Directorate of Undergraduate Programmes charged with the responsibility of transforming the college into a degree awarding institution.

ITF harps on workers' training

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

THE Industrial Training Fund (ITF) has said that it would ensure that every Nigerian worker is trained. Area Manager of the Port Harcourt Area Office of ITF, Mr. Zachariah Piwuna, who spoke recently while declaring open a workshop on Cost Accounting and Control organized by the Area Office said the ITF had scaled up its activities towards ensuring that its mandate is attained.

He said the Area Office had this year alone,

conducted 11 workshops which drew over 150 participants from 50 companies across the country.

Piwuna said the Fund was not resting on its oars as it intends to run 15 more workshops before the end of the year. He also expressed the readiness of the area office to partner with the Rivers and Bayelsa States governments to arm youths with employable skills which would douse restiveness in the states. He noted that training was an imperative as it provided beneficiaries with additional knowledge.

Report: Police torture suspects

By Misbahu Bashir with agency report

NIGERIAN Police routinely kill suspects, use torture as a principal means of investigation, commit rapes of both sexes and engage in extortion at nearly every opportunity, a report said.

The report, which was released by the Network on Police Reform in Nigeria (NOPRIN), a group of 41 civil society organisations, said extrajudicial killings and torture by the police are widespread.

"The victims of such extrajudicial executions are often disposed of surreptitiously, sometimes in local waterways or mass unmarked graves," the report said.

But the Police Force Public Relations Officer, ACP Emmanuel Ojukwu said the allegations of torture, extra judicial killings, and other forms of assault do not exist in the police now.

"The allegations have been dealt with by the

police authorities. Torture and extra-judicial killings are not official policies of the police. We protect human dignity," he said.

He said officers found guilty of violating human rights are made to face disciplinary action not transferred from their units. "The Police Service Commission recently dismissed 17 police officers for indiscipline and misconducts," he said.

The findings of the report titled, Criminal Force: Torture, Abuse and Extrajudicial Killings by the Nigeria police force, were based on independent field monitoring and investigation at more than 400 police stations and posts in 14 states and territories in Nigeria from February 2007 to January 2009.

"This shocking pattern of abuse calls into question the legitimacy of the entire Nigeria Police Force (NPF)," said Okechukwu Nwanguma, programme co-ordinator, NOPRIN which conducted the research.

The report said: "If President Jonathan truly means to improve public safety, then he must pay greater attention to police reform than his predecessor. We need to see renewed commitment at all levels during this critical time of transition.

"In one well-documented case in 2004 in Kaduna State, the police visited a cemetery late at night to bury truckloads of detainees they had executed. The police frequently deny victims' relatives access to information about their fate or their remains. Relatives who continue to pursue such information, or seek redress, often face threats or reprisals from the police.

"Some former detainees report having been bound and suspended in midair in painful positions and kicked and beaten with machetes, gun butts, boots, fists, electrical wires, animal hides and other instruments," the report says.

Envoy: Nigeria is Cote d'Ivoire's first trade partner

By Aisha Umar Agae

AMBASSADOR of Cote d'Ivoire Amidou Diarra has said that Nigeria is Cote d'Ivoire's first trading partner with an imbalance that favours Nigeria.

The envoy said this yesterday at the Ivorian embassy in Abuja on the country's 50th anniversary celebration.

"Nigeria is the first commercial partner of Cote d'Ivoire in the world. The volume of exchange between the two countries is estimated at \$2.525 billion.

The exports of Cote d'Ivoire to Nigeria is at \$0.56 billion and from Nigeria to Cote d'Ivoire, the exports are at \$2.07 billion. The balance of trade is in excess in favour of Nigeria or about 70% of the exchanges".

He said Cote d'Ivoire buys 90% of its oil from Nigeria and has a lot of investments from Nigeria in Cote d'Ivoire which includes UBA, Access bank, SAARA and Oando have obtained an NNPC permit to operate in Cote d'Ivoire.

Diarra said four Nigerian companies, Virgin

Nigeria, Belview, Arik and Aero have obtained authorization to land in Cote d'Ivoire.

He said the relationship between Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire is cooperation in all fields in line with ECOWAS policy of promoting regional integration.

Activities lined up to celebrate the country's 50th anniversary include football match, Cote d'Ivoire kitchen at Sheraton Hotel Abuja, conference with two speakers Wole Soyinka and Professor Voho Sahi, film show, trade fair and others.

Nigeria celebrates the International Day of Families

By Akor Ojoma

NIGERIA marked the International Day of Families in all states of the federation and the Federal Capital Territory yesterday with the theme "The Impact of Migration on families around the World"

The International Day of Families is a day set aside by the United Nations to raise awareness on issues relating to the family as

the basic unit and building block of the society.

Minister of Women and Social Development Iyom Josephine Anenih said in her address at the public lecture organised by the ministry to mark the event in Abuja that the day provides an opportunity to increase knowledge of the economic, cultural, social and developmental processes affecting families.

She said the rise in

human migration is one of the major trends affecting families world-wide.

Country Representative of International Organization for Migration (IOM) Martin Ocaga said there is need to provide the resources for children whose parents migrate and receiving governments play a more active role in providing protection of migrant rights among others.



NATIONAL CENTRE FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
(ENERGY COMMISSION OF NIGERIA)
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, NIGERIA



PRE-QUALIFICATION

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Centre for Energy and Environment (NCEE) invites interested and reputable vendors and contractors with vast experience to apply for the following under listed jobs provided for in the 2010 fiscal year.

2. SCOPE

The scope of the job includes:

- LOT 1: Comprehensive Survey of all the existing and Potential Petroleum Bases in the Country
- LOT 2: Procurement of Furniture and Office Equipment
- LOT 3: Procurement of Research Equipment
- LOT 4: Purchase of Utility Vehicles
- LOT 5: Design and Development of Waste Recycling Plants/Biofuel/Biogas Production Units
- LOT 6: Establishment of Geographic Information System (GIS) Laboratory/Weather Station
- LOT 7: Scientific Laboratory Consumables/Accessories

3. PRE-QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

The following requirement for pre-qualification must be submitted

- i) Evidence of registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission (Valid Certificate of Incorporation)
- ii) Evidence of tax Clearance and VAT Certificate for past three (3) years
- iii) Company Audited Account for past three (3) years
- iv) Evidence of Registration with National Centre for Energy and Environment
- v) Company Profile with list of Technical/Managerial staff with evidence of previous work experience detailed clients, nature of work/contract, contract sum etc
- vi) Articulated Work Plan and Methodology.
- vii) Evidence of Financial capability
- viii) Evidence of submission of Annual returns from CAC
- ix) Experience in handling similar job is an added advantage.
- x) Full Office Address of the Company and GSM Number(s)

4. SUBMISSION

Pre-qualification documents must be in sealed envelope marked, "CONFIDENTIAL PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR NCEE 2010 FISCAL YEAR CAPITAL PROJECTS" and the LOT of interest clearly printed at the top left corner of the envelope and submit within three (3) weeks from the date of this publication to The Director, National Centre for Energy and Environment (NCEE), PTDF Building, Ugbowo Campus, University of Benin, PMB 1154, Benin City, Nigeria.

NB: The submission of the pre-qualification documents is not a guarantee for the award of contract. Only pre-qualified companies shall be invited to pick Bid document.

Signed:
The Director

National Centre for Energy and Environment, Benin City

Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON www.dailytrust.com

EFCC seeks German court order over Siemens

MY thinking may be different from other people's thinking but to me EFCC should only be

concerned about telling Nigerians of their successes and or otherwise instead of telling

them what they intend to do. If people are under investigation or prosecution, EFCC should

be patient enough to pursue it and get a conviction or acquittal and after that, inform Nige-

rians.
Egiyaya, Bala A.M
egeeyayaadee@yahoo.com



PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan

Jonathan told not to contest presidency in 2011

I advice that Mr. President should contest in the 2011 election. I wonder why Prof. Tunde will advise him not to contest. It his right so let nobody chose for him, but let the will of God be done. Also, I want Prof. Dora Akunyili to become the INEC chairman.

Favour
ogodon@yahoo.com

Rightly said, Prof. Tunde. You are absolutely right.

Ibrahim Magaji Wukar
el_magaji@yahoo.com

I am sure this advice is coming from someone who loves Goodluck. Those pushing him to contest are not his true lovers. As for Akunyili, I agree with all the criteria Prof. mentioned and to me, Akunyili possesses neither.

Isah Abbas Ahmed
talk2isabah@gmail.com

That is the simple fact, there is no way the president will contest and conduct a free and fair polls in a country where the number of illiterates is triple the number of the literate and a country where more than ninety percent if not one hundred percent have lost confidence in the electoral body and hence ready to accept the result however rigged it is. Mr. President should realize that he will be recognized beyond the borders of Nigeria if he can deliver credible polls in the country.

Usman Ahmed Danbaba
danbaba1986@yahoo.com

Kano women urge Shekarau to be neutral

SHEKARAU should always remember the way he came to that office and should therefore stop contemplating imposing anybody as Kano state Governor come 2011.

Bello Wudil
beld@yahoo.com

President to new VP: Let us avoid friction

WE hope Goodluck and Namadi Sambo's administration will bring about the desired positive changes Nigerians have been yearning for. They should make the best use of the little time to make their mark in sand of time. Let it be that when the history of Nigeria's political growth is written, posterity will remember them as leaders that emerged by fate and served their people with all honesty.

Ibrahim T. Ibrahim
elkutigi@gmail.com

First of all I have to wish Sambo all the best on his new appointment as the Vice President of Nigeria. May Allah give him the ability to carry out his duty diligently. I will call this show of full support by the President for his

deputy and the promise to work together with him in order to achieve the desired goals for this country a welcome development. I tender my support to the government of Goodluck/Namadi and pray for their success in carrying out their duties.

Abubakar Chika Maru
abubakarsuleiman2009@yahoo.com

I wish you goodluck in the successful discharge of your responsibilities and Patience to avoid friction with your boss. Coincidentally both live next door, but don't take them for granted.

Aliyu Yusuf
agyusuf@yahoo.com

He does not need to be told of avoiding friction. He knows what



VICE President Namadi Sambo

it will cost Nigeria and Nigerians, himself and his family. I only pray that God will save us of all disas-

ters.
Egiyaya, Bala A.M
egeeyayaadee@yahoo.com

Shariah Council backs Yarima on marriage

I feel very strongly about the recent harassment that Sen. Ahmed Yarima has been subjected to because of his marriage to an Egyptian girl that is alleged to be 13 years old. As it is now, there is no law in Nigeria that prescribes marriageable age. Besides, what is more damaging? Marrying a girl that is of age or taking teenage girls and using them as a tool to satisfy one's sexual urge?

I urge NAPTIP and the human right activists to be more concerned about changing the fortune of young girls that loiter on our street across the country and are used as sexual objects and not Yarima that legally married a young girl whose age is still in doubt.

Ibrahim T. Ibrahim
elkutigi@gmail.com

My advice to all our leaders who are Muslims at the helm of affairs is to portray the good image of Islam in all their endeavors and not until they want to satisfy some personal objectives. Sometimes, we tend to ignore basic Islamic teachings such as helping the poor and less privileged but concentrate more on those that are for personal benefits. May Allah guide us a-right. Amen.

Babayo El-Nafaty
babayoelnafaty@yahoo.com

Muslims should be allowed to practice their religion. The parents of the 13 year old girl haven't stopped the marriage so I don't see any reason why someone will intrude and

try to cause trouble. They are not complaining and the girl is not complaining.

Gidado
sirajogidado@hotmail.com

Nigerian Muslims and Muslim leaders must realize that the world is changing and the circumstances of Nigeria are also changing. There is nowhere in Islam or the Qu'ran that permits the indecency of marrying babies. Nobody should encourage anyone to willfully break our laws and defy institutions of the state. The day that begins to happen, we might not have a country where we can practice our religion in peace. Is Nigeria more Islamic than Egypt or Saudi Arabia were baby marriages are prohibited by law? No one must intimidate government agencies from carrying out their statutory responsibilities.

David Adegbite
nigeriafirst@yahoo.com

Why are you trying to cause religious disharmony amongst Nigerians? What is the business of the Jews in this issue? Since this issue came up, nobody has mentioned the Jews except SCSN. Is this not a means to distract people away from the main issue?

Abdul Gamba
abdgamba@hotmail.com

What Yarima did is in line with Islamic rules and let no organ of government or NGO say anything again

on this matter. The Sharia council did a very good move by protecting the religion. We all support Yarima on this issue.

Ibrahim Abdu Garko
iagarko@yahoo.com

Alhamdu lillahi ala kullu halin. Shariah Council, we thank you all for stopping NAPTIP fighting against Islam. As you said, Sections 37 and 38 of the Nigerian constitution allows everyone to practice and propagate his religion. Those behind Sen. Ahmad Sani Yarima will not succeed insha Allah.

Kabir Ibrahim Gusau
ahlulzikri@yahoo.com

NSCIA, you are doing a wonderful to defend the true religion of Allah. Yarima has done nothing that is against Islamic injunctions. Those against him will not succeed.

Aisha Kabir
kabirgusau04@yahoo.com

The only halal that Allah (S.W.T) doesn't like is divorce and it is his (Yarima's) habit to marry and divorce and later marry another. I as a Muslim hate what Yarima is doing and the Islamic Council should stop protecting him because Allah (S.W.T) does not support divorce unless it is necessary. Why should someone take advantage of divorcing women any how he wishes for his personal goals?

Mahmud
sammad4real@yahoo.com

Eagles to leave Saturday

GO for the Gold, Eagles. We should have faith in the Eagles. Nigerian's should give their maximum support to the players and the managers. God bless Nigeria.

Gidado
sirajogidado@hotmail.com

Kogi govt charged on tourism

SUCCESSIVE governments in Kogi state have not shown enough interest in developing the tourism potentials of the state. If developed, the state could make enough money from it instead of depending only on the federation account. Kogi state has lots colonial relics and tourist centers that need development. It was the home of Lord Lugard and the popular Rivers Niger and Benue meet in Lokoja. More money could be made from the hospitality industry.

Abdullahi Ibrahim
giriabdul@yahoo.com

Goodluck comes with Patience!

Campaigns: camp fights i.e. fights between two or more groups, the winner gets to rule over us. Rallies: rumbles, situations where 'ake tsara mu' (deceive us) with promises, hardly fulfilled.

Lawmakers aka lawbreakers: our leaders who break more rules than we do, starting from campaign grounds where they arrive in tinted jeeps prohibited by the government in which they serve.

In the eighties, the page-beater Malam Adamu Adamu had a page dedicated to his 'definitions in humour' in the Citizen magazine. I guess my humble effort above would make us reminisce over the past and aptly describe the situation in our country today as we go into this political dispensation with ambitions and rallies manifesting everywhere.

Coming into Kano from north ward, I had cause to witness one of these rallies, supposedly. Despite the 'makamai' (kota, adda, barandami, takobi, etc) (weapons) flaunted brazenly by party members, it is 'war galore' one can describe it. I, who thought 'siyasa' is a way of choosing leaders through elections and consensus, the rallies being places to convince the electorates of their manifestos and 'akida' till convinced enough to vote them into office. It's saddening to see that our youths have still not learnt to say 'no', to politicians who

“What kind of leader is this that starts with this 'son kai', and encourages you to break all manner of laws?”

have done very little to help their living standard, who at the very beginning come in air conditioned, tinted cars, whilst they sweat it out jam packed in cars, booths or windows of buses and trailers, while the reckless drivers speed along both lanes of the highway.

What kind of leader is this that starts with this 'son kai', and encourages you to break all manner of laws? Would it be that he has intimidated or 'palm greased' the police and the road safety agents that they look away? I have been told that the policeman is my friend, but the moment he takes the N20 the numerous road users grace him with, automatically he becomes 'dan fashi'. What then do I call 'dan siyasa' who comes to campaign ground with thugs and arms? Why intimidate us, your voters? Don't you trust your words? Can't you convince and cajole us with them? If at your rallies consisting of your cohorts, supporters and admirers, you come out this armed what happens on the day of the election, when your opponent is sure to come out too? Perhaps that is the reason why a lot of people shun this civic responsibility.

Politics without rancour has been preached time and again in this home of 'santsi, tabo, sak, chanji and now 'kwankwasiiya. With 'adaidaita sahu'

Hajiyayye Liman

maumarzuq@yahoo.com

as a vanguard for righteousness, I believe 'yan Hisbah, 'masu unguwa, and even youths can be mobilized to make corrections for 'wanga sahu dai walla bai daidaitu ba!'

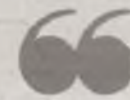
As we try to save these youths, let's educate them on what to look for in a leader, show them the power of their ballots, that in a democracy they are the boss and can recall a representative and/or vote him out, if after adorning selves in party colours, shouting themselves hoarse, drenching in sweats and rain, he doesn't perform to expectations. With corrections and outright refusal to break laws of the land no matter the circumstances, we can teach the leaders to rule us well and even curb the gregarious, for they are not ruling dummies. Let's remind them that they are not accountable to us only but to their creator on whose Will they became leaders.

Let them have 'tawakkali' (faith), for everything has already been written. 'Ina masu ta zarce? Not even a million men could make it happen. In the gentle departed soul that was Umaru Yar'adua, is a testimony for all to see. It is there in the 'Qulil-Lahumma' verse, he so much believed in, reciting it at numerous occasions. Have you not seen how Allah raised this very quiet person who ordinarily, one would have thought would be overwhelmed by even the position of a teacher, which requires a lot of talking. But at the appointed time he was brought out of the shadow of a very famous brother into limelight as governor and on to the presidential seat. As we discussed the life of Malam Umaru, we also recalled that of his late beloved brother, Major General (Rtd) Shehu Yar'adua. The manifestation of Allah's greatness therein is glaringly evident. An' Hajo said 'if given scripts of their lives excluding the final chapter and told to guess who would end up as the president of Nigeria, not even Hajija Dada, their mother, would have guessed it would be Umaru'. And she would be forgiven because we mortals judge and reach conclusions based on what is manifestly apparent.

We must also not tire of teaching the youth the virtue of patience, for 'rabon kwado baya hawa sama'. And that it's not a life and death matter. Jonathan patiently waited a step behind each time. 'To yanzu ta fadi gasassa'. For him, not only Good luck but Patience, with which we all know 'a kan a dafa dutse har a sha romo', has paid up. As I draw conclusion, I note that the Yar'adua/ Goodluck ticket might have been merged out of mischief but I think it's perhaps one ticket in Nigerian history that is full of lessons in humility, PATIENCE and GOOD LUCK!

Allah ya gafartawa Malam Umaru. And may God help the new president, Goodluck Jonathan and with Patience, we await a rain of Good luck unto our nation, amen!

maumarzuq@yahoo.com



By Tunde Ipinmisho

Liberalising housing sector

Concern by patriots and organizations about how the economy and its components should work to promote the greatest good for the greatest number of people is legitimate and should be encouraged. Such concern often leads to the articulation of the best solutions to the nation's economic challenges.

Housing is a critical segment of the economy not only because it is one of the basic needs of man. Experience has shown that any nation that gets it right with housing is often on its way out of the economic woods. Housing is one of the sectors that offers massive employment and helps to energize the economy. Comments on how to make housing work should therefore be taken seriously.

However, the recent call by the Nigerian Institute of Estate Surveyors and Valuers (NIESV) for the privatization of the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) and the Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN) deserves re-examination because the call, it would seem is based on the wrong premises and merely re-echoes similar ones in the past by parties who have later been found to have less than patriotic intentions.

The need to retain the current status of FHA as a wholly publicly-owned commercialized institution has been articulated elsewhere but it suffices to reiterate here that NIESV's call is flawed because privatization is meant to salvage non-performing organizations and/or unprofitable public enterprises.

“There may be good intentions behind government's privatisation policy but the experience in Nigeria these past years have hardly justified the policy”

This has not been the case with FHA which was weaned from appropriation in 2005 but has continue to perform well as a commercialized entity, sourcing funds from the money market to sustain its operations. It could indeed be said without fear of contradiction that FHA remains the most credible and viable housing delivery agency in Nigeria, public or private.

Government has a social responsibility to provide housing for the people especially those on the lower rungs of the social ladder. Even in the most developed economies, government still assumes the responsibility to provide housing for the poor and those who cannot compete in the open market. In the Nigerian experience, it is apparent from the activities of profit driven private developers that to leave the fate of millions of the poor and low income earners in their hands would amount to sowing the seeds of social disharmony.

Private property development is driven by profit. That is why such developers build mainly for the high income groups who are concentrated in the large urban centres such as Abuja, Lagos and

Port Harcourt. These are the places they can find buyers. However, the desire of government is for equal development for all parts of the country. Leaving the foremost housing agency in the hands of private operators as being canvassed by NIESV would hardly achieve that.

Nigeria is estimated by UN-HABITAT to have a housing deficit of 16 million. This requires all hands to be on deck in addressing this odious situation. That was what informed the adoption by government of Public Private Partnership as a model of housing delivery. Five years after PPP was adopted as state policy, not much has been achieved. The private sector, rather than seeking to take ownership of government institutions, should develop more capacity to explore the vast potentials of delivering housing across the country while the public sector would also play its own part as a regulator and in taking housing to the unreached.

Federal Housing Authority along with state housing corporations has been providing meaningful housing for low and medium income earners. For FHA, 80 percent of its housing production has been for those categories of the public. With its excellent international goodwill, the Authority is exploring the great potential of the huge funds available with foreign investors who of course require government guarantee to access same.

There may be good intentions behind government's privatization policy but the experience in Nigeria these past years have hardly justified the policy. The failed privatization of NITEL is a case in point where for years, the number of telephone lines available in the company have dwindled from 400,000 at the onset of privatization to near zero now with workers languishing in penury owing to unpaid salaries. The experience in the Daily Times of Nigeria Plc, once the nation's leading newspaper is worse. The beneficiaries of the privatization have been alleged to have stripped the company bare of all its landed property. Six years after Folio Communications gained ownership of the company the promised "New Daily Times" is yet to surface.

In its wisdom, the Federal Government last year appointed a new Board and Management team for the FHA with a specific charge for them to reposition the Authority for sustainable mass housing delivery. Since then, the Management has worked assiduously to fulfil that mandate.

Over the next four years, the Authority plans to deliver 106,000 housing units nationwide through various delivery models. The Authority is well on the way to delivering 14,000 housing units in the first year of its four year action plan. Significantly, it will spearhead the development of new towns, starting with Abuja where about 25,000 housing units will be delivered.

Rather than privatizing the FHA, what is required is the liberalization of the housing sector to encourage all players, both private and public, to provide houses to reduce the nation's deficit. Liberalization is capable of stimulating best practices and healthy competition among developers towards providing succour for the teeming masses of Nigerians desiring to own their houses.

Ipinmisho is Head, Corporate Communications, Federal Housing Authority

EFCC CLEARS SAMBO OF CORRUPTION CHARGES

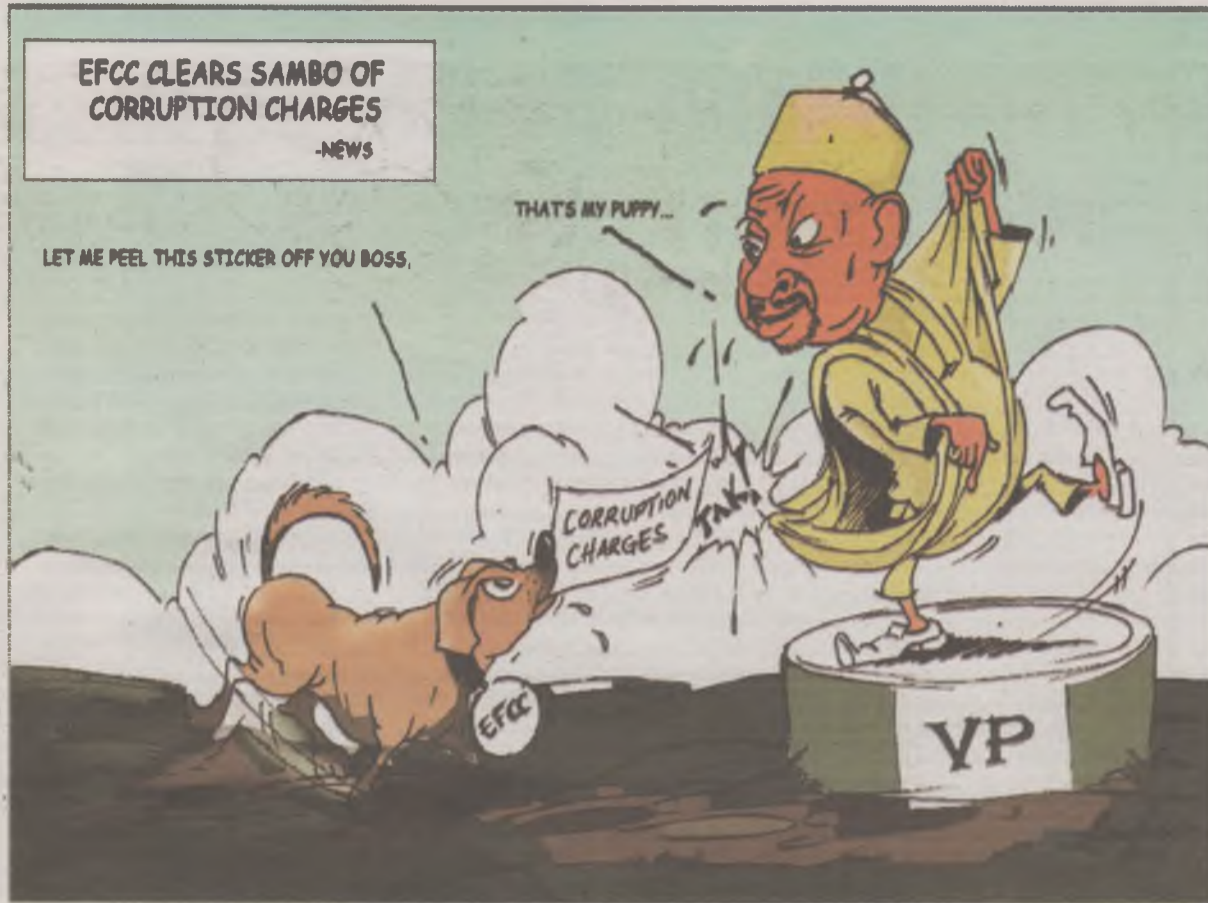
-NEWS

LET ME PEEL THIS STICKER OFF YOU BOSS.

THAT'S MY PUPPY...

CORRUPTION
CHARGES

VP



Your Letters

Send your letters to letters@dailytrust.com

For AMAC chairman to succeed

Hon. Micah Jiba in governing this area council needs to be reminded of the great need to attract the best hands in the cabinet irrespective of party affiliations. He must jettison the idea of bringing on board nincompoops all in the name of party patronage. Let this cabinet be suffused with experts who are desirous to render selfless service to the people. This advice has become imperative taking into account the

number of people jostling to be in his cabinet, including the old cargos who will want to die as cabinet members in AMAC.

The normal standing of those he is to work with is also very essential in order to spare this area council of looters. He is aware that this area council for some years now has suffered in the hands of those in the ship of leadership as the lean resources are frittered away with reckless abandon on while the masses in the area council are subjected to penury.

Hon. Micah Jiba should be carefully with sycophants who have been milling around him since he won. Most of them do not mean well for this Area Council, as their interest alone is one cabinet or one appointment.

Sycophants have destroyed many governments in this country and I want to believe that Hon. Micah Jiba is aware of this incontrovertible fact and not to allow them make a mess of his government.

Hon. Micah Jiba should seek counsel from God and men of impeccable character in the Area council when in doubt of certain issues.

Not men who will always tell him what he wants to hear but men who will tell him what he needs to hear. He must distance himself from those whose counsel would be for him to loot the treasury of AMAC.

*Kingsley Rufus Dantani,
Garki Abuja
Kingsley_rufus@yahoo.com*

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

SOS, Mr President

I'm appealing to Mr. President to bring the problem of electricity in Nigeria to an end. This problem has so far consumed huge amount of public funds and tested the patience of Nigerians. Please endeavour to overcome this malady.

ABDULLAHI
08032294025.

Auwal,

Corporal punishment for MPs

THE National Assembly Service Commission to employ retired soldiers as sergeants-at-arms to whip members of the House of Representatives into line for their childish behaviours.

MUHAMMAD,
08096595993.

Kaduna,

Jonathan/Sambo legacy

THE best legacy that the Jonathan/Sambo combination could leave for posterity is to give Nigerians free and fair elections in 2011!
UMAR Hussaini, ABU, Zaria,
08095840239.

Rebranding indeed

PROFESSOR Akunyili is talking of rebranding when under her nose NITEL staffs are being owed 25 months salary arrears. How can these people be re-branded when they are deprived of their means of livelihood?

JOEL A. Kemte, University of Maiduguri, 08039479545.

Immortalizing Yaradua?

EQUIP and make functional

all the hospital in the country.

07042325266.

On a platter!

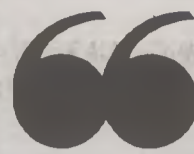
AT long last God has answered our prayers: power has gone to southern Kaduna. May He help Governor Patrick Yakowa, but he should beware of sycophants.

FARUK A Aziz, 08024927355.

Re: Point to ponder

I don't see anything bad if President Jonathan and Vice President Sambo continue in office beyond 2011.

**OBEMEASOR S.O. B. Enoch.,
Obesun Press, Kaduna.**
08025699568.



By A'isha Garba Habib

Marriage, Islam and Child's Right Act (I)

The concept of human right has been a subject of discussion for long; a variant of that concept, child's right, has generated a lot of debate recently. There has been much agitation for the welfare and betterment of children world over.

Many conventions and conferences were held for the furtherance of the welfare of the children. Among such initiatives were the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was adopted by the UN in 1989; the world summit for children which was held at New York in 1990 and the Charter on the rights and welfare of the African child which was adopted by the Assembly of Heads of States and Governments of OAU in 1990. The first two conventions were initiated and adopted by western world bodies while the third initiative which was the charter on the rights and welfare of the African child was however initiated by the African countries.

For the actualization of these international initiatives, the Nigerian Government set up committees to review and modify existing obsolete laws on the rights of a child and to formulate a National framework for the implementation of the goals of the UN conventions and the African charter on the rights of the child. A bill for an Act to provide for the rights and responsibilities of the Nigerian child and system of the child's justice administration was finally passed; but was thrown out by the National Assembly on 30th October, 2002. The House of Representatives however, revisited the bill and was finally passed into law on 31st July, 2003.

The Act discusses among other things, the rights and responsibilities of a child in Nigeria and provides for system of child justice administration and the care and supervision of a child. The rights mentioned include the rights to survival and development to a name, freedom of association, thought and speech, religion, private and family life, as well as the right to leisure, recreation and cultural activities, the right to health and health services, and the right to education. It also discusses the child's freedom from discrimination merely by reason of his ethnic group, or place of origin, sex, religion or political opinion.

The Act also prohibits such practices as child's betrothal and child's marriage, tattoos or skin marks, exposure of a child to the use, production or trafficking of drugs, or any criminal activities. It also prohibits abduction and removal of children from lawful custody, exploitative child labour, buying, selling or hiring of children for the purpose of hawking or begging for alms, prostitution, pornography, sexual exploitation. It also discusses the possession, custody, fostering, adoption and ward-ship of children. Lastly the Act provides for the establishment of a family court with the responsibility of enforcing the provisions of the law. (The Child's Rights Act, 2003)

Position of children in Islam

Before the advent of Islam, children were subjected to all forms of maltreatment. 'Infanticide, exposure and the sale of children to slavery or concubinage were frequent practices of ancient societies of the Near East, as well as in Europe and elsewhere' (Abd al Ati, 82; 184) Even in pre Islamic Arabia, children particularly female, were maltreated. They were considered evils and a sign of shame and disgrace; and that is why news of the birth of a female child was received with grief and gloom.

Many reasons have been put forward for the practice of infanticide. Doi (1983), believes that, it was practiced because 'the Pagan Arabs considered a woman an unproductive creature, hence an economic burden on the family or that the father was ashamed to be addressed as father-in-law of someone after giving him his daughter in marriage' (Doi, 1983; 15) While some scholars hold the view that the pre Islamic Arabs considered female children impure and profane creatures; and therefore it was their obligation to exterminate such profane creatures whose blood was impure and polluted (Abd al Ati, 1982; 186)

Whatever the reason, with the advent of Islam, infanticide and other forms of maltreatment, were prohibited.

Islam categorically condemns infanticide and gives the female child the right to survival and equal life chances with its male counterpart. Both female and male children should be allowed to live. Parents should not discriminate between male and female children as it is Allah that bestows both sexes.

To be cont'd.

Dr Habib if of Department of Arts, College of Advanced Studies, Kano.

DAILY TRUST

EDITORIAL

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Utako District, Abuja
09-6726241, 6715364

Getting down to brass tacks

With the swearing in on Wednesday of Alhaji Mohammed Namadi Sambo, until early this week the governor of Kaduna State as the Vice President of Nigeria, President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan now has the basic complements of personnel to get down to the serious business of governance. With so little time at hand, the administration has its work cut out.

Dr Jonathan is acutely aware of the challenges that this administration faces, and he has correctly identified some of them, like ensuring that the upcoming 2011 elections are free and fair, that the gains of the amnesty deal in the Niger Delta are sustained and consolidated, and that the power sector, of which he is directly in charge in his additional responsibility as minister, is revamped to deliver on successive governments' pledges of providing stable electricity to the nation.

The president should lead the way in resisting any temptation, no matter how compelling, to distract the government's attention from pursuing these goals. It has practically less than a year to achieve its aims. Perhaps, the most important of these is the imperative to conclude the processes of fashioning out the much talked about electoral reform. Much has already been said about the report of the Justice Muhammadu Lawal Uwais-led Electoral Reform Committee. We think that the Presidency can show more commitment to credible elections by pushing through the legislature the swift conclusion of constitutional amendment which affects conduct of elections.

The importance of credible elections in our country cannot be overstated. It behoves both the Presidency and the National assembly to devote greater attention in ensuring that the new electoral law would be the best foundation towards achieving credible elections that Nigerians can be comfortable with and proud of. That is why it is imperative that the individual appointed to head the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), and other members that constitute it, must be someone who is not only non-partisan, but should be seen to be so.

The problem of the Niger Delta was roundly and comprehensively tackled in an innovative but potentially contentious amnesty-for-arms deal introduced by President Umaru Musa Yar'adua, a few months before his death early this month. It was always not going to be an easy programme, given the protracted and complex economic, social, political and environment issues involved. Jonathan has sensibly pledged to continue with the programme.

Of all the deficits in infrastructure that Nigeria has grappled with since independence, the biggest has been in the power sector. In fact, we have argued in this column in the past that addressing the problems of this sector would in itself lead to solving long-standing economic challenges of the country, increase industrial capacity, boost employment and generally improve the well-being of Nigerians.

It is a good start that the president has asked ministers to submit action plans in respect of their ministries on what their projects are and how they propose to execute them. It is important that to ensure success, budgetary allocations to these ministries are released timely to avoid excuses for non-performance. Equally important for the president to be mindful of is the recommendation of the Presidential Advisory Committee that has identified short, medium and long-term objectives, and take realistic measures to attain them.

There are too many government boards, agencies and other parastatals that are currently being run without their full complement of members. This has created huge vacuums that allow virtual sole administrators to run them like fiefdoms. The void should be filled without further delay. There are numerous challenges, but don't expect that all of them can be addressed. Laying the foundation that succeeding governments can build upon would be an achievement. President Jonathan has said that he would not be swayed from the objectives he has set for his administration; we will hold him to his words and hope that with a smooth working relationship with Vice President Sambo, he would deliver on his pledge by the end of the administration's tenure in 2011.

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"North" and "South" myth in 2011 permutations

By Michael Magaji

As is typical with every pre-election year, another round of buzz words and concepts have crept into the national political lexicon. Different interest groups under one guise or another are hell bent on penetrating the political space, and taking power.

I have always wondered how Nigerians came up with such terms as south-south and middle belt. As if to say there is a "north-north" a low belt or high belt anywhere! Is this the language of geo-identity; is it creative mischief or plain politics?

Not too long into the recent past, Nigerians argued about the need to vote for a "civilian" president as opposed to a "military" president or one with a military orientation. To them, once we have a true civilian at the helm of affairs we would wake up the next morning with our problems behind us. Wrong! Many also attributed our lack of progress because we never voted a "graduate" as President. The belief then was that once a graduate moved into Aso Rock, presto..., Nigeria was on its way back to progress and prosperity! The truth is that we are a poorer country today than we were 10 years ago.

It is amazing that even with a majority government across all tiers of government there is still a lack of cohesion, unity and continuity in governance and development. There is very little to say about commonality in terms of drive and direction.

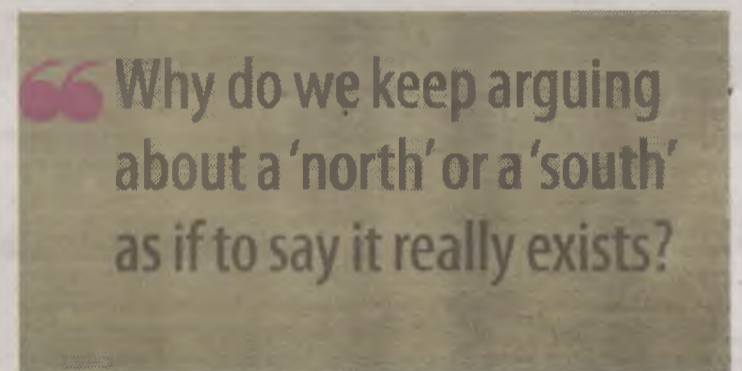
The latest controversy revolves around the Jonathan presidency, pre- and post-2011. And if my ears and eyes serve me right, politicians are burning the airwaves in convincing us about the suitability or otherwise of the incumbent. Those still playing the politics of turn by turn are pushing for a northern Presidency to complete the 8 year tenure started by the Late President Yaradua. Others would rather have Jonathan contest in 2011 since by divine favour God has made it possible for him to lead today. The constitutionalists argue that every Nigerian is entitled to vie for any office in the land once constitutional requirements are met. That makes President Jonathan and indeed any other Nigerian eligible. And why not, if I may ask?

Let's deepen the discussion a bit. If indeed there is any benefit from a leader being northern, why is it that the north despite many years of political domination has been the poorest and most backward region? Educationally and economically disadvantaged and in many cases the highest prone to civil and social unrest. Let me also ask why is it that the south despite the 8-year Presidency of General Obasanjo has not been able to deal with the issues of the militancy in the Niger Delta, boy child education in certain parts of eastern

about the ordinary and sometimes poor Nigerian. Ethnic and geographical origins are not the issue. Distorting or playing with political lingo just to whip up sentiment won't get us anywhere.

Nigerians ask for a leadership that will deliver development and direction. This leadership operates at individual, communal and partisan level. I am not convinced we have that even with the current majority government.

Should we be discussing the possibilities of progress and prosperity of the Nigerian State under Jonathan, Babangida, Shekarau or Fashola; or does the solution lie in



Nigeria, endemic environmental challenges, and poor coastal/hinterland roads? Is the prevalence of corruption dependent on a 'northern' or 'southern' identity?

Why do we keep arguing about a 'north' or a 'south' as if to say it really exists?

I have always argued that these concepts are abstract and only deployed when there appears to be a common 'enemy' in the battle for power. North and South is myth! In the true and practical sense of it there is no homogenous unit called north or south. If you don't believe me go and read about the Ife/ Modakeke crisis in the south west, the Umuleri, Aguleri crisis in the South East, or the division in Askira Uba between 2 ethnic units whose boundaries were created by a road running through this community in North eastern Nigeria. These communities literally co exist, side by side, but yet claim to be so different. There are tons of examples everywhere in Nigeria where these conflicts exist. Where then lies the concept of 'north' and 'south' in all this?

What Nigerians truly want is real development in an atmosphere of peace and progress. I am talking

their ethnic origin?

Over a period of less than 25 years, President 41 and 43 (the Bushes) of the USA were actually members of the same family. We can argue about how well they performed during their stewardship, but that is an issue for another day. Real democracy derives from popular participation and the developmental benefits that accrue to the governed based on the quality of leadership. Period. All other considerations to my mind are secondary.

What should continually pre-occupy the electorate at all levels should revolve around a fully integrated system of popular political participation where people of like minds can gather to form a government that will deliver good governance to the people irrespective of party lines and ethnic origins.

I know of top government officials in Lagos State and Kano States who are 'indigenes' (another dubious concept) of other south western and eastern states. They are all serving their host governments well.

As we approach the 2011 elections I do hope Nigerians will raise the stakes, improve the quality of discussion on who can or who should lead. In a world where boundaries are collapsing by the day and integration across political and economic empires is being accelerated for the purpose of development it would remain a shame if we continue to hold on to ethnicity or religious orientation as a prerequisite for accessing the levers of power.

Magaji is CEO of Nafinji and Knowledge Consulting (m.magaji@nafinji.com)

There are tons of examples everywhere in Nigeria where these conflicts exist. Where then lies the concept of 'north' and 'south' in all this?



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GOMBE STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

MR. PRESIDENT YOU ARE WELCOME

On behalf of the Government and good people of Gombe State, His Excellency, Alh. (Dr.) Muhammad Danjuma Goje (Sarkin Yakin Gombe) heartily welcomes our amiable leader, His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR, President and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria on his One-day official visit to Gombe State.

We in Gombe State want to assure Mr President of our unflinching support and commitment towards his onerous task of nation building, so that our dream of becoming one of the leading 20 economies in the world by the year 2020 would be actualized.

During the historic visit, the President will inspect the Gombe ultra-modern stadium, commission an asphalted road named after him and also attend the maiden convocation ceremony of Gombe State University, among others.



His Excellency,

Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCFR,

President and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Nigeria



Once again!
You are welcome to Gombe State
(The Jewel in the Savannah)
Long live Gombe State!
Long live Federal Republic of Nigeria!!

Signed:

Alh. (Dr.) Muhammad Danjuma Goje, Sarkin Yakin Gombe
Executive Governor, Gombe State

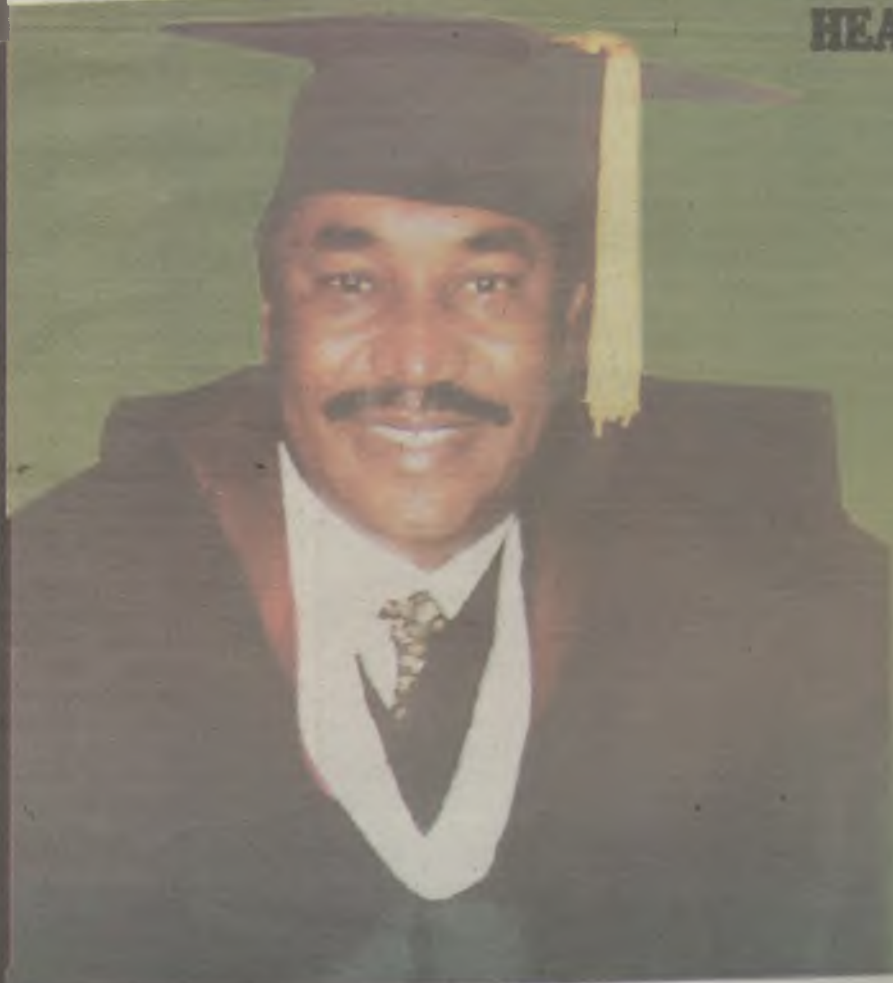


DUTSINMA LOCAL GOVERNMENT

KATSINA STATE

HEARTY CHEERS TO OUR DEAR GOVERNOR

For Global recognition as one of the highest educational achiever.



On behalf of myself, Yan Dakan Katsina Alhaji Sada Muhamad Sada and the entire people of Dutsinma Local Government Council, Katsina State we heartily rejoice with our amiable leader, a father and political mentor, His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Katsina State, Barrister (Dr) Ibrahim Shehu Shema fnim, on his recent conferment as a Doctor of Humane Letters (Honoris Causa) by Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA during the celebration of its 145 years of educational achievements.

*His Excellency,
Dr. Ibrahim Shehu Shema, fnim
Executive Governor of Katsina State*

These Sir, did not only testified to your numerous achievements recorded in EDUCATION and HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMNTS which has formed the cardinal basis of your administration but further re-enforce your believe in Education as the bedrock of our state and national development.

Your provision of infrastructures in both primary, post primary and tertiary institutions of Katsina State, provision of local and oversea scholarships, abolishing of all form of fees to pupils of school going age and initiating unique transport services system to students have among other efforts attested to your believe and determination to change the face of the state in term of educational developments.

While we join millions of your other well wishers all around the globe for attaining this international feat, we deeply associates ourselves to your strides in promoting Agriculture, Health and Rural development among other areas of human Endeavors.

Our Prayers are to our creator, The Almighty Allah to gives you more opportunity, guides and protect you in the continued delivery of the much needed democracy dividend to your loving subjects, the good people of Katsina State.

Dutsinma and its people remain loyal, Supportive, Proud of your Achievements and committed to your ideals of running a transparent and accountable government.



YOU HAVE SUCCEEDED WHERE OTHERS FAILED!

SIGNED
HON BASHIR TANIMU GAMBO
*Executive Chairman, Dutsinma local Government
For and On behalf of the entire Council*

AFRICA REPORT

Madagascar troops quell attempted mutiny

MADAGASCAR'S security forces quickly quashed an attempted mutiny by a small group of military police yesterday after a gun battle in the capital Antananarivo.

A military police commander said the dissident troops had retreated into their barracks and were try-

ing to negotiate a way out. "Everything is calm. They have retreated into their camp and are negotiating a way out," regional military police commander Colonel Richard Ravalomanana told Reuters.

Col. Ravalomanana said he thought 21 renegade troops from the National

Gendarmes Intervention Force (FIGN) were involved in the clash. He said four people had been wounded, including one civilian and two rebel military policemen.

The Madagascar Red Cross said it treated three civilians with bullet wounds after several hundred anti-

government protestors rallied in support of the rebel troops.

A Reuters witness also saw former parliamentarians aligned with exiled former president Marc Ravalomanana at the protest site. Political instability has convulsed the world's fourth largest island, eyed

increasingly by foreign investors for its oil and mineral resources, since Rajoelina grabbed power with military backing in March last year.

The FIGN's commander, General Vientot Zafera, described the dissidents' action as an attempted coup.

Guinea army says will support whoever wins election

GUINEA'S army will support whoever wins next month's presidential election and anyone trying to derail the vote will be crushed, the head of the country's armed forces said.

A transitional government overseen by a military leader, is preparing for a June 27 election some fear could turn violent but which marks the top bauxite exporter's best chance at emerging from decades of harsh authoritarian rule.

"There should be no disruption, no violence. In the case of a problem, we will subdue it," Colonel Nouhou Thiam, chief of Guinea's armed forces, said late on Wednesday during a meeting with political leaders. "The army will be at the disposal of the candidate who wins the elections."

General Sekouba Konate, interim head of the military junta that seized power in a 2008 coup, this week set up a special elections security unit made up of police and soldiers.

Somali president reinstates prime minister, cabinet

SOMALIA'S president reinstated Prime Minister Omar Abdirashid Sharmarke and his cabinet yesterday after days of uncertainty following a parliamentary vote of no confidence in them.

President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed asked Sharmarke and his ministers to step down after the vote on Sunday.

A total 280 MPs had chosen to sack them, according to former speaker Sheikh Aden Madobe, who has since resigned.

Somalia has been without central government for nearly 20 years and Ahmed's Western-backed administration controls no more than a few blocks of Mogadishu, with the help of African Union troops.



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*Kaizen is a Japanese word for continuous improvement.

Middle East

Dubai reaches deal over debt

DUBAI'S embattled group Dubai World, whose default fears had rocked global markets, yesterday said it reached agreement "in principle" with most of its bank lenders to restructure some 23.5 billion dollars in debt.

The agreement still needs the backing of other lenders but appears to give the heavily-indebted Dubai some breathing space in dealing with the obligations of its state firms.

"Dubai World is pleased to announce that headline economic terms have been agreed in principle with the Coordinating Committee" representing 60 percent of the group's bank lenders, the company said in a statement.

According to the agreement, the company will divide 14.4 billion dollars of debt into two tranches, maturing in five and eight years respectively, while the government will convert 8.9 billion dollars of

aid to the company into equity.

The first tranche of debt will be valued at 4.4 billion dollars and will bear 1.0 percent interest with no government shortfall guarantees, while the second will be worth 10 billion dollars, bearing also 1.0 percent interest plus varying options of payment in kind and shortfall guarantees, it said.

It also said that the government was committing up to 500 million dollars of Selling, General and Administrative (SG&A) expenses, in addition to an interest facility of up to 1.0 billion dollars. The government will maintain 100 percent ownership of the company, it added.

"We are pleased that we have received unanimous support in principle of the CoCom on the headline economic terms to our restructuring proposal," said Chief Restructuring Officer of Dubai World, Aidan Birkett.



PALESTINIAN president Mahmud Abbas (R) talks with US envoy George Mitchell (l) in Ramallah, Wednesday.

No signs of progress as US envoy wraps up Mideast visit

THERE were no immediate signs of progress as US envoy George Mitchell wrapped up his latest visit to the Middle East on yesterday after holding "proximity talks" with Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

US and Israeli officials declined to comment on three and a half hour talks between Mitchell and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and the special envoy was scheduled to depart shortly after the meeting.

Israeli media had reported that Netanyahu would offer a package of goodwill gestures to encourage the Palestinians to proceed to direct talks, which they have refused in the absence of a total freeze on Israeli settlement building.

The gestures are said to include the release of prisoners, the lifting of some more roadblocks in the West Bank and the expansion of those parts of the territory under limited Palestinian self-rule. Israeli media have also said Israel plans to free up land currently allocated to settlements for a road linking a large-scale planned Palestinian community to the West Bank political capital of Ramallah.

Mitchell met Palestinian leader Mahmud Abbas on Wednesday and was given letters of protest against the killing of a Palestinian teenager in the West Bank, allegedly by an Israeli settler, and the killing of an elderly farmer in Gaza by the Israeli military near the heavily guarded border.

TINKA POINT LIMITED



WELCOME
MR. PRESIDENT



It is of immense pleasure to welcome President Goodluck Jonathan to Gombe State, a young but most developed state in the present political dispensation.

Sir, though your visit was scheduled to be brief to our amiable state due to your enormous engagement but it will not be out of place if I should plead on behalf of the good people of Gombe State for your visit to be extended to two days as that will enable you to visit the eleven Local Governments Areas of the state.

However, it is no longer news that our indefatigable Governor, Alhaji

Danjuma Goje has written his name in gold as well as that of the state, particularly, when we talk of developmental projects that have direct bearings to the people.

To this end, sir, as you are aware that politicking has begun across the country it has remain our hope that our great party, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) will take a center stage, in lieu of this I am soliciting on behalf of my Governor, Alhaji Danjuma Goje for your support and cooperation to return Gombe State under the platform of PDP with a landslide victory in 2011 general election.

Signed: Alhaji Bala Bello Tinka, Managing Director

Asia



A woman distributes leaflets in front of a branch of GOME in Beijing

China official gets suspended death sentence for graft

A former top official at China's commerce ministry was given a suspended death sentence yesterday for graft including taking bribes from electronics giant GOME, state media said.

A Beijing court convicted Guo Jingyi of taking 8.45 million yuan (1.24 million dollars) in bribes while serving in the ministry's treaty and law department, the Legal Evening News said.

The 44-year-old graduate of Peking University was also convicted of taking 1.1 million yuan in bribes from GOME, China's biggest electronics retailer, to help the company trade shares and avoid anti-monopoly probes, the paper said.

Japan promises to back N/Korea UN resolution

STORY Japan's prime minister said yesterday he would back South Korea if it sought a UN Security Council resolution against North Korea over the sinking of one of its warships, and urged China to take a firmer stance.

A report by investigators, including experts from the United States, Australia, Britain and Sweden, concluded that a North Korean submarine had fired the torpedo that sank the Cheonan corvette in March, killing 46 sailors.

"If South Korea seeks a resolution at the U.N. Security Council, Japan should in a sense be at the forefront of that," Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama told reporters.

"I want to work hard in that direction."

Beijing has avoided joining the international chorus of condemnation, urging the North and South to exercise restraint, but not commenting substantively on the report.

"South Korea has acted in an extremely calm manner so far," Hatoyama said. "China may be using the word 'calm' in a different sense. We must acknowledge the facts as facts."

China urges restraint after S/Korea blames North

CHINA yesterday urged both North and South Korea to show restraint after Seoul blamed Pyongyang for torpedoing its warship, the Cheonan, killing 46 sailors.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Ma Zhaoxu said his government had "noted" South Korea's official report, released yesterday, which found that North Korea was behind the sinking.

Ma said China would make its own assessment of the South Korean investigation, and he urged "both sides" on the divided Korean peninsula to exercise restraint.

China is North Korea's only major political and economic backer.



UNSUNG HEROES 2010

In the course of our work of reporting and analyzing events in Nigeria, we have come across many people that are shining examples in their communities. In spite of the deep cynicism that pervades the country, there are many Nigerians who go beyond the call of duty in their various fields of endeavour.

We know that among the unreported millions there are many whose contributions are exceptional and whose example is uplifting. They are the unsung heroes of our society, toiling in relative obscurity perhaps waiting for their reward in heaven.

But before we get there, DAILY TRUST wants to celebrate such people, if for no other reason, to hold them up as examples and promote the feeling of optimism about our country.

You know such unsung heroes better than us because they live quietly amongst you. Please send us their

names, and if possible the full stories of their lives with pictures so that we can tell the world about them. Our editors and reporters will visit the nominees in order to vet their stories and also do a full profile on them for publication.

Continuing with the first edition last year, we are calling for nominations for 2010 Unsung Heroes of Daily Trust. This will be our yearly 'happy birthday' to Nigeria as it adds another year of independence. We want to show that this country, and especially its people, are worth celebrating and that indeed progress is being made even if some of us are too busy complaining to notice.

So, send us your unsung heroes and we will tell the world about them. Young or old, man or woman, wherever they live and no matter how lowly their status, we want to hear about those living inspiring lives in spite of the doom and gloom around us.

NOMINATIONS ARE ON TILL SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH, 2010

To nominate such a person

Send an e-mail to: unsungheroes@dailytrust.com

OR

Write to:

The Editor-in-Chief, DAILY TRUST,
No. 20, P.O.W Mafemi Crescent,
Off Solomon Lar Way, (Behind Chida Hotel),
Utako District,
P.O. Box 6873, Wuse, Abuja.





SOKOTO ENERGY RESEARCH CENTER
ENERGY COMMISSION OF NIGERIA
USMANU DANFODIYO UNIVERSITY, SOKOTO

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION TO TENDER FOR THE 2010 CAPITAL PROJECTS

1. INTRODUCTION

The Sokoto Energy Research Center, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto hereby invites interested and competent companies for Pre-qualification for various projects of the Center for the 2010 fiscal year.

2. SCOPE

The Scope of the work includes:-

- LOT I.** Procurement of Laboratory Equipment for Production of Biofuel (Biogas, Biodiesel and Bio-ethanol) Plant components.
- LOT II.** Purchase of Research Equipment i.e (EDXRF, HPLC, FTIR).
- LOT III.** Construction, Procurement of Equipment and furnishing of solar panel fabrication workshop.
- LOT IV.** Evacuation and concreting of 40m² solar demonstration areas at SERC.

3. THE PRE-QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

The following requirement for prequalification must be submitted:-

- i. Evidence of Company incorporation in Nigeria.
- ii. Evidence of Tax Clearance for the last three years.
- iii. Evidence of Contract Registration with Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto.
- iv. Company Profile with names of key personnel to be involved in the projects stating their qualification and experience including registration with professional bodies.
- v. Evidence of Financial capability including letter of recommendation from a Bank indicating financial capability of the company to undertake project.
- vi. Evidence of submission of Annual returns from CAC.
- vii. Experience in handling similar job is an added advantage.
- viii. Full office address of the company and GSM number(s)

The Pre-qualification documents must be in sealed envelope marked "Confidential Pre-qualification for SERC 2010 fiscal year Capital Projects" and the LOT of interest clearly printed at the top left corner of the envelope and submit within four (4) weeks from the date of this publication to:

The Administrative Secretary,
Sokoto Energy Research Centre,
Usmanu Danfodiyo University,
Sokoto, P. M. B. 2346,
Sokoto.

NOTE: The submission of the Pre-qualification documents is not an invitation to tender

Signed
ADMIN. SECRETARY
SERC

STUDY LAW @



The Queen Mary, University of London postgraduate School of Law is firmly established as a centre of national and international excellence in legal study and research, consistently ranked in the TOP 10 in the UK. We have established a reputation for providing high quality teaching by staff who have both practical and academic expertise in almost all areas of law including

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| Banking and Finance Law | Environmental Law |
| Arbitration | Human Rights Law |
| Commercial and Corporate Law | Intellectual Property Law |
| Competition Law | Medical Law |
| Computer and Communications Law | Public Law |
| Criminal Law | Public International Law |
| Economic Regulation | Tax Law |

Our students also benefit from the additional expertise and experience of visiting staff both from the UK and abroad, including practitioners Solicitors, Barristers, Partners, QCs, Judges, Consultants and leading academics who contribute to programme teaching, creating a supportive and intellectually stimulating environment, whilst providing students with excellent networking opportunities. Many leading law firms regularly give presentations to our students. Some of them also offer internships or jointly funded scholarships, in recognition of the excellent calibre of our students and staff expertise.

An international Officer, from Queen Mary will conduct interviews and make offers as follows:

ABUJA	LAGOS	IBADAN	PORT HARCOURT
Date: 24/05/2010 Venue: Multimedia Hall, British Council, Plot 3645, IBB Way, Maitama, Abuja. Time: 10am - 4pm	Date: 25/05/2010 Venue: QMUL Regional Office, Afribank Group House, Admiralty Way, Lekki Phase I, Lekki, Lagos. Time: 10am - 4pm	Date: 26/05/2010 Venue: Jogor's Centre, Harvesters Drive, Off Liberty Road, Ibadan. Time: 10am - 4pm.	Date: 26/05/2010 Venue: Genesis Hotel, Plot 198/199, Rumuogba Estate, Port Harcourt. Time: 10am - 4pm

Come with copies of your qualifications. Students wishing to study on the International Foundation Course and other Postgraduate courses are welcome to attend the interview session. There would be free visa counselling for all students with offers

For Enquiries Contact:
Elohor Egho on 08063179655 or 01-8246015 or e.egho@qmul.ac.uk
Queen Mary, University of London (Nigeria Regional Office)
Afribank Group House, Admiralty Way
Lekki Phase I, Lekki, Lagos. www.qmul.ac.uk

KADUNA STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, GIDAN-WAYA
P.M.B. 1024, KAFANCHAN.

(OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR)

PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER NOTICE FOR EDUCATION TRUST FUND (E.T.F.) YEAR 2008/2009 MERGED NORMAL INTERVENTION PROJECTS

Tenders are invited from suitably qualified contractors for the execution of the following projects at the Kaduna State College of Education, Gidan, Waya.

Lot-1 Construction of Sciences Complex, Project No. ETF/KSCOE/Gidan Waya/08-09/01. This comprises of:-

- i) Office of the Dean, School of Science, 7Nr officers for HODs complete with toilet facilities, Staff Offices and Common Room.
- ii) A Mathematics Workshop, Laboratory and Library.
- iii) Block of (3) Classrooms.

Completion Period: fourteen (14) Weeks.

Lot-2 Supply of Equipment and Furnishing of Science Complex, Project No. ETF/KSCOE/Gidan Waya/08-09/02 Completion Period: Eight (8) Weeks.

Lot-3 Supply of Equipment and Furnishing of Home Management Department, Project No. ETF/KSCOE/Gidan Waya/08-09-03 completion period Eight (8) Weeks.

Lot-4 Supply of Equipment and Furnishing of Education Technology centre, Project No. ETF/KSCOE/Gidan Waya/08-09-04 Completion period: Eight (8) Weeks.

Lot-5 Supply and Installation of a 350KVA 'Perkins' Sound proof Generator, Project No. ETF/KSCOE/Gidan Waya/08-09/05 Completion Period: Eight (8) Weeks.

Pre-Qualification Requirement:

- i) Evidence of Incorporation or Business name Registration.
- ii) Registration with relevant Ministries and Bureau.
- iii) Company Audited Accounts for the past three (3) years.
- iv) Evidence of Tax Clearance for the past three (3) years.
- v) Evidence of Financial Capability and Banking support.
- vi) Experiences/Technical qualification and experience of key personnel.
- vii) Similar projects executed and evidence of past knowledge of the industry.
- viii) Equipment and Technology Capacity.
- ix) Annual Turn-over.
- x) VAT registration and evidence of past VAT remittances.

Submission of Pre-Qualification Documents:

- i) The pre-qualification documents must be sealed and submitted to the Office of the Registrar, Kaduna State College of Education, Gidan Waya not later than two (2) Weeks from the date of this publication and marked "CONFIDENTIAL ETF 2008/2009 MERGED NORMAL INTERVENTION PROJECT".
- ii) Pre-qualified contractors shall be invited to tender and their names shall be published on the notice boards of the College.
- iii) The Lot for which pre-qualification is required must be indicated at the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Tender Documents:

- 1. Only contractors who have satisfied Pre-qualification conditions above may be allowed to tender on payment of non-refundable Tender Fee of Twenty Thousand Naira (N20, 000.00) only for Lot 1, Five Thousand Naira (N5, 000.00) for Lot 3, and Seven Thousand, five Hundred Naira (N7, 500.00) for Lot 2, Lot-4 and Lot-5, payable in Bank Draft to the Office of the Bursar.
- 2. Only pre-qualified contractors will be contacted upon which tender documents will be obtained from the Office of the Director of Works on presentation of evidence of payment. All completed tender documents must be sealed and marked "CONFIDENTIAL ETF 2008/2009 MERGED NORMAL INTERVENTION PROJECT" at the top left hand corner and returned to the Office of the Registrar.

Tender would be opened Two (2) Weeks after the publication of the pre-qualification results at 12:00 Noon in the College Boardroom.

All bidders and the general public are invited.

Note: Pre-qualification is not a commitment by the College nor shall it entitle those who have submitted Pre-qualification document to any claims whatsoever. It is not an invitation to bid.

Signed:
H.A. Agya
Registrar



EDUfair UK 2010

INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING

- UNIVERSITY OF LOUGHBROUGH
- KINGSTON UNIVERSITY
- LONDON SOUTH BANK UNIVERSITY
- BRUNEL UNIVERSITY
- THE UNIVERSITY OF HULL
- UNIVERSITY OF WORCESTER
- NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY
- ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY
- CAMBRIDGE RUSKIN INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
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- UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL
- UNIVERSITY OF EXETER
- UNIVERSITY OF DERBY
- UNIVERSITY OF WALES, BANGOR
- FRASER INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

DATES & VENUES:

LAGOS:
VENUE: EKO HOTEL & SUITES, VICTORIA ISLAND
DATE: TUESDAY 1ST JUNE, 2010.

ABUJA:
VENUE: SHERATON HOTEL & TOWERS
DATE: FRIDAY 4TH JUNE, 2010
TIME: 11AM - 5PM (LAGOS & ABUJA)

TICKET: N1500 AT THE DOOR.
N1200 IF BOUGHT IN ADVANCE
(NO RE-ADMISSION ALLOWED)

There will be an opportunity on the fair days to book appointments (for the day after the fair) to see the university representatives and obtain spot offers - for that all students must have their Transcripts, Certificates/Statement of Results, CV and references.

Enter The Raffle on the fair days to Win A Flight Ticket To The UK - courtesy of BCIE

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- BCIE - VICTORIA ISLAND BRANCH: Plot 146c Immam Abibu Adetoro Str., Off Ajose Adeogun, By Sinafi Daranjo, Victoria Island Annexe, Lagos. Tel: 01-8900952, 01-4624088. Mobile: 0806-235-1535. Email: nigeriakoy@bcie.co.uk
- BCIE - ABUJA BRANCH: Ground Floor Metro Plaza, Plot 991-992, Zakariya Marmalan St., Central Area, Abuja. Tel: 09-4814900. Mobile: 0806-678-8636. Email: abuja@bcie.co.uk
- BCIE - IKEJA BRANCH: Valley View Plaza, 99 Opabi Road, Ikeja, Lagos. Tel: 01-8900744, 0802-337-9290. Email: nigeriakoy@bcie.co.uk
- BCIE - KANO BRANCH: Chalet 'E' Tahir Guest Palace (annex), Lamido Road, Off Suleiman Crescent, (Behind Nime Hotel), Nassarawa G.R.A., Kano. Tel: 0813-540-3284. Mobile: 0813-074-3252. Email: kano@bcie.co.uk

www.bcie.co.uk



PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 2, 2010

LAND USE ACT (CAP. 202) 1990 REVOCATION OF RIGHTS OF OCCUPANCY

In exercise of the powers conferred on the State Executive Governor by Section 28 of the Land Use Act (Cap. 202. Vol. XI Laws of the Federation of Nigeria) 1990 and all other laws enabling him in that behalf, I, **Alh. Saidu Shehu Awak**, Honourable Commissioner for Lands & Survey on behalf of the Executive Governor of Gombe State, hereby make the following order:-

1. CITATION

This order may be cited as the Revocation of Rights of Occupancy.

2. REVOCATION

a. All Statutory Certificates or Customary Rights of Occupancy, lease, licenses or Powers of Attorney etc. granted or deem to have been granted to any person in respect of all or any portion of the parcel of land (with any improvement thereon) laying within mile 3 Gombe - Yola Road Junction, are determined in respect of overriding public interest in connection with Sanitary improvement of the neighbourhood of Gombe State international Hotel. The Description of the property is as follows:

- (i) All parcel of land (with improvement thereon) situated and laying on the eastern part of Gombe-Yola Road. The titles affected among others are as follows BA/17128, BA/15658 GM/1021, BA 14771, K. 10882, GM/ 2728.
- (ii) All parcel of land (with improvement thereon) situated and laying on the Western part of Gombe-Yola Road, starting from the Junction to Danbabu Petrol Filling Station. The titles affected among others are as follows GM/ 834, GM/ 1940, GM /2199, GM/ 703 GM/ 702, BA/17128
- (iii) GM/2006 in respect of the extension of the construction of Township Road Phase IV.

b. All Statutory or Customary Rights in, upon or over all or any portion of the parcel of land (with any improvement thereon) laying within mile 3 Gombe-Yola Road, are determined.

- (i) All parcel of land (with improvement thereon) situated and laying on the eastern part of Gombe-Yola Road. The titles affected among others are as follows BA/17128, BA/15658 GM/1021, BA 14771, K. 10882 GM/ 2728.
- (ii) All parcel of land (with improvement thereon) situated and laying on the Western part of Gombe-Yola Road, starting from the Junction to Danbabu Petrol Filling Station. The titles affected among others are as follows GM/ 834, GM/ 1940, GM /2199, GM/ 703 GM/ 702, BA/17128
- (iii) GM/2006 in respect of the extension of the construction of Township Road Phase IV.

3. COMPENSATION

The government shall pay compensation in accordance with the existing policy on land compensation.

4. POSSESSION

Notice is hereby given that the government intends to enter into possession of the said land with immediate effect or with effect from 30 days of service of this notice.

5. PENALTY

Any person or persons who willfully hinder(s) or obstruct(s) the government from taking possession of the said land or any part thereof shall be liable under section 37 of the Land Use Act (Cap 202) 1990.

Dated this 4th May, 2010

SIGNED
HONOURABLE COMMISSIONER
Ministry of Lands & Survey
Gombe State of Nigeria



NIGERIAN INSTITUTION OF SURVEYORS

The President, Surv. Olusola Atilola Ph.D, fnis

Invites all Members and the Public

to the

45TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

(ABUJA 2010)

Theme:

“Spatially Enabled Government Services”

VENUE: Abuja International Conference Centre, Abuja DATES: 24th – 28th May, 2010

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: PROF. AKIN. MABOGUNJE NNOMI

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

23 May 2010	- Arrival	27 May, 2010	- 2 nd Business Session/ Annual General Meeting
24 May, 2010	- Exhibition and Exhibitors' Day	28 May, 2010	- Tours and Visits Annual Gala Dinner
25 May, 2010	- Official Opening Ceremony 1st Business Session	29 May, 2010	- Departure of Delegates Press Conference
26 May, 2010	- Technical Conference Elections		

SURV. DR. GERTRUDE N. NJAR mnis
Publicity Secretary

World

Thousands protest in new general strike in Greece

TENS of thousands of Greeks demonstrated in Athens and other cities yesterday in the second general strike this month against a debt-dictated pension reform and government spending cuts.

About 17,000 people demonstrated in the capital and around 5,000 more marched in second city Thessaloniki, according to police estimates, calling on the Socialist government to take back a controversial pension reform and pay cuts.

The demonstrations called by Greece's main unions and the communist workers' syndicate shut down the centre of Athens for the second time this month in a movement against tough fiscal measures imposed to clinch a vital EU-IMF loan.

"These measures take us 150 years back," read a banner borne by protesters.

"We want the government to take back these measures which freeze our pay rises and force us to stay longer in the workforce," said Maria Grigoropoulou, a cosmetics store employee.

"We will continue our struggle and we will not back down," she told AFP.

Mexico president slams Arizona's immigration law

PRESIDENT Felipe Calderon hit out at "discrimination" against Mexican immigrants in Arizona, as the row over the state's draconian new immigration law risked overshadowing his US visit.

Calderon refused to hold his punches during his two-day state visit, strongly criticizing a law that while popular in Arizona has enraged Hispanics and stoked fears of racial profiling.

"Despite their enormous contribution to the economy and society of the United States," Calderon said, millions of immigrants "still live in the shadows, and at times, like in Arizona, even face patterns of discrimination." The US president told a joint press conference he had directed the Justice Department to look "very carefully at the language of this law," and report back soon whether it "comports with our core values and... legal standards."

Blood diamond prosecutors seek to subpoena Naomi Campbell

PROSECUTORS want to subpoena supermodel Naomi Campbell to testify over a so-called blood diamond she allegedly received from Liberia's ex-president Charles Taylor, said court papers filed yesterday.

"Ms Campbell's testimony is necessary as there is evidence that Ms Campbell was given rough diamonds by the accused (Taylor) in September 1997," said a prosecution motion filed with the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

"Ms Campbell's anticipated evidence concerns 'a central issue' in the case: the accused's possession of rough diamonds," states the document, a copy of which was obtained by AFP.

Taylor's war crimes trial heard claims in January that he had given Campbell a "large" diamond after a 1997 dinner hosted by South African ex-president Nelson Mandela.

The diamond was among those Taylor had obtained from Sierra Leone rebels and took to South Africa "to sell... or exchange them from weapons," prosecutor Brenda Hollis asserted in cross-examining Taylor at the time.

Taylor, on trial since January 2008, denied the claims.

He has pleaded not guilty to 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity stemming from the brutal 1991-2001 civil war in neighbouring Sierra Leone, including charges of murder, rape, conscripting child soldiers, enslavement and pillaging.

Taylor stands accused of having fuelled war in Sierra Leone by arming the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF) in exchange for "blood diamonds" -- the name given to diamonds mined in rebel-held regions of Africa and sold to fund warfare.

The RUF is blamed for the mutilation of thousands of civilians who had their hands and arms severed in one of the most brutal wars in modern history, which claimed some 120,000 lives.



SUPERMODEL Naomi Campbell at the Cannes film festival

Man guilty of killing teen jockeys in fire

A labourer has been found guilty of manslaughter for starting a fire in a block of flats that killed two young jockeys. Peter Brown, who lived in a neighbouring block, torched the building in North Yorkshire in a revenge attack after he was refused entry to a party last September.

The 37-year-old had denied lighting the fire in the early hours of September 5 last year, which killed Jamie Kyne, 18, and Jan Wilson, 19.

However, a jury in Leeds cleared Brown of murder, but found him guilty of manslaughter.

Prosecutors told the court he drunkenly started the inferno by setting alight rubbish in the building's communal entrance.

The raging fire forced many residents to jump from the building or climb down drainpipes to escape.

Teenagers Jamie, from County Galway in Ireland and Jan, from Angus in Scotland, became trapped in the top-floor flat.

Father-of-one Brown, originally from Aberdeen, denied two charges of murder, two charges of manslaughter and one of arson with intent to danger life. He did not give evidence in the case, but his barrister, Paul

Watson QC, told Leeds Crown Court the prosecution had "produced little or nothing in the way of good old fashioned evidence".

Despite the defence's accusation, the jury returned a guilty verdict on the manslaughter charge.

Judge Mrs Justice Nicola Davies adjourned sentencing for a pre-sentence report to be compiled, telling Brown it was "so I can have full information about the danger you pose".

The young apprentice jockeys had bright futures ahead of them, having both won a succession of races.

Jan had ridden her parents' horse, Imperial Sword, to victory at Ayr Racecourse just weeks before her death. Jamie, who had ridden 29 winners, was placed third in the Apprentice Jockeys' Championship.

Jan Hills, district Crown Prosecutor for CPS North Yorkshire, condemned Brown's vengeful act. "This utterly senseless act perpetrated by Peter Brown led to the tragic death of two young people, both of whom had their whole lives and promising sporting careers ahead of them," she said.



HEADQUARTERS NIGERIAN ARMY AREA 7, GARKI ABUJA

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE EXECUTION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR THE NIGERIAN ARMY

A. PREAMBLE

In partial fulfillment of the requirements of Public Procurement Act 2007 in the procurements of goods and services by Federal Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies, the Nigerian Army wishes to undertake the execution of the under-listed project under the Year 2010 Capital Appropriation ending December 2010. To this end competent contractors/vendors are invited to submit both technical and financial bids in line with the defined scope and technical specifications for the projects.

B. PROJECTS

1. **Improvement of Water Supplies in NA Barracks.** Drilling of Water Boreholes and Basic Support Water Reticulation in the under-listed Nigerian Army Barracks:
 - a. 1 Division Area - Nguru, Kontagora, Kaduna & Katsina Barracks.
 - b. 2 Division Area - Abeokuta, Shaki, Okitipupa, Akure, Ilorin & Kainji Barracks.
 - c. 3 Division Area - Biu, Yola, Maiduguri & Serti Barracks.
 - d. 81 Division Area - Abeokuta, Ojo, Owode, Apapa & Ipaja Barracks.
 - e. 82 Division Area - Elele, Ogoja, Abak & Calabar Barracks.
 - f. Army Headquarters Area - WU Bassey Barracks & Army Headquarters Abuja.
2. **Construction of Additional Accommodation for Guards Brigade Abuja.** Two sets of 12 One-Bedroom Single Officers' Quarters to be constructed in Abuja.
3. **Procurement of Tyres, Batteries & Service Parts for B Vehicles.** Supply of tyres, batteries & spare parts for vehicles for the Nigerian Army.
4. **Procurement of Light Aid Detachment Mechanical Tool Boxes.** Supply of Mechanical Tool Boxes for general repairs of vehicles of the Nigerian Army.

C. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Tenders should meet the following requirements:

1. Indicate clearly the location on the technical and financial submissions.
2. Possess the following:
 - a. Company 3 years audited accounts report.
 - b. Certificate of Incorporation with CAC.
 - c. Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three years.
 - d. VAT Certificate/Evidence of Remittances
 - e. Verifiable evidence of execution of similar projects, the contract sums, including copies of letters of award and completion certificate; and other works experience.
 - f. Evidence of financial capacity from a reputable Bank.
 - g. For construction related bids, vendors will provide the list of construction equipment including an indication of whether owned or lease; for own equipment evidence of ownership shall be required.
 - h. For supply and procurement bids, provision of evidence of similar jobs in the past will be an advantage for the vendor during the pre-qualification consideration.

D. VERIFICATION OF CLAIMS IN QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS:

The Nigerian Army reserves the right to verify the authenticity of claims made in the tender documents submitted. All documents are to be subjected to vetting by the relevant Intelligence Agencies.

E. COLLECTION AND RETURN OF TENDER DOCUMENTS:

Tender documents are to be collected from the Assistant Director Army Tenders Board, Army Headquarters on payment of the non refundable tender fees as follows:

- (1) Improvement of Water Supplies - N25,000.00.
- (2) Construction of Accommodation - N50,000.00.
- (3) Supply of Spare Parts/Tool Boxes - N20,000.00.

Submission of bids should be in 2 separate envelopes, sealed and clearly marked as **TECHNICAL** and **FINANCIAL** indicating the project bid for and the location. This is to be deposited in the Tenders Box located in the Assistant Director, Army Tenders Board's office at the Department of Logistics, Army Headquarters, Ministry of Defence, Area 7, Garki ABUJA. Collection of tender requirements commences on **24 May 2010** and return of the completed tender documents closes by 1000 a.m. on **4 June 2010**.

F. PUBLIC OPENING OF BIDS

The Nigerian Army Procurement Planning Committee will analyze and pre-qualify all the Technical Bids submitted by 1200 noon **4 June 2010**. Thereafter, successful Contractors or their representatives shortlisted from the Technical Bid Evaluation shall be invited to witness the public opening of the Financial Bids on **8 June 2010** at Army Headquarters.

Nothing in this advertisement shall be construed to be a commitment on the part of the Nigerian Army to undertake the project, reply any company not found suitable or entitle any bidder to make any claim(s) whatsoever in respect of any expense(s) incurred in preparing a qualification. Late submission will not be considered. The decision of the NAPPCC is final.

SIGNED
Chief of Logistics (Army)
Army Headquarters



CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



INTRODUCTION

The Centre for Management Development (CMD) is a Federal Government Parastatal established in January 1973 to coordinate the activities of, and give proper direction to, institutions engaged in the education, training and retraining of managerial manpower in Nigeria.

The Centre is the operational arm of the Nigerian Council for Management Development, (NCMD), its governing Council, whose existence since January 1972 was formalized by Act 51 of October 4, 1976.

The Centre invites interested competent contractors/suppliers/ companies to tender for the pre-qualification for the following jobs from its 2010 Capital Budget.

- LOT 1** **Consultancy Services**
- LOT 1.1** Architectural and Engineering design
- LOT 1.2** Research on management Development
- LOT 1.3** Long Term Strategic Implementation Plan
- LOT 2** Furniture and Office Equipment
- LOT 3** Generators
- LOT 4** Vehicles (Toyota brand saloon and 4x4)
- LOT 5** **Library Development**
- LOT 5.1** Library Books
- LOT 5.2** Update of Library software
- LOT 5.3** Ebeco Data Base and E-Library development
- LOT 6** Procurement and installation of Network Equipment, Servers, Laptops, Desk tops, printers, Software and communication Devices.
- LOT 6.1** LAN/Wireless Installation for Digital Centre, Training Complex and Purchase of Internet Bandwidth/VSAT Installation IP-PHONES, IP-PABX and Router with Hotspots Billing Platform
- LOT 6.2** Training and Study: Computer Desktops, Servers, Printers, Interactive Boards, UPS, etc.
- LOT 6.3** Procurement and installation of:
- Server Operating System
 - MS-Office Suites
 - Antivirus Software
 - Document Management Software
 - Microsoft Exchange: messaging and collaboration 2010
 - Symantec Back up Software
 - Web Portal: Design and Development
 - Domain Registration and Management
- LOT 7** **Renovation of CMD buildings**
- LOT 7.1** Renovation of CMD Office Complex
- LOT 7.2** Renovation of Staff Quarters
- LOT 7.3** Construction of 2km Internal Road
- LOT 7.4** Landscaping and beautification of CMD

ELIGIBILITY FOR CONSIDERATION

Proposals from interested Consultancy Firms/Contractors/Suppliers should be submitted with the following documents:

- 1) Evidence of registration or incorporation with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC)
- 2) Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years
- 3) Evidence of the company's audited accounts for the last three (3) years
- 4) VAT certificate and evidence of past remittances
- 5) Evidence of financial viability and bank reference from a reputable bank
- 6) Profile of the company including details of Directors/ Management, staff strength, their competences, expertise and experience
- 7) Payment of non-refundable Expression of Interest fee of N20,000.00 only in Bank draft or CMD receipt payable to the Centre
- 8) Details of previous similar jobs undertaken (if any) (with evidence such as letter of award etc.)
- 9) Registration with the Federal Ministry of Works, Housing and Urban Development category C (For construction work only).

COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS:

Interested companies should collect tender documents from the Assistant Director, Corporate Affairs Division, CMD, upon the presentation of evidence of payment of N20,000.00 non-refundable Tender fee in Bank draft or CMD payment receipt.

SUBMISSION

The Pre-Qualification documents should each be sealed and labeled (Technical bids for LOT..... separately and be submitted in five (5) copies (one original and four other copies) and all pages are to be duly endorsed by an authorized principal officer of the bidding company. The document is to be dropped in: **Office of the Assistant Director, Corporate Affairs Division, Centre for Management Development, Management Village, Shangisha, Lagos not later than 12 noon on Friday July 2, 2010.** The representatives of the bidding companies are invited to witness the opening of the tenders on the same day at **Friday July 2, 2010**, in the **Conference Room of the Director-General, Centre for Management Development, Lagos.**

Signed.

Director-General
Centre for Management Development
Management Village
Shangisha, Lagos.



NATIONAL CENTRE FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION
(N.C.E.E.C)



(THE ENERGY COMMISSION OF NIGERIA)

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, AKOKA, LAGOS

PRE-QUALIFICATION

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Centre for Energy Efficiency & Conservation (NCEEC) invites interested and reliable companies to apply for pre-qualification for the following projects of the Centre for the 2010 Fiscal year.

2. SCOPE

The scope of the work includes:

- Lot 1: Solar Project at Sabo
Lot 2: Solar Project at Alari
Lot 3: Solar Project at Tube

3. PRE-QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

The following requirement for pre-qualification must be submitted

- i. Evidence of Company Incorporation in Nigeria
- ii. Evidence of Tax Clearance and VAT Certificate
- iii. Evidence of Registration with the NCEEC of Nigeria
- iv. Company Profile with list of Technical/Managerial Staff with evidence of previous work experience detailed clients, nature of work/contract, contract sum, etc.
- v. Articulated work Plan and Methodology.
- vi. Evidence of Financial capability
- vii. Evidence of Submission of Annual Returns from CAC
- viii. Experience in handling similar job is an added advantage.
- ix. Full office Address of the Company and GSM Number(s).

4. SUBMISSION

Pre-qualification documents must be in sealed envelope marked, "**CONFIDENTIAL PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR NCEEC 2010 FISCAL YEAR CAPITAL PROJECTS**" and LOT of interest clearly printed at the top left corner of the envelope and submit within six (6) weeks from the date of this publication to:

The Director
National Centre for Energy Efficiency &
Conservation (N.C.E.E.C)
(THE ENERGY COMMISSION OF NIGERIA)
2nd Floor New Faculty of Engineering Building,
University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos.

Note: The submission of the pre-qualification documents is not a guarantee for the award of contract. Only pre-qualified companies shall be invited to pick the Bid documents.

The Director
National Centre for Energy Efficiency &
Conservation (N.C.E.E.C)



OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF THE CIVIL SERVICE
OF THE FEDERATION

**SPECIALIZED MANDATORY
TRAINING PROGRAMME**

**COMPETENCE ASSESSMENT
TEST FOR BATCHES 1-4
PARTICIPANTS**

THE OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF THE CIVIL SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION HEREBY INFORMS ALL OFFICERS ON GRADE LEVELS 14-16, WHO ATTENDED THE SPECIALIZED MANDATORY TRAINING PROGRAMME IN BATCHES 1-4 HELD AT THE PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA (PSIN), THAT A COMPETENCE ASSESSMENT TEST IS SCHEDULED TO HOLD ON **TUESDAY, 25TH MAY, 2010** AS FOLLOWS:

- GRADE LEVELS 15-16: REGISTRATION STARTS AT 7.00 A.M. WHILE THE TEST IS FROM 9.00 A.M. – 11.00 A.M.
- GRADE LEVEL 14: REGISTRATION STARTS AT 11.30 A.M. WHILE THE TEST IS FROM 2.00 P.M. – 4.00 P.M.
- VENUE FOR THE REGISTRATION AND TEST IS BANQUET HALL, STATE HOUSE, ABUJA.
- BIOMETRIC DOCUMENTATION OF OFFICERS AND COLLECTION OF EXAMINATION NUMBERS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA (PSIN), ABUJA, FROM FRIDAY 21ST TO SUNDAY 23RD MAY.
- OFFICERS ON GRADE LEVELS 14-16 WHO ATTENDED THE BATCH 1 TRAINING PROGRAMME AND THOSE ON GRADE LEVEL 14 WHO ATTENDED BATCH 4 ARE FOR BIOMETRIC DOCUMENTATION AND COLLECTION OF BIOMETRIC FORM AND EXAMINATION NUMBER. OTHER OFFICERS WHO DID BIOMETRIC DOCUMENTATION DURING THE TRAINING PROGRAMME ARE TO COLLECT BIOMETRIC FORM AND EXAMINATION NUMBER.

**PROMPT ATTENDANCE SHOULD BE OBSERVED
AS LATE COMERS MAY NOT BE ADMITTED.**

PERMANENT SECRETARY
MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
ANNOUNCER



FORUM OF FORMER DEPUTY GOVERNORS OF NIGERIA

YOUR EXCELLENCY CONGRATULATIONS



His Excellency,
Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR,
 President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Force, Federal Republic of Nigeria

We, members of the **Forum of Former Deputy Governors of Nigeria** commiserate with His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, GCON President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the entire people of Nigeria on the great National loss occasioned by the unfortunate death of our President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'Adua GCFR. May we pay tribute to the eternal memory of the deceased for his exemplary courage and admirable attributes as a visionary and peace loving leader.

Permit us also to use this opportunity to extend our special felicitation over your providential inauguration to the exalted office of the President and Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

We have never failed to see the hand of God over this nation despite the startling challenges we've faced as in recent times. A time comes when He thrust upon men the responsibility to redeem His people. That time is now.

We have absolute faith in your sterling qualities, statesmanship, patriotism and integrity and trust in your intellectual abilities to turn the challenges and travails we face now into a glorious future of bliss. We pledge our solidarity and commitment to partner with you as leaders, citizens and colleagues as you set out to forge new frontiers of prosperity for our great nation, Nigeria.

May God guide your path.

God Bless Nigeria.

Signed
 His Excellency,
Obong Chris Ekpenyong PhD, FNSE
 Secretary

Signed
 His Excellency,
Alhaji Abdulmalik Mahmood
 Chairman



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ABUJA
AND
UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT PROCUREMENT DIVISION
WITH
CENTRE FOR TRADE PRACTITIONERS LTD/GTE
AS FACILITATOR

HOLD A TWO-DAY

**UNITED NATIONS PROCUREMENT AND VENDOR
REGISTRATION SEMINAR**

THEME: REGISTERING AS A UNITED NATIONS SUPPLIER

26 MAY 2010

LAGOS: EKO LE MERIDIEN HOTEL, VICTORIA ISLAND
HOST: HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. ALYU IDI HONG,
HON. MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

GUEST OF HONOUR
HIS EXCELLENCY,
MR BABATUNDE R. FASHOLA, SAN
GOVERNOR OF LAGOS STATE

28 MAY 2010

ABUJA: TRANSCORP HILTON HOTEL
HOST: HIS EXCELLENCY,
MR. H. ODEIN AJUMOGOBIA, SAN
HON MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

GUEST OF HONOUR
HIS EXCELLENCY,
DR. M. BABANGIDA ALIYU, OON
GOVERNOR OF NIGER STATE

TIME: 9.00 A M DAILY

RESOURCE PERSONS: UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT PROCUREMENT DIVISION

THE OBJECTIVES, AMONG OTHERS, ARE:

- I) TO SENSITIZE BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY ON THE PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS FOR POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS; AND
- II) TO IDENTIFY AND REGISTER CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL BUSINESSES WITH THE CAPACITY TO PROCURE GOODS AND SERVICES TO UN HEADQUARTERS, UN OFFICES AND PEACE-KEEPING MISSIONS WORLD-WIDE.

THE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR PROCUREMENT INCLUDE LONG TERM CHARTER OF FIXED WING & ROTARY AIRCRAFT AND RELATED SERVICES; MOVEMENT OF UN CONTINGENTS, CARGO BY SEA, AIR & LAND INCLUDING FREIGHT FORWARDING; FURNITURE; OFFICE SUPPLIES- PAPER, PRINTING; TRADING & ADVERTISEMENT; CONSTRUCTION WORKS; ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING; REAL ESTATE; RENTAL, LEASE; CLEANING SERVICE; SECURITY COMPUTER HARDWARE, SOFTWARE; IT SERVICES; COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES; UNIFORMS; FOOD RATIONS, CATERING SERVICES; CHEMICAL & PETROLEUM PRODUCTS; FUEL EQUIPMENT; MEDICAL EQUIPMENT; DRUGS & PHARMACEUTICALS; BODY ARMOUR; ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE; PREFABRICATED BUILDING; GENERATORS; BRIDGES; ENGINEERING SUPPORT; BARBED, BINDING & CONCERTINA WIRE; GABIONS, SANDBAGS; TIMBER & PLYWOOD; WATER TREATMENT; SOLAR POWER EQUIPMENT; ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES- CABLES, TRANSFORMER; VEHICLES, TRUCKS, TRANSPORT SUPPORT & RELATED CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES.

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR REGISTRATION AT THE SEMINAR, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PROSPECTIVE SUPPLIERS PROVIDE CORRECT INFORMATION AS FOLLOWS:

- A) COPY OF CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION (PRIVATELY HELD COMPANIES ONLY).
- B) YOUR LATEST CERTIFIED/AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, I.E. BALANCE SHEETS AND INCOME STATEMENT (PRIVATELY HELD COMPANIES); OR YOUR ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS (PUBLICLY TRADED COMPANIES);
- C) GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FIRM AND ITS PRODUCTS/SERVICES, INCLUDING COPIES OF STANDARDS OF QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR THE PRODUCTS/SERVICES YOU WISH TO REGISTER.
- D) LETTER OF REFERENCE FROM AT LEAST THREE (3) CLIENTS TO WHOM YOUR COMPANY HAS PROVIDED GOODS/SERVICES OVER THE PAST TWELVE (12) MONTHS.
- E) PROSPECTIVE SUPPLIERS MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF THREE (3) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN THEIR LINE OF BUSINESS;

IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE THAT REGISTRATION WILL BE CONDUCTED FOR PARTICIPANTS ON-SIGHT VIA ON-LINE PORTAL

FOR REGISTRATION AND FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT :

V. A. OKOEDION
DIRECTOR (PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS)
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER
supplier.registration@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR
CENTRE FOR TRADE PRACTITIONERS LTD/GTE
234-803424853
cismevision@yahoo.com

BUSINESS

0805 1000 536

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GSM: +234 803 446 3432
+234 705 666 9020
 web: www.oas-helicopter.com
 E-mail: contact@oas-helicopters.com



MANAGING Director/Chief Executive Officer of Bank of Industry Ms Evelyn Oputu with Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria Sanusi Lamido Sanusi at an event in Abuja, recently.

BRIEF

Nigeria raises N80bn sovereign bonds

NIGERIA raised N80 billion from the sale of 20-year, 5-year and 3-year sovereign bonds at its fifth debt auction of the year, the Debt Management Office (DMO) said yesterday.

The debt office sold N30 billion of the 20-year paper, N25 billion of the 5-year instrument and N25 billion of the 3-year bond at an auction on Wednesday.

All of the papers were re-openings of previous issues, the debt office said in a statement.

The 20-year attracted a 10 percent marginal rate, the 5-year was issued at 9 percent, while the 3-year carried a 8.25 percent rate.

A total of \$89.71 billion bids were received from investors for all the instruments, but the debt office stuck to its initial offering.

"The original coupon rates of 5.50 percent, 4.00 and 8.50 for the 3-year, 5-year and 20-year respectively will be maintained," the DMO said. (Reuters)

BOI approves N58bn to small businesses

From Ruqayyah Yusuf Aliyu, Kano

THE Bank of Industry (BOI) has approved N58 billion loans to be invested in 675 small enterprises in Nigeria.

Eighty five percent of the loans would go into Micro-small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with the aim of improving industrial production in the country.

This was disclosed yesterday by the Minister for Commerce and Industry Senator Jibrin Martins Kuye while delivering a keynote address at the ministerial session of the 3rd meeting of the National Council of Commerce and Industry holding in Kano.

Kuye said allocation of the loan will guarantee utilization of raw materials, especially agricultural produce, generate employment, increase export potentials, promote MSMEs by women as well as deepening banks credit delivery process through lending to coop-

erative groups under collective guaranteed arrangements among other things.

He said collaboration of his ministry with development partners has started yielding results, particularly in agricultural and industrial sectors. He said projects such as the cassava processing factory in Kuje in the Federal Capital Territory and Masaka in Nasarawa State as well as the common facility centre in Abia and a host of others scattered in the country have commenced operations.

Declaring the ministerial session open, Governor of Kano State Malam Ibrahim Shekarau urged delegates to come up with the best ways to improve industrial and commercial activities in the country, because commerce is a major contributor to the economic development of any nation.

Shekarau further said the state government on its part has embarked upon several business development projects with a view

of boosting commercial activities and maintaining the state's status as the commercial nerve centre of the country.

Also delivering his welcome address, Kano State Commissioner for Commerce, Industry, Cooperatives and Tourism Alhaji Ibrahim Yakassai said one of the key areas the state focuses attention is facilitation and enhancement of commercial agriculture with the aim of achieving vertical integration through value addition to some commodities such as rice, groundnuts and vegetables among others.

Yakassai said the rice production programme in which the state government is collaborating with Malaysians is yielding significant results. He said the successes recorded are not unconnected with the rehabilitation and dredging of major dams in the state.

STOCK MARKET INDEX

Date:	Thursday, May 20, 2010
Index:	27,424.47
Deals:	11,133
Volume:	316,343,498
Value:	N 3,363,930,204.28
Cap.:	N6,667,347,413,362.40

TRUST INDEX

Inflation	12.5%
GDP	6.68%
Budget	N4.6tr
Ext. Reserves Acct	\$40.1bn
Excess Crude Acct	\$4.3bn
Poverty Ratio	54.4%
Monetary Policy Rate	6%
Banks	24
Oil Price	\$88.8/barrel
Power Supply	3,600MW
Oil output per day	2.6mbd
Broad Money Supply	N11,010,063.6m
Credit to Private Sector	N18,822,822.5m
Inter-Bank Rate	1.2200%
Treasury Bills	1.3%
Deposit Rate	7.51%
Prime Lending Rate	18.06%

CBN EXCHANGE RATES			
19/5/2010	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)
CFA	0.2611	0.2711	0.2811
DANISH KRONER	24.2747	24.3568	24.4388
EURO	182.0279	182.6432	183.2584
POUNDS STERLING	211.0963	211.7799	212.4635
RIYAL	39.448	39.5814	39.7147
SDR	216.2589	216.5899	217.2268
SWISS FRANC	128.9487	129.3846	129.8204
USDOLLAR	147.93	148.43	148.93
WAUA	216.5012	217.233	217.9647
YEN	1.6185	1.621	1.6241

Bureau de Change Rates	
BUYING	
Dollar	N151
Euro	N195
Pound	N231
SELLING	
Dollar	N152
Euro	N198
Pound	N234

Source: S&P Bureau de Change, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.



Business

Nigeria's steel industry in a sorry state

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

THERE is no better person that can reveal the health status of a man than the sick person himself, or better still, medical personnel that qualified to speak on the particular illness.

It was not surprising when the Minister of Mines and Steel Development Arch. Musa Muhammad Sada Mani recently said that Nigeria's steel industry is in a confused state.

The revelation was the outcome of his two weeks study of the industry. He said the industry is confused because of too many and unrealistic visions.

"The steel industry is in confused state because of multiple directions it is been put into", the minister said when he recently paid a working visit to Katsina state.

To start with, the hearts of the country's steel industry - Ajaokuta Steel Company Limited and National Iron Ore Mining Company (NIOMCO), Itakpe are performing sub-optimally. NIOMCO is supposed to provide Ajaokuta with raw materials. The two companies are dying, naturally.

Though the minister had promised to turnaround the industry, many wonder how he can achieve this in less than one year of the lifespan of this administration.

Those who have studied the steel industry from the past are saying that fixing the problems in the industry is a hard nut the minister must crack.

Out of the twenty-two steel



ARCH. Musa Muhammad Sada, Minister of Mines and Steel Development

companies in Nigeria - including privately owned and publicly owned - none of them are working as expected.

The Ajaokuta Steel project for example has suffered so much neglect in the hands of the public policy makers that one may even ask whether these leaders have the interest of the country at heart.

The Secretary General of the African and Steel Association Dr.

Sanusi Alhaji Mohammed once said that the sub-optimal performance of the Ajaokuta Steel Company was because of inconsistent policies and haphazard and selfish implementations of whatever policy that have been arrived at.

It is estimated that over 5,000 jobs could be created if the Ajaokuta is working well.

That are many advantages the country can benefit from the steel

industry if honest and determined policy formulation and implementation are the guiding principle.

Already, the Ajaokuta Steel Company, based on its backward integration construction concept, has completed its finishing mills, wire rod mill, rod and bar mill, and the medium section and structural mill facilities and ready for use.

The blast furnace and liquid steel making facilities are yet to be completed, although available indicators had pencilled every year from 1991 as the year for commissioning.

The installed liquid steel-making capacity of Ajaokuta was planned to be 1.3 million tonnes under the present project phase. The available in-house rolling capacity is 1.49 million tonnes per annum of wires, reinforcing bars, and light and medium structures.

What the minister can do to salvage the industry is making concrete policies that would reinvigorate the sector.

The sector can help employ about 10,000 workers in the plant, not less than 20,000 jobs in the raw materials industries providing feedstock to the plant. It can create jobs for not less than 30,000 Nigerians in the industries that use the products of the plant.

The Nigerian steel sector has the capacity of contributing not less than 30 percent of the inputs to the automotive industry in Nigeria.

The Ajaokuta Steel Plant has the capacity to meet most of the national requirements of chemicals and tar (as by-products of the steel production process) and refractory bricks, using locally available

raw materials.

The Alumino-Silicate Refractory Plant which has the potential to export to ECOWAS sub-region and most industries in Nigeria has problem sourcing for their machinery and spare parts. The Ajaokuta Steel Company's well-equipped Engineering Works Complex can assist to a large extent.

Other countries have gone far in line with steel industries and reported to the World Steel Association, unfortunately Nigeria is yet to send its steel production, since 2008.

Some experts have argued that privatisation of the sector is the best solution to the problems of steel sector in Nigeria.

Policy makers find it difficult to accept the fact that it is only government that can provide the initial developmental funds in view of the high capital costs and the long gestation period of such projects.

The Federal Government has already approved N650 million for the Ajaokuta to resume operation.

The steel sector has suffered more than enough from privatisation to the failure of policy sustainability. The minister has promised to design a strong favourable environment to move the sector forward, which may be difficult for any minister after him to alter. May be this will solve the problem of policy implementation and sustainability.

The minister he has less than ten months to achieve his mission and one only hopes that his promise is not another political statement, which could create another confusion.

Policy makers find it difficult to accept the fact that it is only government that can provide the initial developmental funds in view of the high capital costs and the long gestation period of such projects.

Nigeria reviews electricity tariff

By Fidelis Mac-Leva

STAKEHOLDERS in the power sector yesterday convened in Abuja, to work out modalities to review the annual Multi Year Tariff Order (MYTO) which was introduced by the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission in 2008.

The MYTO provides a 15 year tariff path for the electricity industry, with major reviews each year in the light of changes in a limited number of parameters such as inflation, exchange rate and gas prices.

It also provides major reviews every 5 years when all inputs are reviewed with electricity stakeholders.

Administrator of NERC, Immamudeen Talba, said at the meeting that, "the minor review we are about to conduct today (yesterday) will only affect the wholesale price and not the retail tariff."

He said consumers should not expect any increase in their tariff beyond what was approved in 2008.

He explained that MYTO was established to guarantee reasonable returns to investment in the country's electricity market and also promote the effective principle of availability and access to power.

"It is important to note that in spite of the huge potentials for power generation in the country, generation capacity has been very low with investors still complaining about low tariff and other constraints",

Talba said.

He said the MYTO was first reviewed in July, 2009 to reflect the significant changes in the underlying parameters of inflation, exchange rate and gas price.

"While the changes in gas price was in line with the gas to power policy of the federal government, inflation and exchange rates recorded significant increases of 30.91 percent and 17.60 percent respectively", he said.

Head of market competition and rates division of NERC, Dr. Haliru Dikko, said preparatory to the annual minor review, the commission had issued a notice requesting for comments from stakeholders in the industry on variables like rate of inflation, exchange rate and gas price.

According to him, NERC also requested for statistics from the Central Bank of Nigeria and the National Bureau of Statistics on inflation and exchange rates for the period of March.

The statistics obtained shows an inflation rate of 11.80 percent as at March with an exchange of N149.83 within the same period.

A draft time-table for the major review which was made available during the meeting indicates that the next stage of the MYTO review process involves a presentation by NERC on review of methodology for pricing of generation, transmission and distribution.

Transport costs in Africa, highest in the world

TRANSPORT costs in Africa are the highest in the world, Mr Jean-Louis Ekra, President, African Export-Import Bank (AFREXIM), has said.

Ekra said in Abuja on Wednesday that the assertion was based on a survey carried out by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

He spoke at the on-going seminar on AFREXIM with the theme "obstacles to Intra-Regional Trade in West Africa-The Challenges of Non-Tariff Barriers and Poor Trade Settlement System".

"The UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) revealed that transport costs in Africa were among the highest in the world," Ekra said.

He noted that the low ratio of intra-African trade in spite of rising intra-African trade values had been traced to some tariff and some non-tariff barriers

to trade. He listed the barriers as poor transportation network, cumbersome export and import procedures and border crossing problems as well as limited use of information and communication technology. Others are; limited involvement of the private sector in the design of programmes intended to raise intra-regional trade and poor trade settlement systems and financial encumbrances, among others.

Ekra said the transport costs average was about 14 per cent of the value of exports compared to 8.6 per cent for all developing countries.

He attributed the situation to high costs, inadequate road and rail infrastructure and limited direct sea links, among others. Ekra noted that Intra-Regional Trade played an important role in the promotion of economic growth and development. (NAN)



FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (TECHNICAL)
P. M. B. 1013, POTISKUM, YOBE STATE

OBITUARY



MR. HENRY OGBONNA

With deep sense of loss and humility to the will of God Almighty, the Management of Federal College of Education (Technical), Potiskum, Yobe State wishes to inform the general public on the sudden death of Mr Henry C. Ogbonna who died on 22nd April, 2010.

Until his death, Mr. Henry Ogbonna was a Chief Instructor in the School of Technical Education of the College. He survived by wife and four children, and had since been buried in his home town (Nsuka) according to Christian rites. We pray God to grant his soul a perfect rest, Amen.

Signed
Management



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Travelogue

Nok: Where ginge

A visit to the historical village of Nok reveals a lot that is captivating. Tina A.

THE historic village of Nok located in the southern part of Kaduna state, became popular after the discovery of ancient sculptural artifacts and other forms of civilization, as early as 1928.

The discovery of the Terracotta human head is one of the sculptures that brought the little village into limelight about sixty years ago, after the original settlers left and the village became inhabited by the present settlers, the Jaba speaking tribes.

Bouncing upon the motorcycle, the popular means of transportation into the village, the first view of the village is an endless stream of acres of farmland, strewn with at least five men in each, with their backs bent over the hoe in the hands, as they till

In Nok, the bigger farmers harvest hundreds of bags of ginger."

the soil in readiness for planting.

Women can be sighted planting seeds on already ridged farms, while the children are sheltered under trees, some of them battling as they convey head loads of straw into the farms.

Then a rusty brown roof comes into focus. The first sign of a settlement after about a twenty-five minutes ride on the motorcycle into the village, passing through two small streams that border the big farms from the village itself.

Alhaji Ibrahim Nok, the District Head of the village and a prominent ginger farmer, said ginger root farming is very lucrative these days, because the rise in demand for the root crop, has opened a



GINGER farm completely covered with straw as a major requirement.

huge market opportunity for the people of his community to bet-



FIRST and second replica of the famous Terracota head.

ter their livelihood.

He said to the people of Nok, ginger farming is a way of life because from time immemorial, their ancestors have farmed the ginger roots, although not in commercial quantities as they do today. Even long ago, ginger was a commercial commodity in those parts.

Speaking to *Daily Trust* Alhaji Nok said "The only people we consider as rich in our community, apart from a few politicians, are the ginger farmers, because they make a lot of money from

farming and selling Chitta (ginger). This is because ginger is our cash crop."

"I have travelled round a number of countries when I was working with the government, and I can tell you that we have the best ginger, and there is no argument about that. So you can see that Nigeria is blessed, we are lucky in Nigeria," he said.

Visitors coming into the tranquil and serene village to see some of the historical sites like the caves, and

the popular replicas of the Terracotta heads, are usually amazed at the huge quantities of ginger churned out by farmers at harvest



GINGER plantation in full bloom after the seeds have budded

r farmers are king

Hassan reports.



Dado (Rtd) who is the head of ginger farmers in the village.

According to him there is no ginger farmer that does not gain from the business, no matter how little the yield is at the end of harvest.

"I was able to build and roof my house with zinc within the period of three months, using proceeds from the sale of the ginger. All my children who are now working in the cities, were trained in schools from the money I got selling ginger roots.

Some of the farmers said selling ginger root was not so profitable in the past, because they were ignorant of the degree of demand for the crop, and the middle men took advantage of that in exploiting them. But most of them now have direct link with the some of the companies, so they make more profit.

In Nok, the bigger farmers harvest hundreds of bags of ginger, while the smaller farmers harvest between 30-25 bags, at the end of the planting season.

Ginger planting in the village is done throughout the year, especially by the few farmers who practice a traditional method of irrigation, especially in the water logged areas where rice is also planted. Many crops can grow and adapt to the climatic conditions in the area, but the most economically beneficial crop is ginger.

Ginger seedlings are preserved



DOMI Dado, Head of Ginger farmers in Nok village.

under the shelter of trees and covered with straw, to prevent direct heat from the sun, when the harvested left over in the farms germinates.

The ginger produced in

Nigeria comes from this area, and it has been rated the best ginger in world, because of its high fragrance, pepper and oil contents.

Ginger has gained ground as a

It has been rated the best ginger in world, because of its high fragrance, pepper and oil contents."

global cash crop apart from oil. Nok, it seems, has been blessed by nature and is destined to be in the spotlight, even after the early settlers who are popular for sculpture making, have long disappeared.



THE first replicated Terra-cotta head.

time. Nok and its surroundings is the base of ginger farming in Nigeria, says Rev. Domi

All my children who are now working in the cities, were trained in schools from the money I got selling Ginger roots."



GINGER roots being cut in two, and spread on the rocks to dry for further preservation.



GINGER seedlings tied up for movement to the farm.

Business

BPE privatised 139 coys in ten years

By Zakariyya Adaramola

THE Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) said it has successfully privatized 139 public enterprises in the last ten years.

Director General of BPE Ms Bolanle Onagoruwa said the bureau privatized 40 enterprises from 1999-2004, 69 from 2005-2006, 39 from 2007-2008 and one in 2009.

She told members of

the Senate Committee on Privatisation who visited BPE on Wednesday, to kick-off a two-day oversight tour of privatized enterprises within Abuja.

She said within the period, 25 port terminals were concessioned while the former National Electricity Power Authority (NEPA) was unbundled into 18 companies.

According to her, various bills, among them,

the Railway Bill, Inland Waterways Bill, Roads Fund Bill, the Postal Sector Bill and the Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Bill have been completed and are awaiting the approval of the Federal Executive Council.

The DG said that the Bureau is faced with the challenge of reforming two critical sectors this year - oil and power - and

that enormous resources are required to make a success of the tasks.

She further noted that unfavourable investment climate arising from the global financial meltdown has also been a major setback of the Bureau.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Privatisation, Senator Ayo Arise, pledged the committee's assistance to the Bureau in its onerous task.

Nigeria's cocoa exports rise to 152,610 tonnes

NIGERIA'S October-March 2009/10 cocoa main crop exports rose 31 percent to 152,610 tonnes from 116,778 tonnes in the same period of the previous season, data from the Federal Produce Inspection Service (FPIS) showed yesterday.

On a monthly basis, bean shipments from the world's number 4 cocoa grower's soared 51 percent year-on-year to 18,276 tonnes in March from 12,106 tonnes in the same month of the 2008/09 season, the FPIS data showed.

Nigerian cocoa exports have consistently risen since the start of the 2009/10 season in October due to good weather conditions last year and the maturity of new plantations with high-yield trees in the main growing regions.

Nigeria's main crop usually comes in at around 220,000 to 240,000 tonnes when the weather is favourable and chemicals readily available.

The FPIS is the government agency that certifies cocoa and other farm produce as fit for export mainly to Western and Asian markets, where the beans are used in making chocolate, cosmetics, ice cream, liquor and cake among other products. (Reuters)

NNPC's microfinance bank gives N15m loans to customers

By Hamisu Muhammad

THE newly commissioned ABUCOOP Microfinance Bank has granted N14.8 million loans to nine customers in the last two weeks, the Managing Director of the Bank Sheddus Obi Okoronkwo has said.

Speaking yesterday at the official commission of the bank in Abuja, Okoronkwo said the bank has a deposit base of N140.9 million with about 364 customers.

ABUCOOP Microfinance Bank Nigeria Limited is a subsidiary of the Multipurpose Corporative Society of the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC).

"We are using this opportunity to solicit for the businesses of the cooperative societies and individual businesses that do not own or have access to microfinance bank services to come and partner with them", he said.

He explained that the services of the ABUCOOP Microfinance bank is not only for NNPC staff but for the general

public who are ready to enjoy the services of tested professionals in the administration of the Microfinance banks.

He said the bank gives the lowest rate of interest in the industry and has Fidelity Bank and First Bank as parent banks.

Speaking while commissioning the Bank, the Group Managing Director of the NNPC, Engr. Austen Oniwon encouraged all NNPC staff to support the bank by opening at least a family account with them.

Congratulations

On behalf of my humble self, **Alhaji Abdu Hassan Mechanic (Sarkin Sudan Bauchi)** and my family, we heartily rejoice with His Excellency, **Arc Muhammad Namadi Sambo GCON** for his confirmation as the Vice President, Federal Public of Nigeria by His Excellency, **Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR**, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Federal Public of Nigeria.

His Excellency, the visionary leader who in a short period of time has put in place grand and revolutionary projects that are concrete indices in promoting the peace and the economic wellbeing of the good people of Kaduna State, we are indeed happy to be a part of your success story.



Alhaji Abdu Hassan Mechanic
Sarkin Sudan Bauchi



Business/International



URANIUM pellets, a nuclear fuel product for atomic power plants.

Russia to spend \$1 bn on Namibia uranium exploration

RUSSIA is ready to invest \$1 billion in uranium exploration in Namibia, Sergei Kiriyyenko, head of Russia's state nuclear corporation Rosatom said yesterday.

"We're ready to start investing already this year," Kiriyyenko told journalists on the sidelines of the visit of Namibian President Hifikepunye Pohamba to Moscow.

He said the uranium will be used for the nuclear power plant Russia is building in Turkey.

Russia's President Dmitry Medvedev discussed the idea when visiting Namibia last year as part of his trip to promote Moscow's interests in Africa, where it faces competition with China and the West for resources.

Namibia, the world's fourth-largest uranium producer, is home to the Rossing mine operated by Rio Tinto, which together with Paladin Energy's Langer Heinrich mine accounts for about 10 percent of global output. (Reuters)

Kenyan economy up by 2.6% in 2009

KENYA'S economy grew by 2.6 percent in 2009 from a revised 1.6 percent a year before, boosted by growth in tourism, construction and communications, the government said yesterday. KENYA'S economic growth was slowed down sharply by a bloody post-election crisis in early 2008, and a prolonged drought and the global economic crisis compounded the effects. The government had earlier put 2008 growth at 1.7 percent.

"THIS growth was mainly due to an improved tourism sector, also expansion of

the building and construction industry, transport and communication sectors," Wycliffe Oparanya, minister of state for planning and national development, said in releasing Kenya's 2010 economic survey.

"HOWEVER, our economy was also constrained by unfavourable weather conditions ... and global economic recession."

AGRICULTURE accounts for roughly one quarter of gross domestic product in east Africa's largest economy. Oparanya said the agriculture sector declined by 2.6 percent. (Reuters)

Mauritius trade deficit widens 28% in March

MAURITIUS' trade deficit widened by 28 percent or 5.29 billion Mauritian rupees in March from a year earlier due to higher imports, the statistics office said yesterday.

THE Central Statistics Office (CSO) said imports rose by 10 percent from the year-ago period to 10.52 billion rupees.

A rise in the import of food and live animals led the increase in imports.

THE depressed global economy squeezed demand for the Indian Ocean island's exports last year.

OFFICIALS hope a recovery in world trade in recent months will revive key sectors such as textiles and support the projected economic growth of 4.6 percent in 2010.

THE island's exports fell by 3 percent to 5.23 billion rupees thanks to decreased shipments of food, live animals and manufactured goods.

BRITAIN remained Mauritius' main buyer, accounting for 23 percent of its exports, while India supplied 21 percent of Mauritius' imports. (Reuters)

World Bank restarts aid to Niger after coup

THE World Bank has restarted aid to Niger, one of the world's poorest countries, after suspending donations in the wake of a military coup in February, the bank said on Wednesday.

It said it would give \$40 million in budgetary assistance to Niger, which despite being an exporter of uranium and target for billions of dollars of investment in oil, faces severe food shortages, according to United Nations humanitarian agencies.

The African Union and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) suspended Niger after the coup, but diplomats hope the removal of President Mamadou Tandja, who drew harsh criticism when he changed the constitution to extend his powers last year, will allow Niger to hold a free vote.

"The social, economic and political situation in Niger must be explained to give the national and international community a better understanding," Madani Tall, the World Bank's director of operations for Niger, Togo, Ivory Coast, Benin and Mauritania said in a letter to junta chief Major Salou Djibo, which was broadcast on national television.

Niger's food crisis is worse than the last emergency in 2005 but the country is better prepared to face it, in part due to better government cooperation, U.N. aid chief John Holmes said last month.

At least 7.8 million people, or nearly 60 percent of the population, will be threatened with severe food shortages this year. (Reuters)

Angola reassures IMF on debt management reforms

ANGOLA, which is preparing to issue a new bond, has assured the IMF it will implement reforms to improve debt management and needs \$6 billion in credit lines in 2010 to rebuild from a 27-year civil war.

In a letter of intent published by the IMF on Wednesday, Angola's economy ministers outlined reforms to "strengthen our credibility with international bond investors as we complete our plans for a debt bond issue."

"Our debt management capacity is yet to be at par with those of many other emerging market countries and we acknowledge the urgent need to strengthen our debt management capacity," the ministers said in the letter dated April 26.

The ministers said reforms would improve its debt management unit in the Ministry of Finance, establish direct reporting lines for the unit to economic ministers, and develop a clear medium-term debt strategy.

Angola, which rivals Nigeria as Africa's largest oil producer, agreed to a \$1.4 billion IMF loan package in March as government revenues were hard hit by a sharp drop in oil prices and exports in 2009. It plans to sell \$2 billion of domestic debt in the second half of May.

Global ratings agencies gave Angola a debut "B+" rating for foreign debt on Wednesday, the same as Nigeria, bringing it closer to issuing international bonds.

The letter also requested more flexibility in its IMF program on external borrowing to finance its reconstruction needs, most of it for basic infrastructure destroyed during the civil war.

It said some projects had been contracted with China, which has previously provided loans to Angola in exchange for oil.

The letter said the government needed to contract a total of \$6 billion "projects-related credit lines" in 2010, and noted significantly lower amount of contracts are envisaged for future years. (Reuters)



ANGOLA'S President Jose Eduardo dos Santos

Business/Finance

Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)

Thursday, May 20, 2010

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)
2ND-TIER SECURITIES				
ADSWITCH PLC	3	1.90	100,000	190,000.00
JULI PLC	1	3.37	31,198	100,145.58
SECTOR TOTALS	4		131,198	290,145.58
AGRICULTURE				
FTN COCOA PROCES. PLC	20	0.98	743,500	736,680.00
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	22	0.77	578,075	456,623.85
OKOMU OIL PALM COY PLC	45	14.80	414,191	6,180,350.85
PRESCO PLC	16	6.18	123,090	730,563.50
SECTOR TOTALS	103		1,858,856	7,904,218.20
AIR SERVICES				
AIRL/SERVICES & LOG. PLC	26	2.89	511,814	1,497,113.66
NIG. AV. HAND. COY PLC	106	12.80	830,243	10,732,539.88
SECTOR TOTALS	132		1,342,057	12,229,653.54
BANKING				
ACCESS BANK PLC	184	9.40	14,899,559	142,240,441.62
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	53	2.09	3,047,909	6,378,147.83
DIAMOND BANK PLC	76	8.15	3,622,566	29,531,825.96
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	48	5.35	647,855	3,576,613.52
F/CITY MON. BANK PLC	62	8.65	7,298,211	62,699,128.01
FIDELITY BANK PLC	155	2.91	12,358,927	36,646,846.56
FIRST BANK OF NIG. PLC	784	14.80	19,808,688	293,785,321.27
FINBANK PLC	86	0.55	2,590,549	1,419,838.90
GTBANK PLC	420	17.50	9,790,657	170,300,531.45
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	91	10.51	3,325,503	35,025,835.36
INTERCONT. BANK PLC.	69	1.70	4,127,894	7,184,046.96
OCEANIC BANK INT. PLC	111	1.66	4,338,303	7,203,117.04
BANK PHB PLC	52	1.45	953,346	1,397,160.53
SKYE BANK PLC.	160	8.80	13,631,690	119,527,592.50
SPRING BANK PLC	14	0.91	239,187	215,982.78
STERLING BANK PLC	83	2.14	5,291,278	11,183,459.95
UNT BANK FOR AFRICA PLC.	194	12.95	8,882,434	114,748,861.58
UNION BANK OF NIG. PLC	193	4.98	5,888,294	29,557,129.37
UNITYBANK PLC	10	1.11	417,108	462,989.88
WEMA BANK PLC	43	1.03	838,460	852,518.86
ZENITH BANK PLC	405	15.35	17,017,092	260,018,122.80
SECTOR TOTALS	2,883		139,015,510	1,333,955,512.73
BUILDING MATERIALS				
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	89	22.61	1,871,449	42,330,151.58
BENUCEMENT COY PLC	38	69.25	611,494	42,375,170.28
CEMENT CO. OF N/NIG. PLC	43	22.00	301,374	6,642,940.94
LAFARGE WAPCO PLC	78	42.00	902,902	37,731,778.89
SECTOR TOTALS	248		3,687,219	129,080,041.69
CHEMICAL & PAINTS				
AFRICAN PAINTS (NIG.) PLC	1	3.49	1,000	3,320.00
BERGER PAINTS NIG. PLC	26	8.04	710,700	5,714,028.00
CHEM/ALLIED PROD. PLC	6	34.33	126,964	4,358,674.12
DN MEYER PLC	1	5.24	249,995	1,309,973.80
I. P. W. A. PLC	1	1.09	2,780	2,891.20
SECTOR TOTALS	35		1,091,439	11,388,887.12
COMMERCIAL/SERVICES				
COURTVILLE INV. PLC	5	0.57	203,822	117,178.54
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	5	4.15	582,000	2,449,040.00
SECTOR TOTALS	20		785,822	2,566,218.54
CONGLOMERATES				
A. G. LEVENTIS (NIG.) PLC	5	4.18	25,748	102,477.04
JOHN HOLT PLC	2	9.28	1,480	13,053.60
PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	44	29.00	3,126,032	92,633,466.38
SCOA NIGERIA PLC	2	8.71	31,872	263,900.16
TRANSN. CORP. OF NIG. PLC	21	0.50	3,303,921	1,651,960.50
UAC OF NIGERIA PLC	79	54.80	646,593	35,539,625.97
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	118	25.00	3,595,957	89,173,987.42
SECTOR TOTALS	271		10,281,801	219,378,471.03
CONSTRUCTION				
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	69	7.84	611,571	4,703,224.27
JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC	24	57.00	85,569	4,783,065.29
MULTIVERSE RES. PLC	4	0.50	510,722	255,361.00
SECTOR TOTALS	97		1,207,862	9,741,650.56
ENGINEERING TECH.				
CUTIX PLC	14	3.80	366,436	1,396,616.80
NIG. WIRE AND CABLE PLC	7	1.27	130,870	165,329.55
SECTOR TOTALS	21		497,306	1,561,946.35
FOOD/BEV. & TOBACCO				
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	10	47.14	19,243	877,355.00
BIG TREAT PLC	8	0.82	462,262	379,244.84
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	134	29.70	2,133,180	63,488,615.27
DANG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	391	23.50	2,278,669	53,768,702.65
DANGOTE SUGAR REF. PLC	94	19.81	1,995,560	39,631,029.48
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	94	69.60	1,439,836	100,769,627.75
HO/WELL FLOUR MILL PLC	34	8.50	771,409	6,572,124.50
NAT. SALT COY NIGERIA PLC	41	9.50	1,731,555	16,459,173.20
NIG. BOTTLING COY PLC	34	35.00	203,222	7,166,145.08
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	55	341.00	141,470	48,738,048.04
N/NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	5	33.58	5,174	165,102.34
TANTALIZERS PLC	22	0.94	666,489	640,393.50
UTC NIGERIA PLC	5	1.45	211,113	306,113.85
SECTOR TOTALS	927		12,059,182	338,961,675.50
HEALTHCARE				
EKOCORP PLC	1	5.58	439	2,331.09

GAINERS

OANDO	35.14
CAP	1.63
WAPCO	0.95
UPL	0.36

LOSERS

CONOIL	2.62
NBC	1.50
CADBURY	1.10
BCC	0.75

What is Beta?

A measurement of the relationship between the price of a stock and the movement of the whole market.

Google

EVANS MEDICAL PLC.	13	1.63	263,119	428,883.97
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	30	3.33	480,479	1,588,055.07
GLAXOS. CONSU. NIG. PLC	13	29.00	20,343	589,947.00
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	16	7.22	109,414	756,432.04
NEIMETH INT. PHARM. PLC	3	3.08	5,192	15,212.56
UN/DIAG. & CLIN. SERV. PLC	31	0.70	3,421,108	2,401,375.60
SECTOR TOTALS	111		4,700,091	5,782,237.33
INDUSTRIAL/DOM. PROD				
B. O. C. GASES NIGERIA PLC	2	10.20	111,096	1,127,520.24
FIRST ALUM. NIGERIA PLC	4	0.50	100,000	50,000.00
VITAFOAM NIGERIA PLC	19	6.72	260,824	1,747,114.10
VONO PRODUCTS PLC	1	0.50	50,000	25,000.00
SECTOR TOTALS	26		521,920	2,949,634.34
INF. & COMM. TECHN.				
CHAMS PLC	16	0.76	5,220,743	3,875,853.68
MASS TEL. INNOV. NIG. PLC	1	0.50	15,000,000	7,500,000.00
STARCOMMS PLC	20	2.25	844,800	1,878,862.75
SECTOR TOTALS	37		21,065,543	13,254,716.43
INSURANCE				
AIICO INSURANCE PLC.	79	1.30	7,213,957	9,627,163.71
CONTINENTAL REINS. PLC	20	1.24	4,252,537	5,236,381.34
CORNERSTONE INS. CO. PLC	23	0.76	1,670,127	1,270,159.58
CUST/ALLIED INSUR. PLC	43	3.43	7,709,710	27,006,831.00
EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC	1	0.50	40,000	20,000.00
GREAT NIGERIA INS. COY PLC	2	0.50	5,000	2,500.00
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	21	0.70	1,514,767	1,072,929.91
GUARANTY TRUST ASS. PLC	61	2.45	11,543,154	28,192,306.32
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC.	5	0.50	626,458	313,229.00
CONS. HALLMARK INS. PLC	3	0.50	147,469	73,734.50
INT. ENERGY INS. COY PLC	34	0.56	2,465,009	1,369,840.75
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC.	28	0.50	2,775,000	1,387,500.00
LAW UNION/ROCK INS. PLC	2	0.65	7,100	4,615.00
MUTUAL BEN. ASS. PLC	33	0.50	2,124,450	1,066,190.00
N.E.M. INS. CO. (NIG.) PLC	41	0.61	1,197,866	743,935.25
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC	20	1.14	963,236	1,098,787.07
OASIS INSURANCE PLC	2	0.74	44,500	31,595.00
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	5	4.00	49,657	198,628.00
SOVEREIGN TRUST INS. PLC	1	0.50	6,700	3,350.00
STACO INSURANCE PLC	11	0.50	161,450	80,725.00
STAND. ALLIANCE INS. PLC	3	0.51	125,000	63,750.00
UNI. INSURANCE PLC.	20	0.76	1,907,426	1,437,705.48
UNITY KAPITAL ASS. PLC	4	0.60	120,000	68,400.00
UNIVERSAL INS. COY PLC	3	0.50	90,740	45,370.00
INTERC. WAPIC INS. PLC	7	0.67	188,500	126,295.00
SECTOR TOTALS	472		46,949,813	80,541,921.91
MARITIME				
JAP/OIL & MAR. SERV. PLC	201	1.93	6,687,139	12,877,884.95
SECTOR TOTALS	201		6,687,139	12,877,884.95
MORTGAGE COMPANIES				
ASO SAVINGS/LOANS PLC	40	0.52	12,302,000	6,173,452.00
RES. SAVINGS/LOANS PLC	3	0.50	314,500	157,250.00
UN/HOMES SAV/LOANS PLC	32	0.88	2,224,862	1,819,505.20
SECTOR TOTALS	75		14,841,362	8,150,207.20
OTHER FINANCIAL INST.				
CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC.	17	0.92	2,889,889	2,659,957.88
DEAP CAP. MAN/TRUST PLC	1	2.02	7,500	15,150.00
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	3	0.80	176,100	140,880.00
SECTOR TOTALS	21		3,073,489	2,815,987.88
PACKAGING				
NIG. BAG MAN. COY PLC	4,136	3.23	6,200,833	20,130,446.46
NAMPAK NIGERIA PLC	5	5.71	9,000	49,950.00
SECTOR TOTALS	4,141		6,209,833	20,180,396.46
PETROLEUM (MARKETING)				
AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC	51	40.02	112,931	4,509,377.49
BECO PETROL. PROD. PLC	16	1.27	401,667	532,823.69
MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC	5	76.93	6,681	539,624.37
CONOIL PLC	28	49.86	164,244	8,198,022.16
ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC	25	7.76	306,880	2,368,895.00
MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC	20	150.90	30,704	4,864,741.76
OANDO PLC	221	117.80	7,862,616	935,310,849.41
TOTAL NIGERIA PLC	35	242.00	76,311	18,253,663.47
SECTOR TOTALS	401		8,962,034	974,577,997.35
PRINTING & PUBLISHING				
LONGMAN NIGERIA PLC	20	8.50	342,313	2,937,287.05
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC	21	7.57	1,312,760	9,537,734.40
SECTOR TOTALS	41		1,655,073	12,475,021.45
REAL ESTATE				
UACN PROP. DEV. CO. PLC	22	21.52	47,342	1,027,984.40
SECTOR TOTALS	22		47,342	1,027,984.40
REAL ESTATE INV. TRUST				
SKYE SHELTER FUND	1	100.00	300	30,000.00
SECTOR TOTALS	1		300	30,000.00
ROAD TRANSPORTATION				
ASSOCIATED BUS COY PLC	19	0.91	674,052	613,387.32
SECTOR TOTALS	19		674,052	613,387.32
THE FOREIGN LISTINGS				
ECOBANK TRANS. INCORP.	25	18.21	229,984	4,145,184.60
SECTOR TOTALS	25		229,984	4,145,184.60
OVERALL TOTALS	11,133		316,343,498	3,363,930,204.28

DIGEST

Life may begin at 40, but the fun really starts at 50

REACHING the age of 50 is something of a milestone and, for most us, it's not a terribly appealing one.

Our youth is a long way behind us and ahead lies the uncertain prospect of retirement and old age.

But there's a group of scientists who say we should be looking forward to 50.

Rather than marking the beginning of the end, our half-century heralds the start of our best years.

Free of the stresses of forging a career, finding a spouse and bringing up young children, our worries fade and feelings of happiness start to surge.

We also enjoy life more and begin to become more content.

If that weren't enough, things continue to get better with each decade, dispelling the myth of grumpy old men and women. Men, incidentally, are more cheerful than women throughout life.

The researchers asked 340,000 American men and women aged between 18 and 85 how contented they were with their life. They were also asked how often they experienced specific emotions such as happiness, enjoyment, stress and worry.

Levels of stress and anger dip from our early 20s and continue to decline throughout life. Worry, however, continues to be a problem until our 50s, when it begins tail off.



U2 singer Bono (right) who reached 50 earlier this month should, according to the research, be feeling greater levels of contentment while those sentiments may be building with George Clooney who at the age of 49 still has a year to go

Happiness and enjoyment begin to rise at a similar age and are still on the up at 85 - the oldest age studied.

The researchers, from Stony Brook University, New York State, say that age brings with it wisdom and the ability to be in tune with our feelings.

Studies have shown that older people are

also better at screening out negatives and focusing on the good.

The may also be better at reining in their temper and savouring enjoyable experiences.

Other researchers have claimed that improvements in healthcare, education and life expectancy have made the mid-life

crisis at thing of the past.

Life does not begin at 40, they say, instead a second one begins.

Improvements in healthcare, education and life expectancy mean 'wobbles' around the age of 40 are now less likely, psychologists claimed last month. By that time, most will have married, bought a home and chosen a career. With those difficult decisions behind them, they are then free to start enjoying life and learn from their mistakes. Dr Carlo Strenger, of Israel's Tel Aviv University, said: 'If you make fruitful use of what you have discovered about yourself in the first half of your life, the second half can be the most fulfilling.'

'Most people can anticipate a second life, if not a second career.'

Dr Strenger said anyone not convinced need only look at the life of Elliott Jaques, the psychoanalyst who coined the term mid-life crisis in 1965 at the age of 48.

Between then and his death aged 86 in 2003, he got married, wrote 12 books, acted as a consultant to the Church of England and the U.S. Army and produced some of his most original ideas.

Psychologist Dr Arthur Stone, of Stony Brook University, said the results support earlier research.

Older people are better able to view their life circumstances positively and are less likely to remember bad experiences.

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

One in four fathers get the baby blues too, say researchers



MENTAL health experts say although postnatal depression in man is not hormonal, it is surprisingly common and brought about by the unique pressures of fatherhood

MEN are as likely as women to suffer from postnatal depression, a study shows.

One in ten fathers - the same ratio as mothers - were found to suffer before or after birth.

By the time their child reaches 12 weeks, as many as one in four are feeling down.

The symptoms observed in the American study are not thought to be hormonal - as they are in women - and are instead probably a response to the pressures of fatherhood.

These include the expense of having children, changed relationships with partners and fear of paternal responsibility.

In the early weeks, the lack of sleep and extra domestic chores also take their toll, say mental health experts.

The study put the overall rate of depression among new fathers at 10.4 per cent - double the estimated 4.8 per cent for all men in any 12-month period.

Around 8 per cent were affected in the 12 weeks before and after birth, according to the Eastern Virginia Medical School research.

The team, led by James Paulson, reviewed 43 studies involving 28,000 people. They found parents were more likely to be down if their partner was too.

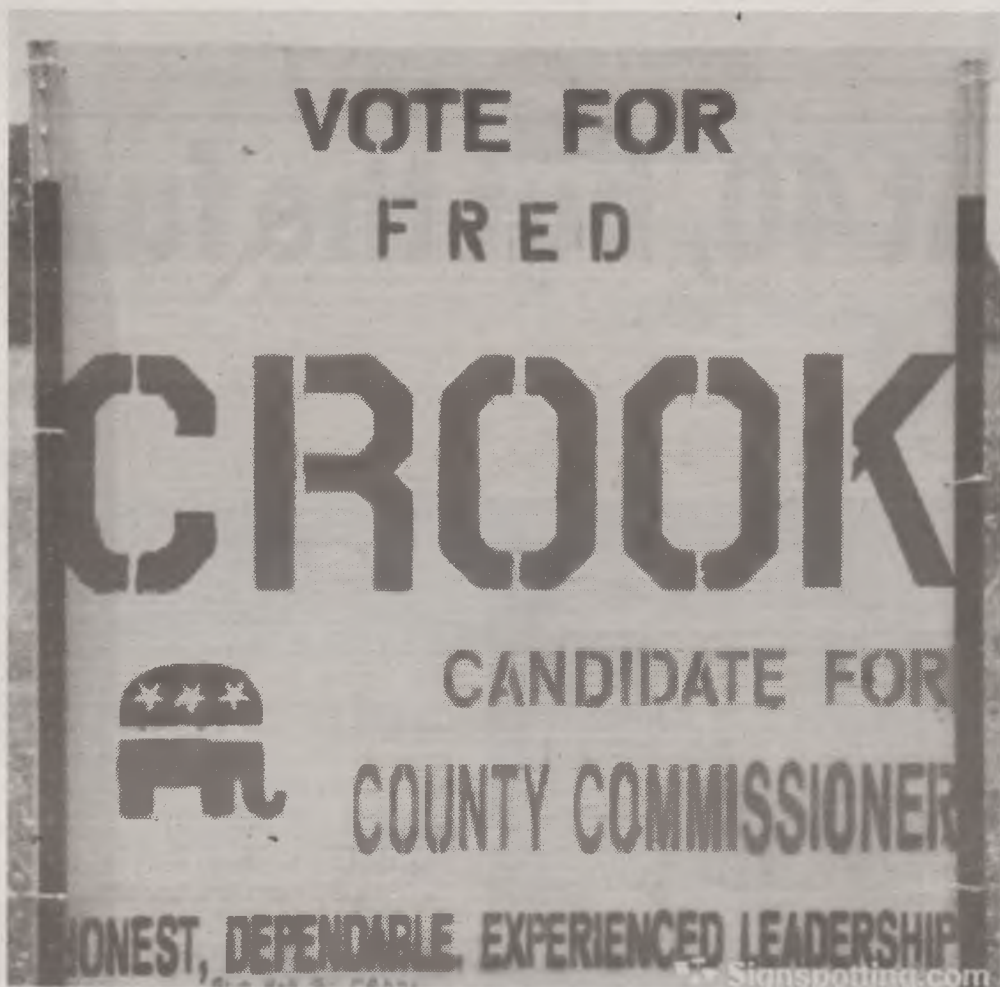
It is estimated around one in ten women suffers postnatal depression, even if they have never had mental health problems. Without treatment the condition can last for months.

Although most women have a few days of 'baby blues' shortly after birth, postnatal depression can kick in up to six months later.

Dr Paulson said paternal depression was serious because it can have 'substantial emotional, behavioural and developmental effects on children.'

The study was reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Sign Language

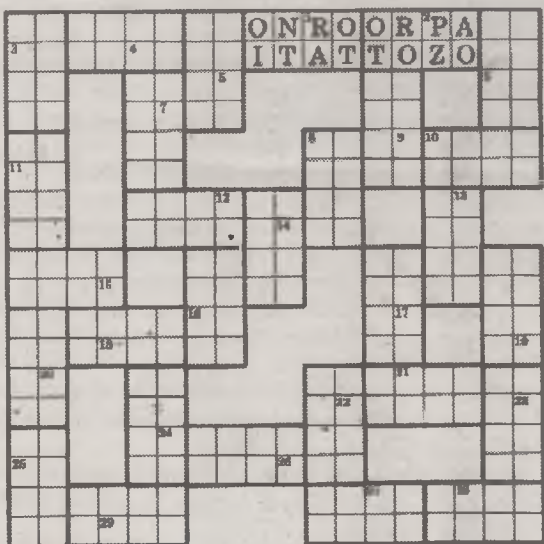


Vote for Mr. Crook. He's not a CROOK.
Photo location: Campbell, USA, by John Morris
Culled from www.signspotting.com

WORD DOMINOES

The object of Word Dominoes is to write the answers to the definitions in the diagram so that wherever two boxes meet, the letters in those boxes will match just like in the game of dominoes. Each of the answers is eight letters long, starts in the numbered box, and will be entered in either a clockwise or counterclockwise direction. We've filled in two answers as an example of how words are filled into two adjacent dominoes. You may discover that, at times, you will not be able to figure out the answer to a definition, but entering letters from adjacent dominoes will help you ascertain the word.

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Planet's movement | 11. Important thing | 21. Without blemish |
| 2. One-celled animals | 12. Chilly month | 22. Motown's locale |
| 3. Swamp; morass | 13. Propose | 23. Noisy-toy item |
| 4. Monthly read | 14. TV staples | 24. Dundee's home |
| 5. Frontier figures | 15. New wing, perhaps | 25. Memento |
| 6. Place to fix a flat | 16. Loyal display | 26. Big, showy flower |
| 7. Keep in mind | 17. Oz resident | 27. Reached (targets) |
| 8. Delectable | 18. Like many crafts | 28. Got back together |
| 9. Dish site? | 19. "It's all --!" | 29. Some footstools |
| 10. Fruit-salad chunk | 20. Purebred's record | |



SOLUTION TO SECTION SIXES

1. pamper, 2. league; 3. dazzle;
4. finsih; 5. crunch; 6. swivel.

SUDOKU

The Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 square grid made up of smaller 3x3 square grids (regions). The numbers already present within the puzzle are "given"- these are there to start you off. The aim is to complete the puzzle by filling the empty cells. Every digit from 1-9 needs to fit in each row, column and region of 9 squares. Each row, column and region must contain just one instance of each number, 1-9.

154

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

Solution to Sudoku 153

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



Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA)



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) seeks to engage the services of suitable candidates for the following vacant positions:

CODE	POSITION	QUALIFICATIONS	EXPERIENCE
ADM/001	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER II GL. 08	A Degree in any of the Disciplines in Social Sciences or Humanities	Must have completed the National Youth Service
ADM/002	ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER I GL. 09	A Degree in any of the Disciplines in Social Sciences or Humanities	NYSC and at least three (3) years post qualification cognate experience
STC/003	STATE COUNSEL GL. 09	L.L.B, B.L	Must have completed the National Youth Service
STC/004	SNR STATE COUNSEL GL. 10	L.L.B, B.L	NYSC and one year post-call cognate experience
STC/005	PRIN. STATE COUNSEL GL. 12	L.L.B, B.L	NYSC and four years post-call cognate experience
STC/006	ASST CHIEF STATE COUNSEL GL. 13	L.L.B, B.L	NYSC and seven years post-call cognate experience
TPO/007	TOWN PLANNING OFFICER II GL. 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A degree in Urban and Regional Planning or Town Planning A pass in the final examinations of the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners 	Must have completed the National Youth Service
TPO/008	TOWN PLANNING OFFICER I GL. 09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A professional Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning or Town Planning from a recognized Institution (not equivalent to HND Certificate) 	NYSC and two years cognate experience
TPO/009	SNR TOWN PLANNING OFFICER GL. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters Degree in Urban and Regional Planning will be an added advantage. 	NYSC and five years cognate experience
TPO/010	PRIN. TOWN PLANNING OFFICER GL. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any of the qualifications specified above plus registration with the Town Planners Registration Council of Nigeria 	NYSC and eight years cognate experience
TPO/011	ASST. CHIEF TOWN PLANNING OFFICER GL. 13		NYSC and eleven years cognate experience
TPO/012	CHIEF TOWN PLANNING OFFICER GL. 14		NYSC and fourteen years cognate experience
ARC/013	ARCHITECT GL. 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> B.Sc Architecture obtained from a University recognized by the Architect Registration Council of Nigeria A pass in the Final I Examination of the Nigerian Institute of Architects A pass in the Final I Exam of the Royal Institute of British Architects 	Must have completed the National Youth Service
QTS/014	QUANTITY SURVEYOR GL. 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A degree in Quantity Surveying from a recognized University A pass in final exam of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors A pass in the final exam of the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors 	Must have completed the National Youth Service
STA/015	STATISTICIAN GL. 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A degree in Statistics from a recognized University A degree from a recognized university in Social Science or Mathematics plus a postgraduate Diploma in Statistics A pass in the final exam of the Institute of Statisticians 	Must have completed the National Youth Service

CODE	POSITION	QUALIFICATIONS	EXPERIENCE
STE/016	STRUCTURAL ENGINEER GL. 08	B. Engineering/B. Tech Structural Engineering from a recognized University or equivalent qualification registrable with the Council of Registered Engineers of Nigeria (COREN)	Must have completed the National Youth Service. Should have knowledge of Auto-cad.
MEC/017	MECHANICAL ENGINEER GL. 08	B. Engineering (Mechanical) or related field registrable with the Council of Registered Engineers of Nigeria	Must have completed the National Youth Service. Should have knowledge of Auto-cad
EXO/018	EXECUTIVE OFFICER GL. 07	HND in Business Administration/Studies or Public Administration from a recognized Institution	Must have completed the National Youth Service
PRA/019	PROGRAMME ANALYST GL. 08 - 09	B.Sc Computer Science or Statistics with a post-graduate Diploma in Computer Science from a recognized University	Must have completed the National Youth Service plus at least (3) years post qualification cognate experience
DPO/020	DATA PROCESSING OFFICER GL. 07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OND Computer Studies or Data Processing from a recognized Institution HND in Data Processing or Computer Science from a recognized Institution 	At least two (2) years post qualification cognate experience Must have completed the National Youth Service
SNL/021	SENIOR LIBRARIAN GL. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A degree from a recognized University plus a post-graduate diploma in Library studies A degree in Library Studies Associate ship or Fellowship of a recognized Institute of Librarians 	Must have completed the National Youth Service plus at least (6) years post qualification cognate experience. Should have good knowledge of virtual/e-library service
SNA/022	SENIOR ARCHIVIST GL. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A degree in History, Economics, Business Administration, Law, Social Science or Geography from a recognized University Possession of a Masters degree in any of the disciplines specified above is an added advantage 	Must have completed the National Youth Service plus at least (6) years post qualification cognate experience. Should have good knowledge of IT
TOC/023	TECHNICAL OFFICER (CARTOGRAPHY) GL. 07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OND in Cartography or any other relevant subject obtained from a recognized Institution Full Technology Certificate (Craft) of the City and Guild of London Institute in a relevant subject 	At least two (2) years post qualification cognate experience
COS/024	CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY GL. 08	HND in Secretarial Studies plus 120/60 WPM in short hand and typewriting from a recognized Institution	NYSC and three years cognate experience

REMUNERATION

The salaries and benefits are as obtainable in the Federal Civil Service of the Federation.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested qualified applicants should forward their applications with a detailed Curriculum Vitae and photocopies of credentials to:

The Director
 Department of Establishment & Training
 Room 019, Minister's Block
 FCTA Secretariat
 2, Kapital Road, Area 11, Garki
 Abuja

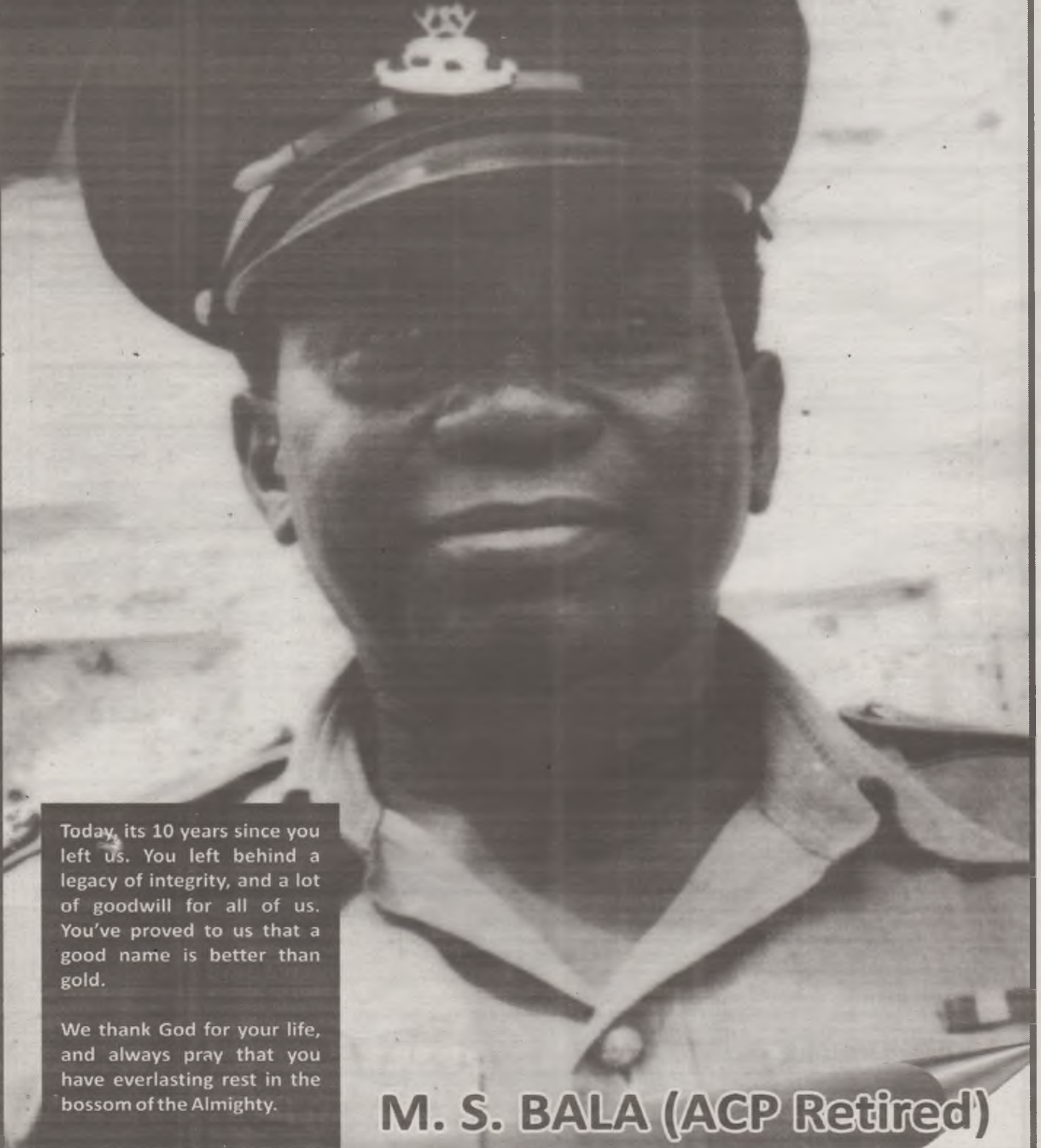
NOTE:

The code for the post applied for should be indicated at the top left corner of the envelop.

Applications that are not in compliance with the requested information shall automatically be disqualified. Applications must be submitted on or before 1st July 2010. This vacancy announcement can also be found on www.fct.gov.ng.

ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED

In Loving Memory of



Today, its 10 years since you left us. You left behind a legacy of integrity, and a lot of goodwill for all of us. You've proved to us that a good name is better than gold.

We thank God for your life, and always pray that you have everlasting rest in the bosom of the Almighty.

M. S. BALA (ACP Retired)

FONDLY REMEMBERED BY:

Mrs Nuala Doka Bala - Wife
Mr George Bala - Son
Mr Alexander Bala - Son

Dr. Julius Bala - Son
Mr Richard Bala - Son
Mr Emmanuel Bala - Son

Brigadier General Sale Bala - Son
Mrs Celestina Anzaku - Daughter

As well as other Children, Grand Children and Great Grand Children.

Dr. Julius J. Bala (For the Family)

News Extra

BBC forced to apologise over 'Queen is dead' joke

The BBC was forced to apologise Monday after a radio DJ joked live on air that the Queen had died, in the latest bad taste scandal to engulf the corporation.

Danny Kelly, 39, began playing the national anthem and sombrely told up to a quarter of a million listeners he had an important announcement to make. The former car salesman then said: 'Queen Elizabeth II has now died.'

The DJ had been half-way through his two-hour afternoon show on the local BBC WM station which broadcasts to the West Midlands from Birmingham, when he made the announcement.

Within seconds of him making the tasteless remark, producer Mark Newman jumped in, telling him 'You can't say that.'

Liverpudlian Kelly, who has been in local radio for ten years, then clarified that he had been referring to a follower on his show's Facebook page who went by the name but had recently dropped off the list of fans of the show.

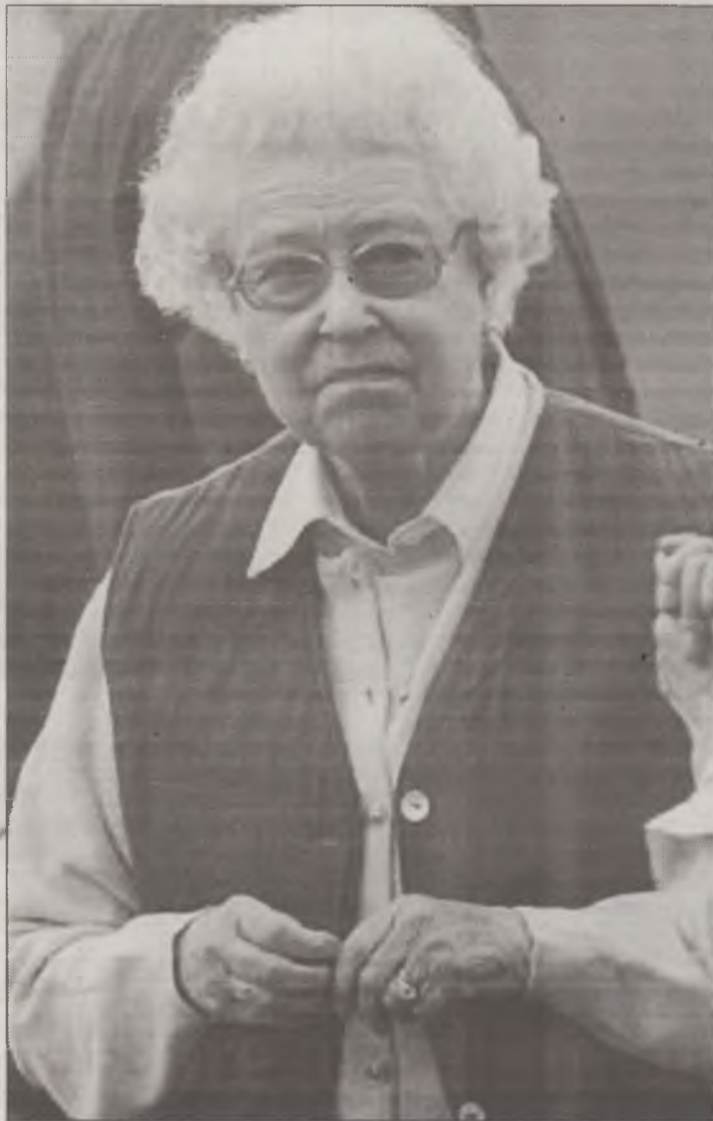
The show is usually available to hear again on the BBC's iPlayer service within an hour of going off air at 4pm. But Monday night, as media watchdogs and royal expert Charlie Jacoby united in condemnation of the DJ, the recording of the show remained unavailable online.

Vivianne Patterson, chairman of radio and television watchdog Mediawatch, said Kelly's remark was 'incredibly ill-conceived' and added: 'It's a bit sick actually.'

'I think because it's the Queen and they treated it like a big announcement it makes things worse.'

'It's the BBC we are talking about here and there's a certain expectation from them.'

'The use of the national anthem is a problem here as well



APOLOGY: Danny Kelly announced that the Queen, shown here at The Royal Windsor Horse Show over the weekend, was dead

- I really think it's pushing things.'

Mr Jacoby said it was an 'absolutely ludicrous' thing to say on air. He added: 'It runs the risk of upsetting a lot of people.'

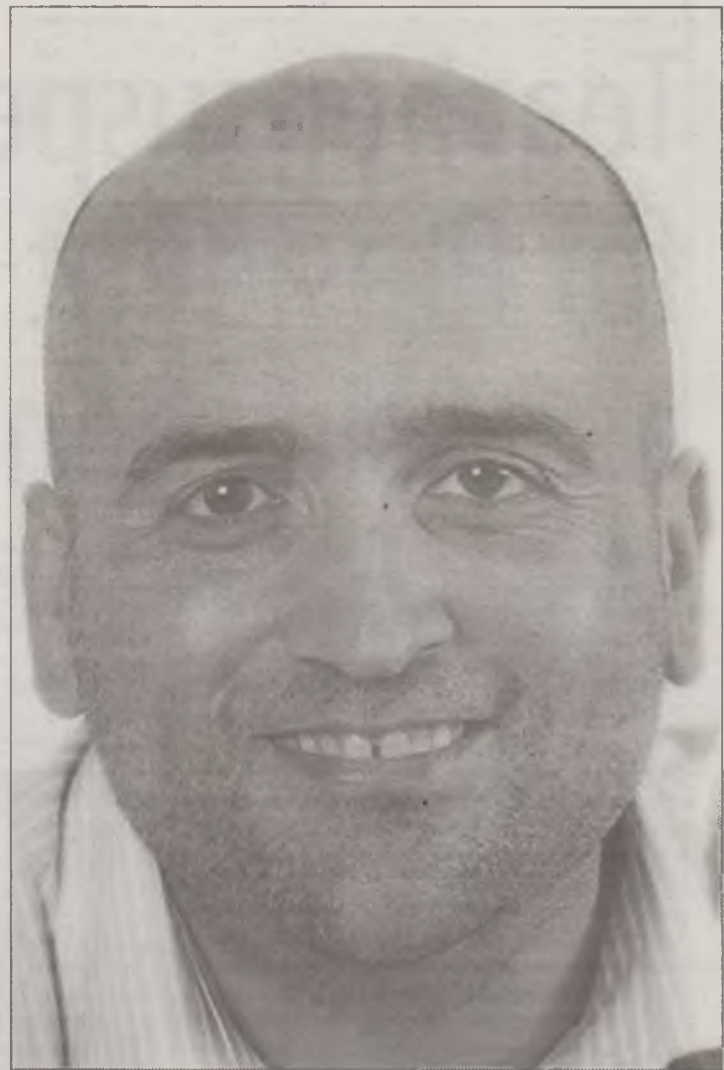
'It shows not just a lack of respect for the royal family but also for his listeners, which is probably a worse crime in many ways.'

'Some of them will have had the shock of their lives at hearing this.'

'I'm sure it's something that will enter into popular culture alongside Ronald Reagan announcing the invasion of Russia, but at least he thought he was off air at the time.'

'It sounds like it was a foolish thing to say and I'm sure it's a stunt that will backfire on this particular radio presenter.'

The incident follows the 'Sachsgate' scandal when obscene calls by Jonathan Ross and Russell



DANNY Kelly

Brand to former Fawcety Towers star Andrew Sachs were broadcast to millions of Radio 2 listeners in October 2008.

Comedian Frankie Boyle also attracted criticism for making bad taste jokes about the Queen and Olympic swimming champion Rebecca Adlington on the BBC2 satirical show *Mock the Week*.

Danny Kelly - no relation to the Talksport DJ and sports presenter of the same name - is a fully qualified chef who worked in New York and Spain before moving into second hand car sales.

He retrained as a journalist in

show on BBC WM Monday.

Although made as part of a light-hearted piece about social media friends, and corrected on air immediately after it was made, this comment was entirely inappropriate and the BBC apologises unreservedly for it. There was no intention to offend.

'BBC WM takes these comments very seriously. Action is being taken.'

A spokesman for Buckingham Palace and the Queen on Monday declined to speak about the comments. Ofcom said it had not received any complaints about the joke.

Tonight Kelly's producer Mr

“ Buckingham Palace and the Queen on Monday declined to speak about the comments

the 1990s, starting as a reporter on BBC Radio Coventry before joining WM. He has presented a variety of shows on the station.

His page on the BBC website says that when he is at the microphone 'You never know what will happen next, but it's guaranteed to put a smile on your face.'

A BBC spokesman said: 'We can confirm that Danny Kelly made an inappropriate remark about the Queen during his radio

Newman said neither he or the DJ would be saying anything about the comment.

Latest audience figures for the station show that it attracts 243,000 listeners on average, giving it a 6.9 per cent market share in the West Midlands.

The programme was posted on the iPlayer service Monday night, including the section about the Queen.

News Extra

Teacher suspended for President Obama assassination lesson

A teacher who used the hypothetical assassination of President Barack Obama to help his students understand geometry has been questioned by the U.S. Secret Service.

the example of where an assassin would stand to get the best shot at killing the president.

He pointed out the best angles a shooter would use to hit the target and explained the use of parallel lines, they said.

Joseph Brown, who was in Mr

methods but has decided not to file charges.

Spokesman Roy Sexton said: 'We did not find a credible threat.'

Superintendent Phil Hammonds said the teacher has been placed on paid leave.

'We are going to have a long



HYPOTHETICAL target: A teacher who used the mock killing of Barack Obama so his students understood angles has been questioned by the U.S. Secret Service

Maths teacher Gregory Harrison used the mock killing of Mr Obama so his students could better understand how to use angles, officials said.

Students in his class at Corner High School in Birmingham, Alabama, said Mr Harrison used

Harrison's geometry class, said: 'He was talking about angles and said, "If you're in this building, you would need to take this angle to shoot the president."'

The Secret Service interviewed Mr Harrison after being alerted to the unusual teaching

conversation with him about what's appropriate,' he said.

'It was extremely poor judgment on his part, and a poor choice of words.'

Mr Obama receives almost four times as many death threats as any other U.S. president.



JOHN Shepherd-Barron, cash machine inventor

John Shepherd-Barron, cash machine inventor, dies

The man who invented the first ATM cash machine has died, aged 84, after a short illness. John Shepherd-Barron came up with the concept of a self-service cash dispenser in 1965 while lying in a bath after getting to his bank too late to withdraw money.

The businessman, who worked for the printing firm De La Rue Instruments at the time, said he was inspired by chocolate vending machines and put the idea to the head of Barclays Bank "over a pink gin".

The first automated teller machine (ATM) was installed at a branch in Enfield, London, in 1967, when Reg Varney, one of the stars of the television show *On the Buses*, became the first person to withdraw cash.

It was operated by inserting a special cheque that was matched against a PIN number, and paved the way for machines using plastic cards. There are now nearly two million machines worldwide.

Mr Shepherd-Barron, from Portmahomack, Easter Ross, died in Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, on Saturday.

He did not patent his system and did not make any money from his invention, but was made an OBE in 2005 for his services to banking. He was also presented with a lifetime achievement award by the ATM Industry Association.

Describing his "eureka" moment, he once said: "I remember back in 1965 that I would always take money out of my bank on a Saturday morning. However, one Saturday I was one minute late at my bank and it was closed.

"That night I started thinking that there must be a better way to get cash when I wanted it. I

thought of the chocolate vending machine, where money was put in a slot and a bar dispatched. Surely money could be dispensed in the same way.

"By chance, in 1965, I bumped into the chief general manager of Barclays Bank who was about to have lunch. I said, over a pink gin, 'Give me 90 seconds'.

"I told him I had an idea that if you put your standard Barclays cheque through a slot in the side of the bank, it will deliver standard amounts of money round the clock."

The planned six-digit PIN was later changed to four because the inventor said his wife Caroline could only remember four figures.

Mr Shepherd-Barron became managing director of De La Rue Instruments, which was involved in the printing of more than 140 currencies, as well as stock certificates.

He married Caroline Murray, the daughter of Sir Kenneth, the former chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland, and the couple moved to his Easter Ross estate when he retired. He is survived by his wife, three sons and six grand-children.

James Goodfellow, another Scottish inventor, patented PIN technology and has a rival claim to be the inventor of the ATM. He was a development engineer given the project of developing a cash dispenser in 1965.

His system accepted an encrypted card and a numerical keypad - like the machines in use today - but his machine was tested later than one developed by Mr Shepherd-Barron.

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

News Extra

The moment a bus driver nearly runs over a baby sitting in the middle of a major road

This is the moment a shocked bus driver comes to a screeching halt within inches of a semi-naked baby sitting in the centre of a busy road.

It was just after midnight when Mike Hubbard, on his usual bus route, noticed a mysterious shape wriggling on the road up ahead.

At first he thought the ghostly figure might be a dog, but as he approached, the San Antonio driver realised it was a baby wearing just a nappy.

Mr Hubbard stopped just in time to avoid running over the infant.

'I was definitely in shock,' Mr Hubbard told local news station WOAI-TV.

'From a distance I can't tell exactly what it is. It looks like a dog, something moving around, I can't really tell what it was. I started slowing down and then I noticed it's a baby in the middle of the street.'

After slamming on the brakes, Mr Hubbard immediately jumped out of his seat to investigate.

'To me he looked like he was eight months old with a pampers, just sitting there. I couldn't tell if he was eating something or not.



CLOSE call: Bus driver Mike Hubbard sees something up ahead in the middle of the road and as he gets closer he realises it's a baby

current child custody case.

The lucky baby is in fact a girl, identified as Destiny Flores, now aged two.

The local bus company VIA,

Destiny's mother Catherine Gonzalez, 25, and her husband are now fighting to retain custody of all three daughters.

The couple said they were in

escaped from the house.

'We had the door open, but there's a screen door. I had the lock on it, but I don't know, maybe I didn't put it all the way and she

through tears.

'It was just an accident, that's all it was. It's not like we weren't paying attention, you know. I could have sworn all my kids were



THE VIA bus driver is humble about his quick-thinking actions. He's just thankful that no one was hurt



THE baby has recently been identified as Destiny Flores, who is now aged two



CUSTODY battle: A tearful Catherine Gonzalez tells local news network WOAI-TV that she and her husband had no idea Destiny had escaped from the house

But, his eyes got real big when he saw the big old bus in front of him,' Mr Hubbard said.

Then strangely, as the driver checked to see if the baby was alright, the child's father suddenly emerged, scooped up the infant and ran off.

The horrifying moment was captured by a camera on the dashboard of the bus.

Although the incident happened last May, video footage of the moment has only just emerged for use as evidence in a

which services San Antonio - the second largest city in the U.S. south central state of Texas - reported the incident to child protective services.

the living room when they heard a horn and the loud screeching sound of the bus braking suddenly. Mrs Gonzalez insisted that they had no idea Destiny had

just snuck out. I really can't even tell you,' she told WOAI-TV.

'It was an accident, that's all it was. It could happen to anybody in the world, you know,' she said

in the back watching TV and they were doing fine. It was just the biggest accident and it hurts me.'

But what horrifies Mrs Gonzalez more is thought of what could have happened to her daughter.

Mr Hubbard has been hailed a hero, but the humble bus driver says he is just grateful he was able to stop in time.

Texas child protective services will decide in a few weeks if the girls will be allowed to stay with their parents.

“The couple said they were in the living room when they heard a horn and the loud screeching sound of the bus braking suddenly. Mrs Gonzalez insisted that they had no idea Destiny had escaped from the house

THE HOME FRONT

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How to stop snoring

By Akor Ojoma

MOST people detest sleeping near anyone who snores because it does not only affect the quantity and quality of sleep but also a healthy relationship with your spouse or partner. Poor sleep can lead to daytime fatigue, irritability and increased health problems.

Just about everyone snores occasionally but for some people, it is a problem because they can hardly sleep without snoring. It is also a source of embarrassment to the snorers as siblings, friends, partners and virtually all their loved ones avoid them like plague during night time. The person who snores often becomes isolated and frustrated about a problem they seemingly have no control over. If the snoring is so loud that the bed partner can't sleep, the snorer may end up being banished from the bedroom. Many couples affected by snoring resort to sleeping in separate bedrooms in order to get a good night's sleep. This arrangement may help both people sleep better, but it can disrupt communication and intimacy. Snoring has caused many marital problems and consequent divorce in many families.

According to the website Baptist online .org "Snoring is noisy breathing during sleep. It can happen when you are breathing in or breathing out. It may occur when air cannot flow smoothly through your air passages. Structures in your air passages may then vibrate while you breathe causing some sounds."

Causes

If you want to stop snoring, it is important to consider the cause and severity of your snoring. Identifying the cause can help you choose the right cure. The causes include;

Sleeping on your back - sleeping on your back allows your tongue to fall backward into your throat. Your tongue then partially blocks your throat, making a smaller passage for air.

Having a blockage in your nose - a blockage can occur from allergies, a common cold, or a sinus infection. It can also happen after an injury that changes the shape of your nose or nasal passages.

Allergies can cause enlargement of your adenoids these are tonsil-like tissue at the back of your nose, where the nose joins the upper throat. Enlarged adenoids can cause snoring by blocking your airway and vibrating while



you breathe.

Gaining weight -gaining a large amount of weight can also cause or worsen snoring. The air passages become smaller by the accumulation of fat under the tissue lining the airway and by the increased pressure of a heavy chest on the airways.

Using some types of medicine or alcohol

Using drugs that cause excessive relaxation or sleepiness can also cause snoring. These drugs include alcohol, sleeping pills, antihistamines, and pain medicine especially narcotics. The drugs relax your muscles and cause the tongue to fall backward. Relaxed throat muscles may draw in from the sides and narrow the airway.

Having sleep apnea

The problems that cause snoring can also cause a sometimes dangerous condition called sleep apnea. Having sleep apnea means that you have periods of no breathing, sometimes as long as 30 seconds, when you are sleeping. This can happen many times during the night. It often interrupts your sleep and can prevent you from getting good-quality sleep.

These periods of no breathing cause you to get less oxygen and can sometimes have fatal complications, such as heart rhythm problems. Symptoms of sleep apnea include snoring, being tired all the time, and often falling asleep during the day. If you have these symptoms, you need to see

your doctor promptly.

Treatment

If there is an obvious cause of the snoring, then treating the cause often helps reduce the snoring. Possible solutions include:

One simple remedy is to elevate your head with pillows or raise the head of your bed several inches. This reduces the chances of the throat muscle completely blocking your air passages when they relax in sleep. Sleep on your side, not on your back, which causes your tongue and soft palate to fall back, narrowing the airway.

Losing weight

Using medicine to unclog your nasal passages

Having no alcohol before bedtime.

Sometimes raising the head of the bed or mattress can help prevent snoring. This should be done by making the top of the mattress or bed frame higher than the foot of the bed. Do not use more pillows, which can kink your airway and cause more breathing problems.

Simple non-prescription devices called nasal strips are available at pharmacies. A nasal strip is a piece of plastic that puts slight pressure on the bridge of the nose and is held in place by an adhesive tape. It helps keep your nasal passages open during sleep. Many people find nasal strips helpful, but they are relatively expensive because a new strip must be used each night. They might be a solu-

tion for special occasions.

If you have a problem with snoring and you feel tired when you wake up every morning, you may need to be checked for sleep apnea. If you do have sleep apnea, you may need additional medical treatment.

Josh Riverside of ezinearticles website said there are over-the-counter snoring remedies available, including anti-snoring pills, throat sprays, and nasal strips.

"Anti-snoring pills contain natural plant enzymes and herbs that are said to prevent throat and nose tissue from swelling, resulting in a more open and smoother airflow that helps reduce snoring. Throat sprays coat the soft tissues of the throat allowing the air to move more freely and lessening the noisy vibration. Nasal strips are drug-free, non-prescription devices that work mechanically to keep your nose open and make breathing easier."

How long the snoring problem lasts depends on the reason for the snoring. If the cause is temporary, such as seasonal allergies or drinking alcohol, there will be periods of time when you do not snore. If, however, it is due to the shape of your nose or throat, it may be a permanent problem unless it can be fixed surgically. If you can uncover the cause of your snoring, you should be able to find a cure that is right for you. Your doctor can also help with the best treatment after ascertaining the cause.



Why you must protect your skin in hot climates

By Romoke W. Ahmad

FOR some months now, the weather has been terribly hot causing scientists to warn people to stay away from the sun or protect themselves if they must walk under the sun so as to avoid damage to their skin. Despite the warning however, people still do not heed to the advice. They seem to neglect totally whatever harm the sun might cause their skin.

According to Miss AB Ede a cosmetologist many people consider themselves blessed if they live in a warm, sunny climate or if they can afford to go to a hot country on vacation once in a while and rightly so.

However, damage to the skin is caused by those determined to get a deep tan (the practice of exposing ones skin to ultraviolet light, especially from the sun) or those who underestimate the sun's strength.

While some people are aware of the dangers of exposing skin to the sun and the damage caused by burning and tanning majority are not aware of this problem especially people in this part of the world.

Generally, people living in very hot climates are advised to stay out of the sun during the hottest times of the day by staying indoors or by observing their

siesta during this time because of the risk of dehydrating or getting burnt.

"Despite the dangers of damaging the skin by basking in the sun, many people still consider it ideal to have a sun tanned body, or reason that a tanning bed is a healthier option than lying in the sun. However, no sun tan is a healthy tan. Tanning beds are not a healthy substitute, since twenty minutes on a tanning bed is the equivalent of approximately five hours in the sun," she said.

Although, sun tanning according to her is not common among black people, but because of the hot nature of our weather and the issue of climate change if ones skin is not well protected it may contribute to premature aging; UVA rays can also cause melanoma, a serious form of skin cancer.

Melanoma is characterized by the uncontrolled growth of pigment producing cells and can develop on an existing mole or may appear on the skin suddenly, without warning.

Steps to avoid skin burn

Sun screen is most important to protect skin during harsh weather conditions. If you enjoy being out in the sun but do not want to burn, there are a few steps you can take to enjoy the time in the sun without damaging your skin.

Always wear a waterproof sun

screen and apply it every couple of hours, wear a nice big hat to shade your head, face and shoulders and sun glasses to help alleviate that nasty glare of a bright sun.

Relax under shade, when you are sitting out with friends and family chatting, eating or lounging by the pool or park ensures to sit at a table with a sun shade or on a covered patio. You still get to spend time with your loved ones while staying shaded and protecting your skin. The air will be cooler and you will not sweat near as much.

Keep your skin hydrated, during hot weather your body can easily get dehydrated. Drinks lots and lots of cold water to keep your body cool and your skin hydrated. The more water in your system, the less you will lose.

"You only have one skin, protect it to keep it beautiful for life, you may want to tan or it may be mandatory for you to work under sun.

Although, tanning may look great or you may feel staying in the sun doesn't have immediate effect on you; but if you continue to stay long under harsh weather, it will cause wrinkles and leathery skin later in life. If you are going to tan or stay under sun, do so slowly using a sun screen instead of letting the sun bake you and damage your skin," she said.

FRAGMENTS

By Safiya I. Dantiye
safiadantiye@yahoo.com

Yarima's marriage and the grand hypocrisy of our time (II)

ONE woman said: "Which country has the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in Europe? Why should we criticize them, since our thirteen-year old daughters are having sex. My 42-year old friend told me that her thirteen-year old daughter is having a greater sex life, than her".

Furthermore, it is the same UK that wants to allow 11-YEAR OLD GIRLS to have the right of buying contraceptive pills on their own. Imagine, this great civilized country that many countries look up to, giving a license for 11-YEAR OLD GIRLS to have sexual intercourse.

We are not unaware of sexual freedom that has permeated some Nigerian cultures, and how it is no longer a shameful thing for a young girl to move into a man's house. Nobody, least of all, Muslims criticize them. My friend who lived in one of those places was shocked to find a secondary school girl staying with her male neighbor. She went to school from there, and visited her parents at times. This seems alright, as you can never find any women group trying to salvage such a teenage girl. That is unless of course it is a legal marriage by a Muslim, then you hear all kinds of provocative criticism against Islam and Muslims.

Somebody observed that Islam is the only thorn in the flesh of the West, because it holds on to its tenets, while the West is already consumed in Godlessness and wants to subsume Islam, which it sees as a challenge. Then Muslims will become like them, they will discard their faith and embrace homosexuality, lesbianism and so on.

That is why Muslims, especially women, should be careful with the type of NGOs they get involved with, else they will fall into the trap of undermining Islam and their cultural values. A young reporter told me that one Muslim man who worked for an NGO in Kano said in a workshop that they should promote the rights of homosexuals, by bringing it into the open like they do in the Western world. What type of Muslim is this, certainly, this has gone beyond Musulmiya. I am at a loss for a name for such a Muslim, since homosexuality is a great sin in the sight of God, and for him to advocate the promotion of it.

And some so-called Muslim groups frown every time people criticize indecent dressing among women, especially as the cause of rape in some cases. They flair up and say women are free to dress as they please and the men should not look at them. What type of Muslims, especially women would come to the defense of indecent dressing, for God's sake? Well these are the types that are called Western agents, they are 'recruited' to systematically dismantle Islamic norms, and some that are none the wiser may believe them and before you know it, sun dulmiya, (they have been brainwashed).

With the way things are going, if Muslims don't hold steadfastly to their faith, one day they may be made to question why they should pray five times a day or why they should fast. Or maybe it will become old fashioned or against an ACT in Nigeria to do so. Well may be, it is already happening, after all while none Muslims provoke Muslims and Islam in matters that they know nothing about, some Muslims are kind of being apologetic for being Muslims! It is like they are ashamed of being Muslims and therefore not civilized enough in accordance to the Western World's non Islamic 'doctrine'.

This has made me to think of the scandal that is presently rocking the Christian 'World', though some may say, it is only Catholics, but they are still Christians as far as people are concerned. This is where the Priests that are supposed to practice celibacy sexually abuse children for centuries, but you hardly hear anything against it, even from the Christians, much less Muslims that usually mind their own business and practice their religion. But you can imagine the furore the Nigerian media would have been caught in, if the sex abuse had been committed by Islamic scholars. Oh, they would have a field day, abusing Muslims, Islam and Prophet Muhammad.

As such, people should please mind their own business and religious belief and let others be, as for some Muslims that question the practice of the Prophet in order for non Muslims to like and accept them, it is between them and God. This issue has once again emphasized the contradictions and hypocrisy in our society and the world at large. For instance, why shouldn't the CHILD'S RIGHTS ACT prohibit sexual intercourse for teenage girls, instead of only prohibiting marriage, since as we all know unmarried teenage girls of thirteen or less are having sex in Nigeria, with advocates trying to give them SAFER SEX. Muslims should not allow their lives and the practice of their religion to be dictated by non Muslims and other anti Islamic agents among Muslims. Muslims should strive only to please God only, but not anybody, least of all those intent on undermining Islam. Not for a million dollars.

Concluded

Health interactive

Write in confidence to healthinteractive@hotmail.com; www.healthinteractive.wordpress.com or send a text message to 080-89972539 or P.O.Box 14807, Kano, Nigeria

Advice by Dr Aminu Magashi

Male contraception

I want to know if there is a male contraceptive agent or pill and where one will get such.

Aminu

Contraception is normally aimed at helping women prevent unwanted pregnancy. Not much has been done in the past to develop products that men can use for pregnancy prevention. However, efforts are geared towards having a pill or injection for men.

Below are some of the options.

1. Condoms are the most common form of male contraception. If condom is used correctly, regularly and consistently, it has over 90% chance of preventing pregnancy.

2. A vasectomy is typically an in-patient surgical procedure that prevents sperm from traveling out of the testes. The procedure provides a permanent solution for protection against pregnancy. A vasectomy is about 99 percent effective as a form of contraception. A vasectomy is not an immediate solution for pregnancy prevention. Sperm count decreases gradually instead of all at once, so another form of birth control should be used for at least three months following the procedure. After the three-month period, a doctor tests a sample of semen to make sure that no sperm is present before you can rely on it for contraception.

Male Contraceptive Pill. A male contraceptive pill isn't available on the market yet, but it's in the works. The pill would contain a dose of testosterone and taken consistently will significantly reduce sperm count as long as the pill is taken consistently.

3. Testosterone-Based Injections. Not yet also in the market. Contraceptive injections are also being tested. Test results show that the shots successfully lower sperm count in participants

What is congestive heart failure?

Recently I was with Congestive Heart Failure. Please I need detailed information about the disease, its symptoms and treatment options.

Bash

Congestive heart failure (CHF) is a condition in which the heart's function as a pump to deliver oxygen rich blood to the body is inadequate to meet the body's needs. Congestive heart failure can be caused by:

1. Diseases that weaken the heart muscle,
2. Diseases that cause stiffening of the heart muscles, or
3. Diseases that increase oxygen demand by the body tissue beyond the capability of the heart to deliver.

The heart has two atria (right atrium and left atrium) that make up the upper chambers of the heart, and two ventricles (left ventricle and right ventricle) that make up the lower chambers of the heart. The ventricles are muscular chambers that pump blood when the muscles contract (the contraction of the ventricle muscles is called systole).

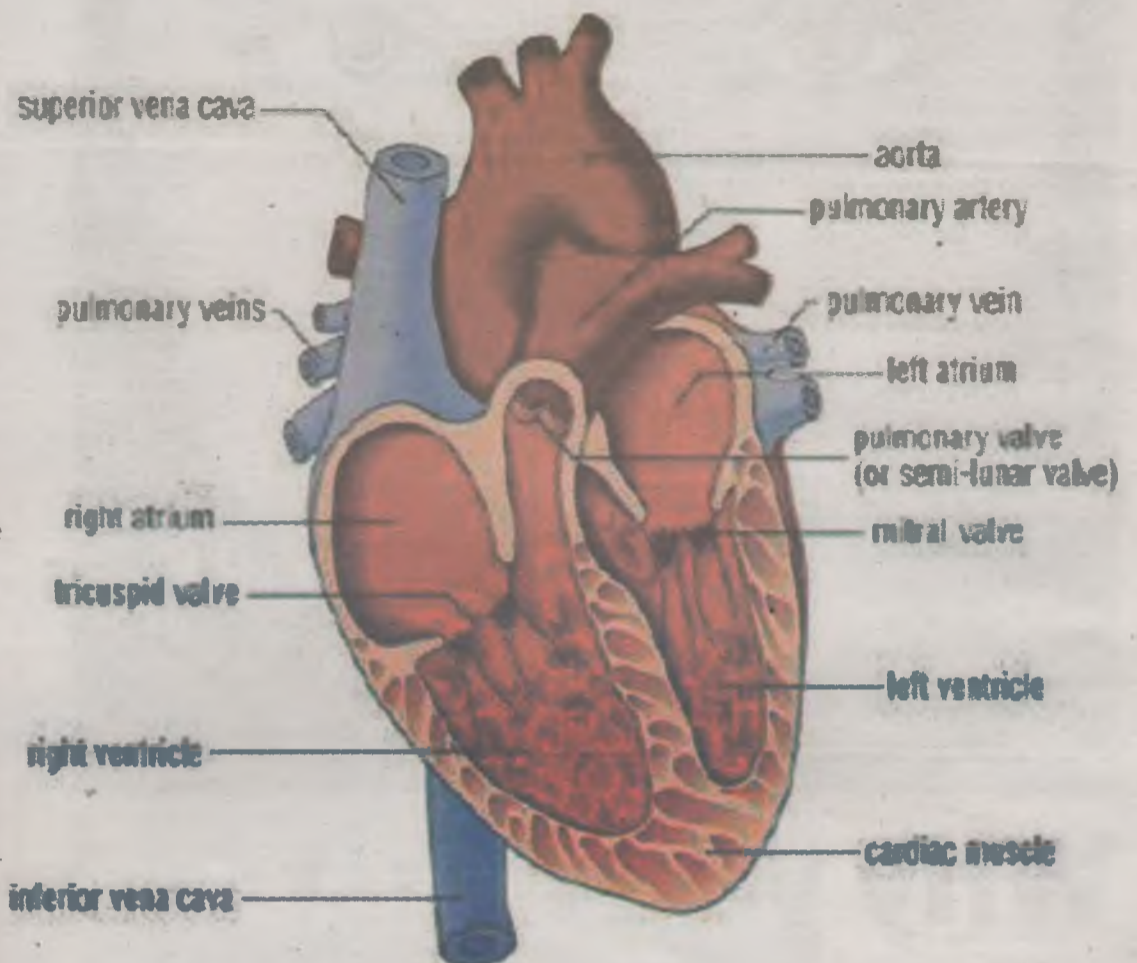
Many diseases can impair the pumping action of the ventricles. For example, the muscles of the ventricles can be weakened by inflammation and/or infections. The diminished pumping ability of the ventricles due to muscle weakening is called systolic dysfunction. After each ventricular contraction (systole) the ventricle muscles need to relax to allow blood from the atria to fill the ventricles. This relaxation of the ventricles is called diastole.

Congestive heart failure can affect many organs of the body. For example, the weakened heart muscles may not be able to supply enough blood to the kidneys, which then begin to lose their normal ability to excrete salt (sodium) and water. This diminished kidney function can cause the body to retain more fluid. The lungs may become congested with fluid and the person's ability to exercise is decreased. Fluid may likewise accumulate in the liver, thereby impairing its ability to rid the body of toxins and produce essential proteins. The intestines may become less efficient in absorbing nutrients and medicines. Over time, untreated, worsening congestive heart failure will affect virtually every organ in the body.

What causes congestive heart failure?

1. Coronary artery disease,
2. Hypertension
3. Long standing alcohol abuse
4. Disorders of the valves
5. Less common causes include viral infections of the stiffening of the heart muscle.

It should also be noted that in patients with underlying heart diseases, taking certain medications can lead to the development or worsening of congestive heart failure. This is especially true for those drugs that can cause sodium retention or affect the power of the heart muscle. Examples of such medications are the commonly



used Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

What are the symptoms of congestive heart failure?

The symptoms of congestive heart failure vary among individuals according to the particular organ systems involved and depending on the degree to which the rest of the body has "compensated" for the heart muscle weakness.

1. An early symptom of congestive heart failure is fatigue.

2. Swelling (edema) of the ankles and legs or abdomen may be noticed.

3. In addition, fluid may accumulate in the lungs, thereby causing shortness of the breath, particularly during exercise and when lying flat.

Treatment of congestive heart failure will be based on the underlying cause

Lifestyle modifications
After congestive heart failure is diagnosed, treatment should be started immediately.

Restricting salt and fluid intake is often recommended because of the tendency of fluid to accumulate in the lungs and surrounding tissues.

Likewise, the total amount of fluid consumed should be regulated.

Door Step Health Info Getting Started.....

A friend of mine when he read our promo last week on "Door Step Health Info" called

to express his happiness about the possibility of writing weekly on topical issues as well as his pessimism whether I will be able to sustain the corner, knowing fully well my crowded schedules. I informed him as well as others that showed concern that God willing the work has come to stay. Before I informed the management of Daily Trust Newspaper on my intention, I had thought about it thoroughly for almost a year and the approach I will take in writing it.

"Door Step Health Info" will not be about people but about health issues. The reader will agree with me that what dominates our discourse largely are health news and activities without analysing deeper in to what led to those events or occurrences. Health sectors in developing nations particularly in Africa faces lots of challenges; dwindling financial and human resources, maldistribution of human resources, difficulty in taking the right decisions that impact positively on the sector, challenges in using evidence to formulate and/or improve policies and programming, poor and/or inadequate infrastructure, improper understanding of socio-economic determinants of health. One can go on and on again, it is suffice to say that the challenges are overwhelming. Research which in other parts of world, shapes

policy implementation as well as in evaluates the impact of projects and initiatives, one cannot say the same in Africa. It is not as if we don't do research, we do a lot, but however, the findings remain unknown to our policy makers, they are being published in Peer Review Journals that are only seen and understood by professionals and used for academic purposes.

Our new column will be broadly addressing three key areas

1. Briefly highlighting research work and/or papers that are relevant to improving the health sector most importantly maternal and child health; and proffer simple and clear recommendations to policy makers.

2. Highlighting policies, strategies, guidelines as well as advocating for policy review, change and/or improvement based on available evidences.

3. Using some breaking health news and findings to promote positive healthy behaviours and attitudes that will improve quality of life.

With all sense of humility, I introduce to my readers "Door Step Health Info" with the hope that, it will support health care delivery system in Africa and Nigeria in particular. May God help us.

All comments to health-weekly@yahoo.com

What do men seek for outside their homes?

Maureen Onochie

DURING the days of our parents, marriage was mostly contracted to fulfill all righteousness. But these days, couples meet on their own, fall in love with each other and get married. It is very rare to find couples these days who get married without being in love. Even though there are marriages that are arranged, it is not as common as couples who meet each other, grow to love each other and get married at the end.

At the altar of God in the church, couples smile at each other as they make their marriage vows that they will be with each other in sickness and in health; they promise themselves before man and God to love each other no matter the condition.

What then do men seek for outside their matrimonial homes after all the vows and love they shared before getting married? There were lots of pretty ladies on the streets before the choice was made. It has almost become a norm in the society for men to leave their matrimonial homes to seek for attention outside both sexually and otherwise. Most people feel that men are designed to flirt because that is the way they are built. It is also argued that men think of sex all the time. Of course

married men don't usually act on all of their thoughts.

A lot of married men have also said that they can be loyal husbands and still have romantic thoughts about other women.

Mr. Charles Obi is of the opinion that the men usually get tired of who their wives or who they live with in their homes and have no moral character, sometimes they sin by lusting over a woman that is not theirs, they also do it for fun to see what kind of reaction they can get from their wives.

He said sometimes most people who cheat are justified because they might have been so emotionally, mentally and psychologically abused by their spouses.

"They are lonely. They are not having their needs met either sexually or emotionally and their spouse won't listen. It takes two to ruin a marriage," he added.

Danjuma Momoh gave various reasons why married men flirt with ladies outside their matrimonial homes. He said some of the married men are bored with the woman they have in the house and feel the way out is to have some adventurous experience outside their homes.

He said some men do it purposely to hurt their wives when they have offended them. Demola Ajibade said "We are destined to admire beautiful things such

as pretty ladies." Talking about married men who ogle at ladies, Ajibade cited instances of ladies who will walk past a couple in a mall dressed in a low cut shirt and low waist pants. He said it is definite for a man to be distracted and a woman's attention can be caught even if it is in disgust.

He went on to say that, husbands of such women had to look and admire them from a distance before they could approach and speak to them. On his part, David Onoja said most married men who flirt with other ladies do so to feel young again while some of them don't get sexual satisfaction from their wives at home. Advising single ladies emphatically, he said they should help the situation by resisting the married men whenever they come. "It is not wrong for a lady to dress attractively, of course they need to be attractive for their own husband to admire them and approach them, but they should shun any married man who comes their way. They will only take advantage of you and leave you. He will never leave his wife to marry you so single ladies should be smart," he added. But Amaka Ayah asked "what is it that men seek for outside their matrimonial home that they don't have inside their home? Anything the lady outside is going to give them, of course their wives

will also offer that to them, even better."

Amina Doko suggests that every woman should observe her husband to know what he likes or admire in a woman so that she will adopt the style for him not to look outside. "If you observe that a lady passed both of you by dressed in a spaghetti top and low waist pant and your husband was really staring at her, all you do is to start putting on such attire so that he will as well turn and look at you," she added. She advised ladies to quit dressing indecently to unnecessarily attract the attention of the married men.

Rev. Fr. Callistus Onyeanus said that the Catholic Church totally condemns infidelity or unfaithfulness to a partner. The church urges them to be totally committed to each other owing to the vow they made to each other in the church. "Any form of infidelity or unfaithfulness is not acceptable by the church. Both partners should be committed to each other. They have vowed by their marriage consent to be faithful to each other both in good times and bad times until death do them part, so there should be no room for infidelity. Challenges will definitely come but it shouldn't lead to infidelity," he said. He said the church doesn't only see infidelity as a sin but as a mortal sin because

it is fraud and deception to the other partner as he also quoted bible verses that condemn infidelity. He said the church has always tried to fight against infidelity by organizing workshops that centers on such issues and they organize marriage preparation class to orientate couples who are about to be married on the need to be committed and open to each other.

"The church has always preached and has kept encouraging couples to remain faithful to themselves as well as try to tolerate and accommodate each other. We organize workshops and seminars to address these issues.

When they are about to get married, we organize a marriage preparation course to instruct partners telling them that they are going into marriage by their own free will so they should be committed to each other and open to each other," he said. He also condemned an act by the man to go into infidelity due to a quarrel he had with his wife in the house as well as condemning the wife from starving her husband of sex which might lead him to find satisfaction outside his home.

He said if the issue is not tackled on time, it might lead to cases of broken home and loss of friendship adding that the children are going to suffer if such cases arise as there will be lack of parental care.



HADEJIA JAMA'ARE KOMADUGU YOBE BASIN TRUST FUND

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

The Chairman, Members of the Board of Trustees and the entire management of the Hadejia Jama'are Komadugu Yobe Basin Trust Fund, wishes to express our heartfelt condolences to the President and the Commander In-chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, the former First Lady Hajia Turai Yar'adua, the people of Katsina and all Nigerians, on the death of our late President, Umaru Musa Yar'adua.

President Umaru Musa Yar'adua's footprint in the sands of time will no doubt remain indelible. His amnesty programme, fight against corruption and the dredging of the River Niger, to mention but a few, are among his numerous attempts to uplift the living standard of the average Nigerian. His integrity, humility and self discipline are worthy of emulation.

May his gentle soul find solace in the bosom of Almighty Allah, and grant the President, the family and all Nigerians the fortitude to bear this irreparable and irreplaceable loss.

We also want to use this medium to congratulate the new President, Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan on his elevation to the position of President and Commander In-chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. And pray to God Almighty to guide, protect and direct him. Similarly, we wish to felicitate with his Excellency Arch. Muhammed Namadi Sambo, on his nomination by the President and subsequent clearing by the National Assembly, as the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Signed

Amb. (Engr.) Bunu Sheriff Musa
BOT Chairman HJKYB-TF



Late President, Umaru Musa Yar'adua

Congrats Your Excellency!



His Excellency,
Dr. Ibrahim Shehu Shema, fnim
Executive Governor of Katsina State

On behalf of our families and entire members of our constituencies, we heartily rejoice with his Excellency, the executive Governor of Katsina state, Barrister (Dr) Ibrahim Shehu Shema fnim on the recent conferment of Doctor of Humane Letters (Honoris Causa) by Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA in celebration of its 145 years of Educational achievements.

It certainly did not come to us as a surprise given your unprecedented record in providing massive infrastructures, supports and scholarships to EDUCATION as the key priority area of your administration that supports the successive delivery of various democratic dividends to the good people of Katsina state.

As we join millions of your well wishers to celebrate this important occasion, we proudly associates ourselves with all your giant strides especially in areas of Agriculture, Health, Solid Minerals, Rural and Human capital developments and all other areas of human endeavour which evidently transform Katsina to a model and fast developing state in the whole of this country. Such can never go unnoticed.

"The reward of any job well done, is the opportunity to do more"

We remain committed to your ideals of Service, Accountability and Good Governance. May God guides and protect you as you set to steer the state to a much greater height

Allah Ya Tsare Ka, Yachi Gaba Da Yi Maka Jagora!!!

Signed.

HON. BALA ALMU BANYE

Batagarawa, Rimi, Charanchi federal constituency.

HON. GARBA SHEHU MATAZU

Musawa/Matazu Federal Constituency

HON. SALISU YUSUF MAJIGIRI

Mashi/Dutsi Federal Constituency

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**CONGRATULATIONS
GOVERNOR DANJUMA GOJE**



Alhaji Danjuma Goje
Governor, Gombe State

Indeed, tomorrow is going to be another milestone in the history of Gombe State as the Gombe State University, Tudun Wada Campus that was established by Goje led administration will be convocating its first set of graduating students.

When the idea was first conceived for the establishment of the University, the project began outrightly, to oppositions (I inclusive) then saw the dream of Governor Goje as a mirage, describing it as wasteful and misplacement of priority.

However, with the convocation of Gombe State University taking place tomorrow you have not only proved your critics wrong but also proved to be a visionary and focused leader, who is result oriented.

Bravo! Governor Danjuma Goje, the people's Governor for a successful delivery of all your campaign promises ahead the expiration of your tenure.

Signed:
Alhaji Bala Bello Tinka
Managing Director

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Congratulations to a worthy Leader

Your Excellency,
The government and good
people of Kaduna State
congratulate you on your
assumption to office as the
Executive Governor of
Kaduna State.

We promise you all the
cooperation that you will
require in order to move the
state to greater heights.



His Excellency
Governor, Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa
Kaduna State

Signed:

Hon. Saidu Adamu
(Chairman, Media and Publicity Committee on inauguration)

We Xourn



President Umaru Musa Yar'adua
Bsc,Msc (ABU), GCFR

The National Executive Council & the entire Members of the Ahmadu Bello University Alumni Association Zaria mourn the passing away of one of us, Alhaji Umar Musa Yar'adua, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

A great patriot, an exemplary leader and a gentleman. May his soul rest in peace , Amen.

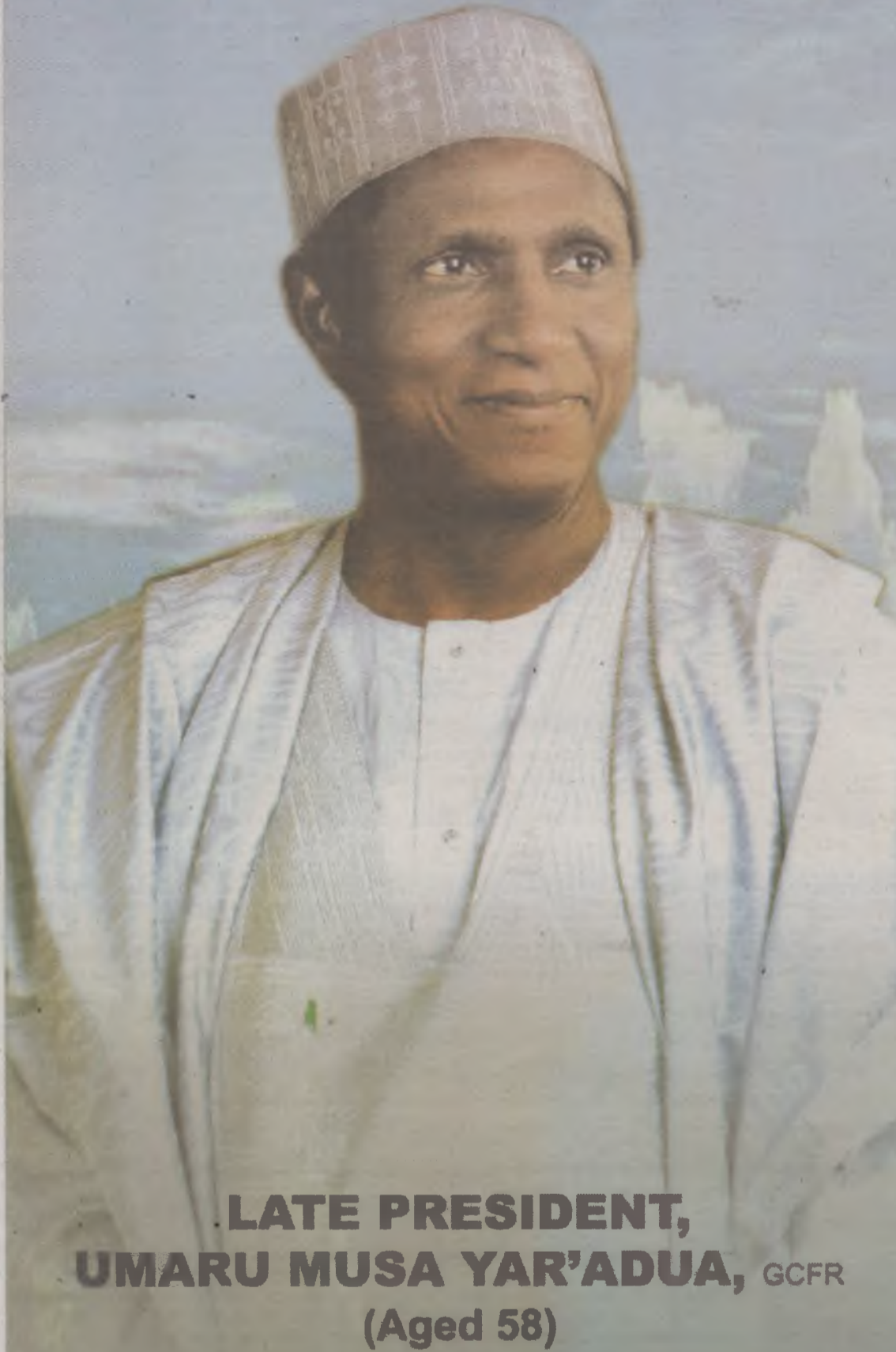


Ahmadu Bello University
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Small & Medium
Enterprises
Development
Agency of
Nigeria

Inna lilahi wa inna ilaihir rajiun



**LATE PRESIDENT,
UMARU MUSA YAR'ADUA, GCFR**
(Aged 58)

The Board, Management and staff of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria commiserates with His Excellency Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR, President and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, the government and people of Katsina State the Yar'adua family and all Nigerians over the death of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua.

Nigeria has indeed lost a visionary committed leader who was an advocate of rule of law and transparency in governance. The achievement of peace in the Niger Delta region through the amnesty programme he introduced as well as his commitment to wealth creation for the citizenry through the sustainable development of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as contained in the seven point Agenda of the administration will forever be remembered.

May his gentle soul rest in Aljannat Firdausi, Amin

Signed

Management

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AMAC new secretariat commissioned

By Nasir Imam

AS new the elected officials of the six Area Councils take over the mantle of leadership in their respective councils, FCT Minister Bala Mohammed has warned that the FCT Administration will not condone abandonment of existing projects.

The Minister gave this warning on Wednesday while commissioning some projects executed by the out-going Chairman of the Abuja Municipal Area Council, Mr. Zephaniah Jissalo. The FCT Minister at the occasion commissioned a new AMAC Secretariat, Women Development Cen-

tre, a Vocational Centre, Fire Service Station, Community Market as well as a Motor Park. All the projects are located inside the Apo Re-settlement Centre, Apo Village, Abuja.

Mohammed stressed that there must be continuity in all the projects started by their predecessors to avail the residents of the Federal Capital Territory the opportunity of enjoying the dividends of democracy.

Mohammed who was represented at the occasion by the FCT Permanent Secretary, Dr. Goke Adegoroye charged other Area Councils in the Territory to emulate the feat achieved by the Abuja Municipal Area Council.

He lauded the efforts of the out-going Chairman of the

Abuja Municipal Area Council in contributing his quota to the growth and development of his people especially the construction of the Women Development Centre as well as the Community Market for the Women.

According to him, the construction of a new Area Council Secretariat will also go a long way in decongesting the Federal Capital City, particularly the traffic situation in Area 10; Garki District I, where it is currently situated, will improve as the Council relocates to the new site in Apo.

Responding, the out-going Chairman of the Abuja Municipal Area Council, Mr. Zephaniah Jissalo appreciated the opportunity given him by God to serve his people.

FG wants end to dumping of fake building materials

By Mustapha Suleiman

THE Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Mr. Nduese Essien, yesterday at an interactive session with stakeholders in the building industry on how to curb incidence of building collapse in the country, said that cases of building collapse recurring across the country is worrisome.

He attributed it to the indiscriminate dumping of inferior and fake building materials in our markets.

The stakeholders meeting held in Abuja was coming at the heel of the recent building collapses that occurred in Auchi and Oshodi in Edo and Lagos states respectively.

He said that such products range from cement, iron rods, tiles, electrical materials and plumbing materials while calling for a strong alliance with the Standard Organisation of Nigeria (SON) and other regulatory agencies to ensure that only quality building materials are brought into our markets.

"Reports all over the country show that the major causes of building collapse are the use of sub-standard and inferior materials, engagement of quacks and unqualified persons in the design and construction of buildings and failure to adhere to the National Building Code."

While contributing to the discussion, the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) President, Olu-muyiwa Alade Ajibola noted that the building industry is as of today "completely run down as we do not have technicians and technologists that have orientations in building as we had it in those days." He called for attitudinal change among the builders and clients, saying the problems lie among ourselves.



THE Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs Headquarters, nearing completion in the Central Area, Abuja

Facility mangt: IFMA organises certification programme

By Nasir Imam

TOWARDS ensuring improved maintenance of major public and private facilities in the country as well as addressing the unique challenges the facility management profession is facing, the International Facility Management Association (IFMA) has been charged to collate and document relevant strategies and suggestions from experts of the profession across the world.

While giving the charge at the opening ceremony of a six-day IFMA, FMP Certification Programme organised by the Abuja Chapter of IFMA, the Executive Secretary

of Federal Capital Development Authority, Alh. Mohammed Sani Alhassan noted that facility management remains a quintessential business function which according to him affects not only revenues and cost but production, quality of life for employees, health and safety, the work environment as well as ability to recruit and hold employees.

He stressed that the focus of the training was the one that has great interest to the FCDA as the agency of government charged with the responsibility of overseeing the development and management of the FCT.

He emphasized that facility managers play strategic role of providing customer

satisfaction and cost efficiency as two key things to organisation's operations adding that facility management remains a multi-functional department that controls large resources and deserves a vital business leader.

"The FMP credential programme is a recognised training that prepares facility managers for their task" he said

In his remarks, the Chairman of IFMA, Abuja Chapter, Mr. Collins Osayameh noted that the nation has witnessed a lot of waste in governance and private business due to the failure of the administrators to align their corporate services with supporting services.

Ambassador laments poor infrastructure in Owerri

From Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri

NIGERIAN ambassador to Ireland and Iceland, Mrs. Kema Chikwe, has lamented over poor infrastructural development and high rate of unemployment in Owerri zone.

Chikwe in a paper delivered on Wednesday at the Owerri political summit at the Concorde Hotel, said that the zone has the worst roads in the state.

She regretted that the water schemes which were functional during the 70s and 80s have all broken down while electricity uncertain.

Chikwe said both hospitals and schools in the zone are

ill equipped and in a sorry state, adding that children from the zone were neither getting good education nor employment.

While calling for action to reconstruct the political culture for enduring future of the zone, condemned the missing links in the way politics played in the zone.

According to her, politics in the zone has been characterized with deep hate, lack of vision coupled with selfish perspective devoid of genuine consideration for the future of the people.

She said that it is the duty of government to provide qualitative leadership for the people, adding that the two

can only work together if they are one.

The Ambassador said that for the zone to achieve re-orientation towards a more viable future there is need for mutual respect for each other.

She advised the people of the zone to re-order their priorities by going back to the drawing board in order to produce an effective document for the sustainability of the zone.

She called on the zone to initiate their own well articulated programme that would attract more development to the zone as they wait for their turn to govern the state in 2015.

Property



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'Building plan change caused collapse'

By Mustapha Suleiman

THE recent building collapse in Auchi in Edo state is due to illegal change of plan by the builder from the approved two storey to three, said the representative of Edo state government during a stakeholders meeting on building collapse organised by Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development in Abuja yesterday.

He said that investigations revealed that the approved plan for the building by relevant authorities in the state indicate that, it is two-storey building but the builder

without notifying anybody changed it to three storey.

He said that it was further discovered that the concrete and other building materials used fall far below standard.

Responding, the Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Mr. Nduese Essien lamented the recurring cases of collapsed buildings in the country, describing it as alarming and a source of embarrassment to the Federal Government.

"A few days in office, there was a case of collapsed building in Auchi, Edo State. The Ministry quickly sent a team to investi-

gate and report back. A week later, another building collapsed in Oshodi in Lagos State.

"We must not pretend that all is well in our built environment or that the various professional groups represented here cannot address the problem. While we are searching for solutions to the problem, I wish to bring to your attention, one major issue that must be addressed urgently. As a government, professional groups and regulatory bodies, we must be prepared to stop the indiscriminate dumping of inferior and fake building materials in our markets." Mr. Essien said.

NYSC opens tender for 2010 projects execution

By Mustapha Suleiman

THE National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) yesterday opened tenders for the execution of 2010 capital projects.

At the occasion, NYSC Director General, Brig. Gen. Maharazu Tsiga said this method will ensure fairness, transparency, standard and accountability in the procurement of goods, works and services.

"I congratulate you on your success at the pre-qualification stage. You will agree with me that it was not easy given the large number of interests expressed," he said.

He added that a very thorough and meticulous examination of the numerous documents produced the few contractors who have moved to the second stage which is financial bidding and at the end of the day eventual winners will emerge.

"May I inform all our contractors that standard is our watch word in the NYSC. We therefore expect the best only from eventual winners of the bids."

Tsiga also said that any contractor who fails to meet set standards will have his contracts revoked out rightly while such contractors will be black-listed.

"If you win a borehole, sink the one that will give water to the corps members. If you win a toilet/bathroom, it should not be the type that will collapse on our corps members. If you win power generating set, it should be the one that can supply power very well. The same goes with all other categories," said the DG.

Tsiga tasked the contractors on timely execution of projects, saying a speedy completion of jobs will lead to a smooth conduct of NYSC orientation programmes across the country.

He expressed gratitude to Tenders Evaluation Committee, who according to him undertook the onerous task of assessing the applications for pre-qualification and analyzing the tenders that will produce eventual winners of the bids.



HOME away from home: One of the private cells at Norway's new Halden Prison - which appears to be nicer than most university dormitory rooms

Prison cells with en-suite bathrooms and no window bars

IT'S the ultimate prison break for murderers and rapists - en-suite bathrooms, £1million Banksy-style art and even windows without bars.

That's the 'hard-time' waiting for some of Norway's most dangerous criminals in the new purpose built £15 million Halden Prison.

The jail took 10 years to build and has been touted to be the most humane in the world for its 252 inmates.

Architect Hans Henrik Hoiland admitted Halden holds some of Norway's most dangerous prisoners but - believes its design means they don't re-offend.

Halden opened its doors officially last

month, taking in the first batch of inmates. Prison governor Are Hoidal said there have been no escape attempts.

He said: 'In the Norwegian prison system, there's a focus on human rights and respect. In Norway only 20 per cent of prisoners end up back in jail after release, compared to between 50 and 60 per cent in the UK.

Nasarawa guber aspirant makes blueprint for infrastructure

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

A Kaduna based businessman, Alhaji Kabir Wakeel Keffi, has disclosed he is making an ambitious blueprint that will be matched with faithful implementation for the infrastructural development of Nasarawa State.

Keffi, a governorship aspirant of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) in the state, told the people of the state who thronged his Keffi residence for pressure to bring him

out for the race that he is already consulting to draw in a team made up of stakeholders in the development sector including professionals in the academia, business, politics and other areas.

He said the team's objective will be to draw an economic development blueprint that will place the rural and urban transformation of the state through aggressive provision of basic infrastructure such that will boost investment and other areas of economic growth.

"That is my plan; to build a team that will draw a blueprint which implementation will lead to opening up Nasarawa State to the rest of the world in the area of investment and general growth. Without infrastructure, growth is only a pipe dream. Having been aware of this, I am not resting until my ongoing consultation bring me a team of experts, professionals and other stakeholders who will design this blueprint to provide the roadmap for the aggressive transformation of the state," Keffi said.

CITY NEWS



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Detained mother, children sue police for N1 bn

By Abubakar Yakubu & Ogechi Ohalee

LAWYER to a detained mother and her two children Wednesday instituted a N1 billion suit in an Abuja High Court against the police for general and exemplary damages as well as for violating their fundamental rights.

In an affidavit of urgency sworn to by Barrister Peter Odia, the court was told that Mrs Rosemary Onyeario, Prince Ewere Onyeario, 8, and Miss Isioma Queen Onyeario, 5, have been in police custody since May 13.

The lawyer informed the court that Prince Ewere and Isioma Queen are minors and pupils of Hand made Nursery and Primary School at Area 3, Garki, Abuja,

who have been absent from school since they were taken into custody by the police.

He said the health of the children had deteriorated and said it is expedient that the matter be heard on time.

Odia stated that the detained mother was informed that she is a sibling to one Leonard.

Lead lawyer to the detainees, Barrister Esther Uzoma, in a written address of motion on notice, sought for a court declaration that the detention of the applicants at the Assistant Inspector-General of Police Zone 7 Command since May 13 violates the applicants rights guaranteed under article 4,5 and 6 of the African Charter on Human

and Peoples Rights and section 34 and 35 of the 1999 constitution.

The lawyer also sought for an injunction restraining the police or their agents/privies or otherwise from further arresting, detaining or in any other manner disturbing the liberty and normal life of the applicants in any manner not permitted by law.

Uzoma also urged the court to release the applicants' fundamental rights and tender a public apology for the unlawful as well as illegal violation of the applicants' fundamental rights.

The lawyer argued in court that section 35 (3) of the 1999 states that any person who is arrested or detained shall be informed in writing within 24 hours (and in the lan-

guage that he understands) of the facts and grounds of his arrest or detention.

She argued that every individual is entitled to respect for the dignity of his person and also entitled to his personal liberty, adding that no person shall be deprived of such liberty save in following cases and in accordance with a permitted law.

The notice were served and received in the office of the inspector-general of police and the assistant inspector-general of police Zone 7.

Responding to questions from newsmen after the court session, Barrister Uzoma expressed fear about the safety of the mother of the children.

She said the police reaction in

national dailies yesterday was an admission that her clients are in their custody against constitutional provisions, adding that the country's president must hear this.

The police had in a press release stated that Mrs Rosemary Onyeario was arrested in connection with a N6.5 billion massive fraud allegedly perpetrated by a syndicate led by the woman's brother (Leonard Okoh Iduwe) who is at large.

The alleged that Mrs Onyeario benefitted to the tune of N2.5 million for the role she played in the commission and perfection of the fraud, adding that two cars bought with the fraudulent money were traced and recovered from her possession.

FCT area council chairmen sworn in

By Nasir Imam

THE FCT Minister, Senator Bala Mohammed, yesterday presided over the swearing in of the newly elected chairmen of the six area councils of the territory in Abuja.

Those sworn-in were Yahaya Musa Muhammad, Abaji; Micah Jiba, Abuja Municipal; Peter Yohanna Ushafa, Bwari; Zakari Angulu Dobi, Gwagwalada; Danladi Etsu Zhin, Kuje and Joseph Shazin of Kwali.

Mohammed warned that his administration will adhere to high level of accountability and transparency in area councils.

"We will, therefore, do all it takes to monitor the performance of the various council administrations in order to ensure compliance with the demands of good governance, fiscal responsibility

and value for money," he said.

The minister stressed that the FCT Administration will use all administrative measures to bring to book those who fail to live up to high standards, adding that in the case of abuse of office, anyone caught will be prosecuted by the relevant anti-graft agencies.

He directed the FCT Area Council Services Secretariat to organise an orientation programme to acquaint the newly elected functionaries with the requirements of public sector and extant administrative procedures.

Welcoming guests at the occasion, FCT Permanent Secretary, Dr. Goke Adegoye, thanked the out-going area councils' chairmen and other political office holders in the area councils for ensuring the smooth transition process.



THE swearing in of area the new council chairmen in Abuja yesterday.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

German accuses Nigerian lover of intimidation

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

THE police Tuesday arraigned a woman before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly intimidating her German lover, one Mr Uwe Wolf.

Barbara Ugwu of Road 122, 2nd Avenue, Gwarimpa, Abuja, was alleged to have committed the offence this year.

Police prosecutor, Abu Okpanachi, had earlier told the court that one Uwe Wolf reported to the police that his Nigerian lover called his wife in Germany with intent to ruin his marriage.

He stated further that the problem between complainant and the accused started when the man refused to give her N1.5 million to rent an apartment in Abuja.

"The accused intimidated him by calling his wife in Germany in order to ruin his marriage over the refusal to pay for an apartment," the prosecutor said.

He also informed the court that during police investigations, it was discovered that the accused committed the crime and equally threatened the complainant, thereby committing an offence punishable under Sec-

tion 377 (B) and 95 of the Penal Code.

When the one-count charge was read to the accused, she denied it and requested for bail, which was not objected to by the prosecutor.

In his ruling, Chief Magistrate David Ochimana granted the accused bail in the sum of N100,000 with a reliable surety in like sum, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction and swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned date.

The case was adjourned to June 14 for hearing.

15-yr-old seeks divorce over lack of love

By Romoke W. Ahmad

A 15-year-old married woman, Aisha Abdulahi, yesterday pleaded before an Abuja Upper Area Court to dissolve her five-year-old marriage with Hamzah Saleh due to lack of love.

She told the court that her father gave her out to the man for marriage when she was ten years old but has now discovered that she does not love him.

"I am no longer interested in the marriage because my father gave

me to him five years ago without consulting me and now that I am old enough to decide, I discovered that he is not my husband because I don't love him," Aisha stated.

The husband, Hamza Saleh, confirmed that he married his wife when she was 10 years old and himself 13 years. Saleh did not agree to the divorce petition and both couples families appealed to the court to allow them settle out of court.

Judge Issa Alhaji Yahaya granted their settlement request and adjourned the case to May 27.

Student, contractor charged with impersonation

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 30-year-old student of the University of Ibadan and a 30-year-old contractor were yesterday arraigned before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly impersonating union officials of the National Association of Nigerian Student (NANS).

Comrade Ayoola Amoo, an undergraduate and Sunny Opes, a contractor of Area 10 Sports Complex, Abuja, were accused of going to the office of the Sports minister to seek for assistance to enable them travel to South Africa to support the Super Eagles in the forthcoming World Cup match.

Prosecutor Isiaka Raheem

told the court that on May 18, one Isiaku Joel of the State Security Service (SSS) attached to the Minister of Sports office reported to the police that the accused persons impersonated officials of the NANS by bringing a letter to make the minister believe that one of them was the acting president of NANS.

The prosecutor also stated that the offences the accused persons committed are punishable under Sections 79 and 132 of the Penal Code.

When the two-count charge was read to the accused persons, they denied them and requested for bail, which made the prosecutor ask for a hearing date.

Chief Magistrate Josephine Obannor granted each of the accused persons bail in the sum of N50,000 with a reliable surety each, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction and swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned date.

The case was adjourned to June 10 for hearing.

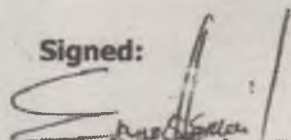
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Sales boy jailed for misappropriating master's money

By Hussein Yahaya, Ibraheem A. Fatai & Usman A. Bello

AN Abuja magistrate court Tuesday sentenced a sales boy to one month imprisonment for misappropriating his master's money.

The sales boy, Isaiiah David of Mararaba, Abuja, was jailed for misappropriating N252,500 belonging to one Lawrence Umennajiuba of Wuse 2, Abuja.

Police prosecutor Emmanuel Hosseini had earlier told the court that on

January 19, one Lawrence Umennajiuba reported to the police through a petition that his sales boy misappropriated his N252,500.

He said the sales boy was in charge of a shop located at Wuse 2, Abuja, where tyres and batteries are sold, adding that he discovered batteries and tyres worth N252,500 missing in the shop.

"During police investigation, the accused confessed to misappropriating the said money and commit-

ted offences contrary to Sections 314 and 309 of the Penal Code," he added.

When the charges were read to the accused, he pleaded guilty and pleaded for leniency. Chief Magistrate Josephine Obannor sentenced him to one month imprisonment or to pay N5,000 as fine.

She also ruled that the convict pay N252,000 as compensation to the complainant, which he agreed to pay between now and September this year.



MEMBERS of 'Hope for Better Nigeria initiative' after a press briefing yesterday.

Group vows to ensure good leadership

By Romoke W. Ahmad

AN Abuja based group, 'Hope for Better Nigeria Initiative' yesterday declared that citizens of the country will be properly sensitized on the need to elect good leaders with integrity.

He said if such leaders have proven themselves in public offices, they should be voted for irrespective of their tribal or religious affiliation.

Group's leader, Hussein Idris Kashim, who stated this at a press briefing in

Abuja, explained that the political developments in the country over the past months have exposed a variety of issues which when analyzed are bound to elicit compassion from ever patriotic Nigerian.

He disclosed that the group is a non-governmental organisation championed by Nigerians of various ethnical backgrounds and vocations with a passion for social entrepreneurship that will promote awareness for good governance as well as good leadership in

achieving an ideal nation.

The group's leader praised the effort of President Goodluck Jonathan in sending back Justice Uwais committee's report on electoral reforms to the National Assembly and said the youths in the country can also aspire for the leadership positions in the country.

He praised President Jonathan for his good works and urged him to carryout programmes that will benefit the masses as well as contest the 2011 election if he so wishes.

SANYO

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Inside Politics

Moles want to destabilise CPC, says Hanga

Protem National Chairman of the Congress for Progressive Change (CPC), Senator Rufa'i Sani Hanga, in this interview speaks on the challenges facing the newly registered party as well as his aspiration in 2011.

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

What is your reaction to the views of some people that your party may not be able to establish needed structures before the next general election?

CPC is a newly registered party but our recent National Executive Committee meeting showed that we are everywhere in the country. We have structures in all the 36 states and majority of the Local governments and wards across the federation. Right now, we have commenced membership registration. Hundreds of thousands of people have been picking our membership cards, in fact the cards we printed have been exhausted already. However, we have not started registration in a few states because they are still facing some problem constituting wards' committees. We are aware that in such places people are fighting for positions because of the acceptance of the party. That is to admit that we have some problems in some states.

Which states do you have such problems, is Kano state inclusive?

Yes we have problems in Kano. The problem has been caused by the attitude of some people who are scrambling to lead the party but they are not competent to be appointed as chairman. We cannot risk that because we have people of calibre that whenever we look at them can say, yes, we have leaders.

Secondly, we want absolute loyalty to our course because this



SENATOR Rufa'i Sani Hanga

party is formed based on some ideological principles. These ideological principles are what we believe in and what we want to pursue. But those who are grumbling over the leadership don't have such principles. So we won't leave our party to form CPC and appoint people who will take us back to square one. That is why we are very careful in our choice of leaders. We don't want people who will sell the party and compromise us. We already know

their history, and the people of Kano also know them. They are paid agents hired by detractors to infiltrate our midst and try to destabilise us.

Buhari Network for Change, another pro Buhari group led by M. T. Waziri, is said to have submitted a letter to General Buhari, protesting the protem leadership in Kano state can you confirm this?

It is not true. M. T. Waziri isn't

a member of CPC. He is member of the Buhari Organisation, which was dissolved. All the pro Buhari organisations were dissolved when Buhari joined the CPC. We don't recognize them anymore. Therefore, all those groups that claim to be supporting Buhari should join CPC. I called on them to collapse their structures so that we will have a synergy. It is only when we do that that we can have a clear focus. In fact neither Waziri nor any of those who are opposing the leadership has picked our membership card. M. T. Waziri has been a friend of Buhari. He is old, over seventy years and I don't think he has the energy to lead such group.

Do you think CPC can cash in any opportunity to defeat the ANPP in Kano?

At the moment, the only people still in the ANPP are those in government. I don't think ANPP is a threat to us in Kano. I never lose a sleep about ANPP. In any case, the crisis they are facing now is their internal affair. I will say that Governor Shekarau has the right to choose Takai among those who are aspiring for the governorship seat.

He worked with them for many years and knows all of them individually. He is the best person to judge who is the best from among the contenders.

But we know that there are some who are more dedicated than Takai; who are Shekarau's die-heart but he did not look their way.

People like Kofar Mata are quite dedicated and gallant. Also

there are people like Senator Kabiru Gaya who was former governor and quite experienced. He has all the credentials to vie for the post. The Deputy Governor Tijjani Muhammad Gwarzo is also capable. The governor himself once said he could go sleep with his two eyes closed with the presence of Gwarzo around him.

In the present crisis situation don't you think the choice of governorship candidate will further tear the CPC apart in Kano?

There are many contenders. It depends on who people want to choose. In CPC there will be a level play ground for contestants of all positions. We aren't going to be like other parties. We will be like a family and work together to make sure that we take the Kano government house by the grace of God.

There are speculations that you will contest the governorship election in 2011? Are you actually preparing for that?

Well I didn't tell anybody that I want to contest but I'm a politician. I may contest because I contested before. I contested the chairmanship, the organizing secretary and state treasurer. I was a member House of Representatives; I was a senator. I contested many elections and won.

So if some people say I'm interested, is it a crime? It isn't a crime to be interested in contesting for a political position. But people talk about it as if it is a crime.

I'm waiting to see if others who will come out will be accused of nursing interest.

ANPP inaugurates convention c'ttee

By Abbas Jimoh

THE All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) yesterday formally inaugurated its national convention committee with Governor Ibrahim Gaidam of Yobe as chairman. The convention is tentatively fixed for July 9 in Abuja.

Members of the committee inaugurated by the national chairman of the party, Chief Edwin Ume-Ezeoke, are Chief Nnamdi Olebara, Chief Basil Chukwu, Hon. Ali Ndume, Hon. Ubale Jakada Kiru and Chief Linus

Nwambe, the Ebonyi State chapter as secretary of the convention.

Others are Senator Kabiru Gaya, Senator Muhammed A. Muhammed, Chief Kunle Ogundade, Prince Abubakar Audu, Hajia Salamatu Suleiman, Alhaji Tajudeen Agbeti, Alhaji Tadudeen Agbeti and Chief H. O. Ogunbanjo among others.

In his acceptance speech, Governor Gaidam said that the committee is accepting the assignment without reservation and with commitment to contribute to the development of the party.

Youths call on Jonathan to contest 2011 election

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

A coalition of youth groups under the name of Jonathan Youth Vanguard (JOY 2011) has called on President Goodluck Jonathan to contest the 2011 presidential election, saying he has the intelligence and capacity to ensure the development of the country.

Speaking yesterday at the inauguration of the national executive of the forum, convener of the youth group, Mr. George Turner, said that the performance profile of the Jonathan in the past

few weeks reveals that he has the wisdom of taking Nigeria to lead the country.

Jonathan, according to Turner, fits the profile of someone needed to sustain the progress made by the late President Umaru Musa Yar'adua in moving the country forward, saying that his group is committed to drafting Jonathan to the 2011 contest in a bid to sustain the development strides achieved by the late President.

Asked if the group has approached the president to seek a formal clarification on his mind

on the 2011 polls, Mr. Turner said neither him nor any member of his group has approached Jonathan on the matter.

"As concerned youths, we are only calling on him to seize the moment and present himself for election in 2011.

In the past few months he has been on the throne, he has proved that he can do the job and we are calling on Nigerians to give him the opportunity for him to continue doing his wonderful works as president," leader of the youth forum said.

Appoint INEC boss now, DPP urges Jonathan

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Democratic Peoples Party (DPP) has advised President Goodluck Jonathan to immediately appoint a substantive chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

The call is contained in the communiqué at the end of the

National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting of the party and signed by its national chairman, retired Gen. Jeremiah Useni.

The President should as a matter of urgency appoint a new substantive INEC chairman by adopting the recommendations of Uwias report in the appointment of INEC chairman. The National Assembly should scrap the State Independent Electoral Commissions as experience has shown that they cannot

organise free and fair elections throughout the country," the communiqué said. The party also urged Jonathan to be committed to rule of law and the anti-corruption crusade especially those indicted on the Halliburton scandal.

It called on the judiciary to ensure justice in all election petition cases, particularly the Sokoto State Governorship Appeal involving the party and the PDP.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

THE PROPHETIC HILL MINISTRY

The public is hereby informed that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:
1. PASTOR EMMANS WANG - CHAIRMAN
2. MINSTER RUTH MODUPE WANG - SECRETARY
3. ELDER SATI DASHI JWANDI - MEMBER

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To propagate and project the gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. To Evangelize the Nations.
3. To build up Saints to the fullness of Christ.
4. To minister salvation, healing and deliverance by the word of God and the of Faith

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar - General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary

KANKIYA DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The General Public is hereby notified that the above named Initiative has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

TRUSTEES
1. Alhaji Musa Hassan Sada (Kankiya ratsina) - Chairman
2. Alhaji Yashu Kankiya (Tan Isan Kankiya)
3. Alhaji Sada Ladan (Wakin Ayyukan katsina)
4. Alhaji Liman Sani Mustapha
5. Alhaji Aiyu Musa Dangwa
6. Alhaji Yashu Sulaiman Gachi
7. Alhaji Datto Kankiya
8. Alhaji Ahmed Bala Kankiya
9. Alhaji Sanusi Isam Kankiya - Secretary

- ### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
1. To assist in enlightening the people of kankiya Local Government Area on all programmes and policies that border on social services, health, education, youth training and skill acquisition to be implemented by association.
 2. To provide educational training skill acquisition and humanitarian services which are in the opinion of the association are calculated to empower youth, aged parents, orphans and vulnerable children.
 3. To assist in the improvement of the human and material resources, socially and economically for the development of the people of kankiya local government area.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.I.D. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED
Barrister Murtala A. Kankiya

EMMINENT WOMEN ASSOCIATION

The General Public is hereby notified that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for Registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

Trustees
1. Hajija Amina Zayyana - Chairperson
2. Alhaji Aminu Ibrahim
3. Mr. Casimir Oka
4. Hajija Mansurat Ibrahim
5. Dr. Ibe Chikodi Nkeonye
6. Mrs. Chinyere Oka - Secretary

- ### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
1. To provide assistance and workshops on health and agricultural matters as well as entrepreneurship workshops and career guidance for women.
 2. To carry of crusade on girl-child education
 3. To provide assistance to destitute youth empowerment scheme and construction of water boreholes and other essential facilities.
 4. To create awareness for environmental and sanitary activities

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.I.D. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed
Barrister Murtala A. Kankiya

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organization has applied for registration under part "C" of Companies and Allied Matters Acts of 1990.

TRUSTEES
1. Dr. Muktar Ahmed Gadanya, MFR
2. Samira Ibrahim Sadiq
3. Fa'iza Gidado Bello
4. Isyaku Aliyu Daneji
5. Mahafuz Muhammad Haddad
6. Shehu Musa Yakasai
7. Zaharadeen Abdullahi Bichi

- ### AIMS & OBJECTIVES
1. To complement the effort of government and international organizations on health policies and execution through research and development.
 2. Educating, Training and retraining of health sector volunteers.
 3. Enlightenment of youth on the prevention of sexually transmitted infections (HIV/AIDS) emphasis on the abstinence to sex until marriage.
 4. Rendering help to Aged and Destitute.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
ZAHARADEEN ABDULLAHI BICHI

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the lost of my NYSC Certificate NYSC no. KN/KDP/99/122147 service from 28th May, 2001 to 27th May, 2002 lost on the 10th May, 2010 between Dutse Jigawa State and Kano, Bayero University Kano. Belonging to Aliyu Ahmed please if found report to the nearest NYSC office or call 08035896553, 08025018790.

In the Light of Truth The Grail Message

"The intellect is and remains bound to time and space, that is to say earthbound; whereas the Godhead, and thus also the recognition of God and His Will, are above time and space and above all that is transitory, and therefore can never be grasped by the narrowly - confined intellect"

Abd-ru-shin

Grail Centre Madalla, Madalla Suleja Road 08054183304

GRACE ADEOLA FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990.

The trustees are:
(1) AKINDELE OLAWALE OJO
(2) KAYODE OLUBUNMI OJO
(3) ADEMOLA ODUNAYO OJO

- The aims and objectives are:
(1) To assist the less privileged in the society by improving on their life and welfare.
(2) To provide care, love and support for the less privileged in the society.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar - General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed
Yomi Ogunsanya Esq;

UNIVERSITY OF MAIDUGURI TEACHING HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION FOR ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

The general Public is hereby notified that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under part (c) of the comprise and Allied matters act of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:-
1. Mohammed Shettima Sanda
2. Baba Gana Imam
3. Ya Gana Modu II
4. Haruna Ibrahim
5. Sani Muktar Maina

AIMS AND OBJECTIVE:
Furthering the interest welfare and well-being of its members provision of food items and other essential commodities for its members at affordable prices at all the time ensuring cordial relationship among its members.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days the date of this publication.

Mohammed Shettima
08030991567

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public that the original certificate of occupation (C of O) with registration NO. NGS 87 over Plot NO 44, MTP 1 at Minna, Aforementioned in the name of Mallam Mamman Saba of NE 131 Nasarawa Ward Minna, is declared missing. All effort to trace the missing document proved abortive please if found returned it to Mallam Mamman Saba of NE 131 Nasarawa Ward Minna or The nearest Police Station

SIGNED
MALLAM MAMMAN SABA
08032423264

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the original copy of the acknowledgement Certificate fil No. LA 1214 of 09/22/05 (New File No. OG1123) of the Re-Certification and Re-Insurance of C of O from Ministry of Federal Capital Territory in acknowledgement of Receipt of Original C of O for Dr. Simi O. Johnson in respect of plot No. 203 Cadastral zone B09 and dated 09/24/97 is missing. All effort made to trace the said missing document proved abortive. If found please contact the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the original certificate of occupancy with No.14631 in respect of the property situated at No. 4 Ibrahim Blu crescent GRA, Kaduna belonging to Engr. Michael O. Daniel is declared missing. All efforts to recover the said document proved abortive. The ministry of Lands and Survey, Kaduna and the general public should please take note.

IF FOUND PLEASE CONTACT:
GEORGE-TAYLOR ASHIRU & CO
M.I. AHMED BELLO WAY (GIDAN BAMEYI),KADUNA
08033141406

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known and addressed as MISS OYINDAMOLA OLASEWERE KOLAPO, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. OYINDAMOLA OLASEWERE ADEDOKUN. All former documents remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as MISS DORATHY NGUVEREN BEM, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. DORATHY NGUVEREN THOMAS. All former documents remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as MR. IJEOMA UKACHI CHNAKA, now wish to be addressed as MR. HAROLD REX-LAWSON. All former documents remain valid; general public take note.

I formerly known and addressed as MISS ASIBI BISSY MAKAMA, now wish to be called and addressed as MRS. ASIBI BISSY SAM BANYIGYI. All former documents remain valid. Kaduna State Ministry of Education, National Veterinary Research Institute Vom and the general public to take note.

I formerly known as MISS FELICIA ISHAKU, wish to be called MRS FELICIA OJI JOSEPH. All former documents remain valid. University of Jos and general public to note.

I formerly known as MISS HAJARA ZAKARI now wish to be called MRS HAJARA KINGSMAN. All former documents remain valid, NYSC and general public to note.

I formerly ASHATU AHMED YUSUF now wish to be called and addressed as ASHATU BITRUS NUHU. All former documents remain valid. UNIMAJD, ABLUTH ZARIA and general public to note.

I formerly OLUBUKOLA OLUKEMI SERIKI, now MRS BUKOLA-FUNSHO SANNI. All former documents remain valid, ABU and general public to note.

I formerly known as ZAINAB LAWAL MATAWALLE now wish to be called ZAINAB ISAH KAITA. All former documents remain valid, general public to note.

I formerly BINTA IDRIS IBRAHIM now wish to be called as AISHA ISYAKU. All former documents remain valid, general public to note.

I, formerly known as MISS ALABI BISOLA RIHANAT now wish to be known as MRS AKANDE BISOLA RIHANAT. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I, formerly known as MARY SHUYUR now wish to be known as MARY WILLIAM JINJOH, former documents remain valid. UDUS and general public to note.

I, formerly MARYAMA AHMED now wish to be known as MARYAM AHMAD TAFIDA. All former documents remain valid and general public to take note.

I formerly KAGHER MNGOHOL JANE, now wish to be known and address as ENGR (MRS) GADIN MNGOHOL JANE, all former Documents remain valid, PPPRA, general public take note.

I formerly called GLORIA EJIROGHENE AGUKE now wish to be called GLORIA EJIROGHENE ISOKO. All documents remain valid. FinBank plc and the public to note.

I formerly known as MISS KHADIJA LAWAL now wish to be called MRS KHADIJA LAWAL #. All former documents remain valid, Katsina State University and NYSC should take note.

I formerly MISS AGBOOLA MAYOWA, now wishes to be addressed as MRS. OLONADE JAMES FEMI. All former documents remain valid. Oke-Ero LGA, Kwara State Government and general public take note.

I formerly MISS BEATRICE TOYIN ADESUYI, now wishes to be addressed as MRS. BEATRICE TOYIN OGUNGBEMI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS LAMI ALEMAYE AMLOGU now wish to be known as MRS LAURA LAMI ALEMAYE AMLOGU. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly ADENIYAN HAMDAT OLUWAKEMI now wish to be addressed as MRS AJANI HAMDAT OLUWAKEMI OLUSHOLA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS CECILIA BELLO now wish to be known and addressed as MRS CECILIA GIMBA. All former documents remain valid. FCT AGENCY FOR MASS EDUCATION and general public take note.

I, formerly MISS HADIZA ABDULKADIR now wish to be addressed as MRS HADIZA ISIKA MUSA. All former documents remain valid. ABU ZARIA and general public to take note.

I, formerly known as MISS ISIO ANGEL OKOGU now wish to be known and addressed as MRS ISIO ANGEL IREFE. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I, formerly OGHENETEGA IGHO IJOKO now wish to be addressed as MRS OGHENETEGA IGHO AMABEBE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS BLESSING CHIJOKE OGUEJOFOR now wish to be known as MRS BLESSING CHIJOKE OLISAH. All former documents remain valid. ACCESS BANK PLC and the general public take note.

I, formerly MISS ANIEKPENI SUNDAY UMOH now wish to be addressed as MRS ANIEKPENI SYLVANUS UDO. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I, formerly USOR FAVOR OKOI OJEL now wish to be known as USOR FAVOR NYIAM. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

LUGBE 1 LAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Thomas Ofem
2. Ugboajah Ikechukwu
3. Ede Emmanuel
4. Eze Chucks Philip
5. Anthony Umenna
6. Ihuoma Ezekwesili
7. Kenneth Ezenwatah
8. Alhaji Bawa Garuba
9. Ngwoke Virgilus Okechukwu
10. Evangelist Joseph Wealth Akabueze

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To protect and promote the interest of land owners in Lugbe 1.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:
Cedarwood Solicitors

EVERGREEN GLOBAL PEACE INITIATIVE

This is to inform the general public that the above named Initiative has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

The trustees are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. High Chief Bayo Akinola | 2. Lauretta A. Ozuano |
| 3. Mrs. Nosa Hosa-Okunbo | 4. Mr. Jarrett Tenebe |
| 5. Hon. Dr. Chief Cairo Ojougbo | |
| 6. Mallam Baba Mohammed | |
| 7. Gen. Adamu Asim-Yusuf (Rtd) | 8. Mr. Ikechukwu Okoroche |
| 9. Florence Ozuano | 10. Obaro J. Osazuwa |

Aims and objectives:

1. To facilitate conflict resolution among Nigerians
 2. To initiate peace among Nigerians.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:
Yomi Famuyhwa & Co.,
08067195903

BEETA UNIVERSAL ARTS FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Bikiya Graham-Douglas | - Chairman |
| 2. Itiso Graham-Douglas | - Secretary |
| 3. Gogo Karibi-Whyte | - Member |
| 4. Dr. Dolere Ketebe | |
| 5. Daba Graham-Douglas | |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To rejuvenate Theatre Arts in Nigeria.
2. To use drama as a means of creating awareness and sensitizing people on socio-cultural issues.
3. Organizing seasons of plays and annual cultural festivals.
4. Provide training for people interested in the Arts.
5. Preserving the Arts in Nigeria.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:
Legal Assured Law Office
Garki II, Abuja.

GADABUKE PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Alhaji Jibrin Adamu
2. Alhaji Yusuf Annada
3. Alhaji Hamidu Maiyaki Dangara
4. Alhaji Abubakar Sadiq Haliru
5. Alhaji Ahmed Rabo
6. Mr. Haruna Wakil
7. Mallam Idris Abdullahi

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure peaceful co-existence among the entire residents of Gadabuke and its neighbourhoods
2. To ensure the unity and progress of the people of Gadabuke with and outside devoid of any tribal or political sentiments.
3. To create a forum for social interaction and better understanding among member and other sister associations.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:
Ofori-Aje Adam Esq (08037022390)

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that Mohd Audu Bida lost the original land allocation paper in respect of Plot No: NG563, Plot A.10A at Sabon Lugbe, and allocation paper in respect of Plot No:2295 Plot 645 Lugbe extension and Original Land Allocation No: NG594 Kuje, FCT- Abuja that all got missing. All effort made to trace the missing documents proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest police Station or contact this number 08033177628

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Super Plus Int'l (Nig.) Ltd turns steel to gold. We fabricate tanks (overhead, surface, underground tanks and pressure vessels), steel roofs, warehouses, petrol station canopies etc to specifications. Fabrication and erection at site to reduce cost or in our workshop, when absolutely necessary.

ENQUIRIES: 07038264749, 08077163180
E-MAIL: superplus2003@yahoo.co.uk
WORKSHOP: S.P.I.N. Limited, Pwambara, Opp. True Grade Filling Station, Bwari Area Council, Abuja

COMMUNITY SELF HELP FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

TRUSTEES:

1. MRS. TOYIN JANETADEREMI
2. MR. SUNNY NJOKU
3. MR. UCHENNA NYENWENYI

AIMS AND OBJECTIVE:

1. Providing home based care to the challenged individuals and families within the communities with special attention to the disadvantaged women.
 2. Ensuring women health through nutrition, water and environmental sanitation, psycho-social care and early childhood learning and child protection.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:
OTTA ELIZABETH.

NETWORK LEGAL SERVICES

The General Public is hereby notified that the above named Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for Registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. MRS. AYO IDAOMI
2. MS. KEMI MOSUNMADE
3. MR. OLUFEMI AWODIPE

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To provide free legal aid services to indigent and the less privilege

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.13. 198, Maitama, Abuja within Twenty-Eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:
MR DAUDA HASSAN

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public that the original certificate of occupancy (c of o) with registration NO. NGS 87 over PLOT NO. 44, MTP1 at MINNA is missing. Aforementioned in the name of MALLAM MAMMAN SABA of NE 131 NASARAWA WARD MINNA, is declared missing.

All effort to trace the missing document proved abortive. Please if found, return it to MALLAM MAMMAN SABA of NE 131 NASARAWA WARD MINNA or the nearest police station.

SIGNED
MALLAM MAMMAN SABA
08032423264

AUCTION! AUCTION!! AUCTION!!!

This is to inform the general public that there will be public auction sales of unserviceable vehicles/items in FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION at FGGC KAZAURE, FIS LAGOS, OBALENDE CAR PARK, LAGOS, FIS BENUE.

Correction of omission on the publication of March 5, 2010 on the public auction.
TIME: 11.00AM
DATE: 20, 24-28 MAY 2010
BENNETH E. OKEKE

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public that the original certificate of occupation (c of o) with file NO NGMN 13581 by the name WEST AFRICA LTD belonging to ENGR. BEN OPERA (MD) is declared missing. All effort to trace it proved abortive. If found, please contact MINISTRY OF LAND AND HOUSING MINNA, NIGER STATE or nearest police station.

SIGNED
ENGR. BEN OPERA (MD)
08067587776
08035926676

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly called **IYABO LAWRENCE SUSAN** wish to change to **IYABO SUSAN OKURIBIDO**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS MARYAM ABDULLAHI ABDULHAMID** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS MARYAM A. ABDULHAMID-ZAKARI**. All former documents remain valid. **FEDERAL JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION (FJSC)** and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as **SARAH JEROME OGBAJE** now wish to be called **MRS SARAH JOSEPH ENUMA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **MRS AMINA T. AHMED** wishes to be called **MRS AGNES T. AJAYI**. All former documents remain valid. **FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT** and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS OLUWATOSIN OLUWASEYI ADEGOKE** now wish to be called **MRS OLUWATOSIN OLUWASEYI OSUNNUYI**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **MISS HELEN JIBRIN** now **MRS HELEN SUNDAY BENJAMU**. All former documents remain valid. **STATE HOUSE** and General public please take note.

I, formerly **HABIBAT SHUAIBU** now wish to be called **MRS HABIBAT S. IDRIS**. All former documents remain valid. **OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR-GENERAL OF THE FEDERATION** and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as **TAOFEK ALANI OBANLA** now wish to be called **JOHN ZION OBANLA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **MISS BIANCA UJUJUI** now wish to be addressed as **MRS BIANCA UJU ONYEAGECHA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **DEBORAH EBELU UDODE** henceforth wish to be called **MRS UGWU EBELU DEBORAH**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS FRANCA NENE EBARE** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS EBHOTEMHEN FRANCA NENE**. All former documents remain valid. **AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY** and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as **ISLAMIYAT TEMITOPE ADENUGA** now wish to be known and called **ISLAMIYAT TEMITOPE SALAUDEEN**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS CHIOMA IJEOMA NJOKU** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS CHIOMA IJEOMA EMMANUEL NWABUENU**. All former documents remain valid. **UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA** and the general public take note.

I, formerly **MISS OMOZOKPIA FELICITY** now wish to be addressed as **MRS AKUTA FELICITY**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **MISS GWAN PAMELA NENPANMWA** now wish to be addressed as **MRS GADO PAMELA NENPANMWA**. All former documents remain valid. **USAID** and General public take note.

I, formerly **AISHA MAI** wish to be called **AISHA MAI SAIDU**. All former documents remain valid. **NYSC** and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **OLANIKE FLORENCE IBIYEMI** now wish to be known as **BLESSEDFLORENCE OLANIKE GODSWORD (MRS)**. All former documents remain valid. **CBN, NICE NIKKY NIG LTD, NICE ENTERPRISE** and General public should take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS CHRISTIANA FRANCIS** now wish to be known as **MRS. CHRISTIANA ELISHA KAIKEH**. All former documents remain valid. **PCN** and General public should take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS BONUOLA FAIDAT OLANIKE** now wish to be known as **MRS. ABDUL-AZEEZ FAIDAT OLANIKE**. All former documents remain valid. **PCN** and general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS KUMTAP TONGRIYANG PEACE** now wish to be known as **MRS. ABIODUN TONGRIYANG PEACE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS ELIZABETH MOLOKWU** now wish to be known as **MRS. ELIZABETH ISAAC**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS NNEKA CECILIA OKAFOR**, now wish to be known as **MRS. NNEKA F. TOFEEQ**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.



THE PRESIDENCY BUREAU OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT (BPP)

NAMES OF OFFICERS IN MINISTRIES, DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES (MDAs) TO ATTEND THE SECOND BATCH OF 2010 PROCUREMENT TRAINING

Pursuant to Part 11, Section 5 (K) of the Public Procurement Act, 2007, the Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP) hereby announces the **SECOND BATCH OF 2010 PROCUREMENT TRAINING** for the underlisted officers in the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). The training which is a continuation of the Bureau's efforts at enhancing the capacities of the officers in the discharge of their duties shall hold between **MONDAY, MAY, 24, AND FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2010**. Venue is at: **SYMPOSIUM 1, MERIT HOUSE COMPLEX, PLOT 22, AGUIYI IRONSI STREET (BESIDES NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION BUILDING), MAITAMA, ABUJA**. Training begins at **9.00AM** each day. The list goes as follows:

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

1. Adachobe Fatima Kate
2. Effiong Ekpo Etim
3. Oyewole Taiwo O.
4. Uwaishe O. O.
5. Okegbile Mary Abiola
6. Ojo Funmilayo (Mrs)
7. Iwute Alex Ajoruwa
8. Ombe .P.
9. Angela Ejlofor
10. Abdulmalik Ozigi

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

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12. Edith Ugwu (Mrs)
13. Enechaziam .O. Andrew
14. Stella Odigie
15. Osibogun .A. Abiola (Mrs)
16. Adelakun .E. O. (Mrs)
17. Hanatu Mamman (Mrs)
18. Basse E. T.
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22. Shokenu .M. F.
23. Loukunle .O. A.
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31. Grace Freeman Zwaltur
32. Gideon Zinkur Ndam

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34. L. Williams

35. A. E. Abah
36. J. Otokpa
37. M. O. Nkoro
38. Sani Mohammed Jos
39. M. I. Akpan
40. Monday Edoyonbe
41. Omereonyekwe .S.
42. Omotoyinbo .O. Florence

STATE HOUSE

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44. Rahila Horson
45. Josephine Iweka
46. Akpabio .A. U.
47. Eteng Ubi Inyang

MINISTRY OF MINES AND STEEL DEVELOPMENT

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49. Ajayi .E. O.
50. Nakanda Peter .E.
51. Safiyanu .S. Musa
52. Aguocha .M. N. (Mrs)
53. Mohammed Ibrahim
54. Shuaibu Ibrahim
55. Dahiru Aliyu
56. Umar Jariri
57. Asabe Tony (Mrs)

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59. Iribom .A. Kurutsi
60. T. A. Addy
61. Abaukaka Mohammed
62. Osotimehin Fidelis Niyi
63. Yakubu Abubakwa
64. Adam Ibrahim
65. Gabriel Anyasodor
66. Onyeyara .K. U.
67. Rufai Saleh G/Mallam

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69. Segun Adedokun
70. Kadiri Kasimu
71. Ementa Godwin

72. Tina Ejiofor
73. Nimis Keme
74. Julius Sunday
75. Sariki Salihu
76. John Out
77. Ojobor .T. Uchenna

NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

78. John Anochili
79. B. Ezeifeka
80. Esther Bosede
81. Betty Ezeilo
82. Mohammed King
83. A. U. Effiong
84. Nuhu Yahaya
85. G. Umar
86. O. Adedun
87. G. U. Okoye

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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89. V. A. Effiong
90. E. C. Izunobi
91. Eze, C. J.
92. Anifowose .S.
93. Mohammed J.
94. Dimka .E.
95. Shehu .A.
96. Shafiu .I. M.
97. Liman Abdullahi Tambawal
98. Aliyu Ahmed Dandawo
99. Usman Abdullahi
100. Afsa John
101. Braye .E. Thaddeus

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

102. Bawuro Haruna
103. Charity Ndabai
104. Jamila Babaisa
105. Nwoye C. Simeon
106. Gloria Njoku

ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY, PLEASE

All enquiries to: info@bpp.gov.ng, or call: 09-6252380, 6252377

SIGNED

Dr. Abiodun Adeniyi,
Bureau of Public Procurement (BPP).

SPORT

Jonathan
dines with
Eagles

Page 63



SUPER Eagles midfielder Sani Kaita, right, and Tico-Tico of Mozambique fight for the ball during their match at the Nations Cup in Angola. Eagles manager Lars Lagerback has named Kaita in his 30-man provisional list for the 2010 World Cup.

Why Lagerback picked Kaita, by Ogunjobi

By Orkula Shagee

NIGERIA Football Federation (NFF) Technical Committee Chairman Chief Taiwo Ogunjobi yesterday explained that Super Eagles Technical Adviser picked Sani Kaita ahead of Femi Ajilore in the midfield because of Kaita's tirelessness and his ability to assist in other departments.

Ogunjobi, who spoke to reporters after a media briefing by chairmen of all 37 state football associations in country, said Lagerback was impressed with the work rate of the former Kano Pillars sensation.

Furthermore, the former NFA Secretary General who defended Lagerback's choice to drop some players before watching them play explained that there was no FIFA window for the coach to watch the invited players in training or a friendly game; adding that the time for the release of the provisional list also forced Lagerback to release the list before watching the players in training.

"Lagerback picked Kaita instead of Ajilore because he is a workaholic and he joins well in other departments of the team.

"On why he picked the players without watching them, there was no FIFA window for him to experiment and the deadline given by FIFA for countries to come up with their provisional list was on hand, so he had to select the players from the list of those registered for the World Cup qualifiers after watching them on tapes", Ogunjobi stated.

Ogunjobi, who said Peter Utaka was picked based on his current goal scoring form, also informed that Lagerback's choice of Yakubu Ayegbeni in place of Michael Eneramo was because both players play bullish football, with Ayegbeni being the most dangerous.

The former Shooting Stars of Ibadan General Manager, who expressed confidence in the ability of Lagerback to do a good job with the Eagles in South Africa next month, revealed that the coach plans to use two different teams against Argentina on June 12 and against Greece on June 17.

Eagles set Abuja aglow ...in first World Cup training session

By Ismaila Lere

LOOKING very fit, trim and slim, the Super Eagles looked good on the ball at an evening training session yesterday as they look forward to a special dinner with President Goodluck Jonathan tonight and then, a nine-day training camp in England.

Lagerback led the Eagles out in his first training session with the team at the National Stadium Abuja.

The Swede's original programme did not include an in-country training session, but after seeing a Presidential Send Forth Dinner moved by a day, Lagerback is refusing to waste one full day and has sched-

uled training for the first full day of camp.

Thirteen players showed up on the opening day of camp, with Everton forward Yakubu Ayegbeni and Lokomotiv Moscow man Osaze Odemwingie the most high profile arrivals.

Aiyegbeni was accompanied in by fellow Toffee Victor Anichebe late on Wednesday night.

Others who arrived earlier are Obafemi Martins, Chidi Odiah, Rabiu Afolabi, Haruna Lukman, Brown Ideye, Peter Utaka, Elderson Echiejile, Chinedu Obasi and the two players from the domestic league, Akpan Bassey and Terna Suswan.

The players worked out inside the main bowl, the first time they have come this way in group following an Appreciation Dinner held for the team ahead of the African Cup of Nations in Angola in January.

NFF President Sani Lulu Abdul-lahi formally introduced the new Technical Adviser, Lars Lagerback to the players at a short session inside the Transcorp Hilton Hotel yesterday afternoon.

He said: "We have picked one man we believe has the capability to harness the qualities in you all to make you the greatest team in the world, by going all the way at the World Cup".

Lagerback said he was delighted to be working with players with so much ability and potential, and pledged that the entire unit (players, himself and backroom staff) will work as one to bring glory to Nigeria.

Team skipper Nwankwo Kanu expressed confidence in the unit, and said the most important thing for now is hardwork as the team looks to do well at the World Cup. "Now we are playing close to our fans, close to our home and family and everyone is looking forward to it. There is great expectation and we believe this is the right time if we want to show this area can do something."

'Why we elongate tenure of state FAs'

By Orkula Shagee

A member of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) Congress, Mallam Ibrahim Musa Gusau yesterday explained why some state football association (FAs) executives has been allowed to continue in office after their tenure's expiration.

Gusau, who is the chairman

of Zamfara State Football Association, told a news conference in Abuja that the decision, which was taken at last year's Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Federation in Makurdi, was to harmonize all football association elections in the country.

According to Gusau, after the decision in Makurdi, the state football association chiefs went

back to their various states and briefed their constituencies who agreed that the decision was in the best interest of the Nigerian football.

He added that the decision was not aimed at favouring anybody, as some state association's executives will not benefit from the new arrangement.

"We as a family have the right

to sit and unify what is being done at the national level, and that is exactly what we did at the NFF AGM in Makurdi where we agreed that the tenure of football associations in the country fall within a particular period.

"So, after the 2010 elections, all football association elections in the country together with that of the national body will hold at

the same time, unlike what is currently happening.

"You should note that some state football associations' tenures expired in 2009, while others are to expire in 2011, but we agreed during the Makurdi meeting that they should all be harmonized for us to have a uniform calendar of election", Gusau stated.

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Q1) How much will it cost me to go to the World Cup 2010 in South Africa?

A1) Our Charter Travel Package is from N294,000 for 5 days accommodation, inclusive of visa, airline return ticket; transfer from airport to accommodation on arrival, and from accommodation to airport on departure; transfer from accommodation to stadium and from stadium back to accommodation as well as 1 match ticket of your choice from the opening group matches.

Q2) Can I stay longer than 5 days and how much would it cost?

A2) Yes you can stay longer than 5 days. Our Standard World Cup package is inclusive of accommodation, transfers to and fro airport, South African Visa, match day transfers, Category 3 match tickets. Subject to your budget, the categories of accommodation and match tickets are as shown below:

NO OF DAYS IN SOUTH AFRICA	5days	10days	15days	20days	25days	30days	35days
Self Catering Hostel	294,000	308,000	402,000	500,000	600,000	811,000	904,000
Self Catering Private House	300,000	560,000	740,000	924,000	1,110,000	1,307,000	1,506,000
Don Suite Hotel	300,000	390,000	757,000	1,000,000	1,213,000	1,441,000	1,690,000
3 Star Hotel	432,000	644,000	806,000	1,092,000	1,320,000	1,570,000	1,900,000
4 Star Hotel	757,000	1,294,000	1,801,000	2,302,000	3,203,000	3,829,000	4,470,000

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Q3) How many matches can I watch within each package?

A3) You can watch any match subject to your arrival date and departure dates. Samples below:

- 5 days Package includes 1 group match ticket
- 10 days includes 2 group match tickets
- 15 days includes 3 group match tickets
- 20 days includes 3 group match tickets + 1 round of 16 match ticket
- 25 days includes 3 group match tickets + 1 round of 16 match ticket + 1 quarter final match ticket
- 30 days includes 3 group match tickets, 1 round of 16 ticket, 1 quarter final ticket + 1 semi final ticket

• 35 days includes 3 group tickets + 1 round of 16 ticket + 1 quarter final ticket + 1 semi final ticket and 1 World Cup 2010 Final Match Ticket

Q4) When are the departure and return dates?

A4) You can depart and return on any of these dates below, depending on the number of days (5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 or 35 days) you wish to stay in South Africa. You can also make additional trips to suit your time schedule as your visa will be a multiple entry visa for maximum of 3 months.

Departure Dates	Return Dates
June 10th	June 15th
June 15th	June 20th
June 20th	June 25th
June 25th	June 30th
June 30th	July 5th
July 5th	July 10th
July 10th	July 15th

Q5) Can I add extra days to the standard Charter Accommodation Package?

A5) YES! You can add more days to your accommodation in any category of your choice (Subject to availability). Bookable days are in multiples of 5 days. The daily Nigerian Naira Rates are as follows:

- Accommodation 1 Star (hostel in the Nigeria Supporters' Village) N8,400
- Accommodation 2 Star (Group-45 Private accommodation) N25,600
- Don Suite Hotel N29,400
- 3 Star Hotel (Manhattan Hotel, Pretoria) N34,000
- 4 Star Hotel (Protea Group Hotels) N109,000
- 6 Star Hotel (Quotes available by email request)

Q6) Can I get additional match tickets to those included in the standard package?

A6) YES! Opening match ticket is excluded from the standard charter match tickets. You can however buy additional match tickets with your package including Opening Match at extra cost as follows:

Match Ticket	CAT 1	CAT 2	CAT 3
Opening Match	85	60	45
Group Matches	35	30	25
Round of 16	42	35	25
Quarter Finals	60	45	35
Semi-Finals	120	85	50
3rd/4th Place	60	45	35
Final	165	125	80

Q7) What is the cost of return charter airline ticket?

A7) Airline Charter N165,000

Q8) What is the cost of airport taxi?

A8) Airport Transfer (Arr + Dep)
Group Transfer: N35,000
VIP Transfer: N45,000

Q9) What is the cost of match day taxis?

A9) Match Day Taxis Fares
Group Transfer: N31,000
VIP Transfer: N45,000

Q10) What is the average time required to process South African Visa?

A10) We need about 7 working days to process South African Visas

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- You will receive an SMS and E-mail notification when your Visa is ready for collection from the same United Parcel Services (UPS) courier office where you submitted your passport for South African World Cup 2010 Visa application.
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Jonathan dines with Eagles

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan will join the Nigeria national football team, Super Eagles at a special dinner on Friday evening as the most populous black nation in the world is set to send forth her heroes to battle.

The very lucky 52-year old, who became substantive President on May 6 following the death of Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, will tell the superstars that the

Government and good people of Nigeria is fully behind them to go to battle in South Africa and conquer the world. Of course, the players and officials will need all the luck they can get.

A one-time Deputy Governor, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan has become Nigeria's leader in a year the nation is celebrating its Golden Jubilee anniversary and the Super Eagles are back in the global stage to play at Africa's first FIFA World Cup.

Friday's dinner will come after a close-door training for the players at the National Stadium main bowl, and the following morning, the two-time African champions are off to England for a nine-day training camp.

NFF President Sani Lulu Abdullahi said the big night is an occasion for the nation's leaders to appreciate the team and also gear the players and officials up for the FIFA World Cup finals, which is for the first time ever being staged on African soil.

"As official sponsors of the Super Eagles, Coca-Cola is proud to host this event as a platform for the entire nation to appreciate these heroes and to pledge the



DICKSON Etuhu of Fulham battles with Obafemi Martins of VfL Wolfsburg during the UEFA Europa League last season. The two players alongside 28 others will be hosted to a special dinner today in Abuja to be attended by President Goodluck Jonathan.

confidence and support of over 140million compatriots, as the team gears up for the great battle ahead", said Austin Ufomba, Coca-Cola Nigeria's Marketing Director. "We at Coca-Cola are optimistic that the Super Eagles, imbued with the 'Naija' spirit, will be the team to beat in South Africa," he added.

Highpoints of Friday night's

showpiece, being bankrolled by NFF sponsors Coca Cola, will include address by President Goodluck Jonathan, live performance of the Super Eagles' 2010 World Cup song, video/audio documentary on the Eagles' march to the World Cup finals and live performance of the Nigerian remix of the Waving Flag, Coca-Cola's 2010 FIFA

World Cup theme song originally done by Somali-born K'NAAN. The remix rendered by the duo of Nigeria's leading hip-hop stars, Banky W and MI, is dedicated to the Super Eagles and is a celebration of the 'Naija Spirit' - that unfazed sense of optimism, confidence and perseverance that drives the average Nigerian to thrive in spite of adversity.

Nigeria picks five for African golf tourney

By Orkula Shaagee

AFTER three days of intense competition at the IBB International Golf and Country Club, Team Nigeria yesterday picked five golfers for the final round of selection for the 2010 All Africa Female Challenge Trophy.

The final selection exercise will be conducted in two months time to select the final list of three play-

ers that will represent the country at the main event coming up at the IBB Club in November.

The top five selected players are Faith Okoh-Baya of Ibori Golf Club Asaba, Diana Okah of Port-Harcourt Golf Club, Faridah Wada of IBB Golf Club, while the duo of Rachael Danjuma and Amina Wilfred are from the Kano Golf Club.

One of the team members Faridah Wada told Trustsports

shortly after the event that she will not disappoint the country if she makes the final list of those that will represent Nigeria at the biennial golf fiesta.

Also speaking, President of Ladies Golf Association of Nigeria Mrs. Ngozi Osuhor said she is positive that Nigeria will excel at the event, adding that those selected will undergo intense training in Abuja to perfect their

skills ahead of the coming event.

Apart from been the best female golfers in the country, Osuhor disclosed that an elaborate training programme has been lined up for Team Nigeria to ensure success at the competition.

"I am positive we will excel at the event, we have done a good selection as those we have picked are the best golfers in Nigeria", Osuhor stated.

Baribote position under threat

RUMSON Baribote is in danger of losing his position as a member of the executive committee of the Nigeria Premier League after failing to hand in his resignation as chairman of Bayelsa United within the stipulated window.

Baribote, whose appeal against Davidson Owumi's eligibility to contest elections is at an NFF Arbitration Panel, also failed to attend the inaugural meeting of the new board.

Elections into the board of the NPL were held on May 8, and Art F of the Electoral Guidelines direct all elected members of the board to hand in their resignations from their various clubs to the Electoral Committee within seven days of the election.

A member of the Election Committee explained that due to the protests and appeals, that provision took effect from the day of the Appeal Committee's Resolution of the appeals.

Art F (v) provides the penalty for non-compliance as leading to "nullification of the election and a bi-election to be conducted within 14 days after the nullification".

The other three affected members, Davidson Owumi (Rangers), Shehu Gusau (Zamfara United) and Abdulrazaq Wopa (Kwara United) have turned in their resignations.

The Bayelsa United chairman now has three more days to hand in his disengagement from the league champions.

Botched AGM: Ukah lampoons NOC

From Adeolu Johnson, Lagos

PRESIDENT of Nigeria Hockey Federation Patrick Ukah, has come hard on the Nigeria Olympic Committee (NOC), following last minute indefinite postponement of the body's meeting originally billed for May 13 in Lagos.

The decision according to him, is a deliberate attempt at further delaying over due election to usher in new officers to run the affairs of the body.

He dismissed submission that the meeting had to be put on hold because the Chairman and members of the 3-man caretaker committee are out of the country, insisting that the reason is not good enough.

"The committee for goodness sake has already done its job and produced a report, and we are supposed to be looking into that report without further delay," he said

In a swift reaction however, Spokesman of NOC Tony Neziyanya said the postponement was at the instance of the Rev Moses Iloh led committee. Members according to him would want to personally present. "Yes I can confirm that the meeting has been postponed indefinitely. It was at the instance of the committee members currently out of the country. We felt it is better to do so and give the opportunity to present the report and ensure that things are properly done," he said.

Hoopers in Lagos for double confrontation

By Ismaila Lere

PORT Harcourt-based Royal Hoopers basketball club will this weekend takes its luck to Lagos for a double confrontation against Dodan Warriors and Police Baton at the Sports Hall of the National Stadium.

Hoopers coached by former Nigeria international point guard, Ogoh Odaudu must be at its best to survive the double onslaught in Lagos as Dodan Warriors its first opponent on Saturday is without a win in the three week old league.

Like its Sunday opponent, Police Baton basketball club of Lagos, Royal Hoopers basketball club who finished fourth in its first year in the Nigeria flag-ship competition has yet to taste defeat picking a valuable week-one win against Delta Force in Asaba before beating Nigeria Customs at home last weekend.

Hoopers coach Odaudu, who dumped Lagos Islanders after guiding it to a second place finish last season for the oil rich Port Harcourt side, is confident his side would come out victorious in both road games on Saturday and Sunday.

His Police Baton counterpart,

"We are optimistic of picking that game against Royal Hoopers so as to continue to guarantee our stading on the conference."

Mark Balogun, a Superintendent of Police, told our correspondent that Royal Hoopers would not escape defeat on Sunday.

"We are optimistic of picking that game against Royal Hoopers so as to continue to guarantee our stading on the conference standing.

"Though we are yet to see them) Royal Hoopers) play this season but we've heard a lot about them and we are set for the task," Coach Balogun concluded.

Other games billed for the Atlantic conference will see Nigeria Customs take on union Bank in a local derby on Friday, while Islanders travel to Asaba to keep a date with Delta Force on Saturday.

In the Savannah conference, Plateau Peaks and its city rival Tappun Rockets will entertain fans at the sports hall of the Ahmadu Bello Stadium, Kaduna on Saturday; AHIP Giants of Kano will be at home to visiting Bauchi Net on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Niger Potters of Minna, who last weekend lost to Plateau Peaks in Kaduna, will confront visiting Yelwa Hawks of Bauchi.

GUEST COLUMNIST

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Religious politics without religion

One of the major dilemmas of Nigeria in its 50 years of independence is the nifty way in which the elites have manipulated religion to serve political ends. In this vast and perplexing multi-ethnic and multi-religious country, the political is religious and the religious is political. The ethnic is political and the political is ethnic. Ethnicity, religion and politics are all intricately intertwined in deceptive, destructive ways.

Consider, for example, the misguided conspiracy theories, and the unnecessary religious tensions that heralded the recent appointment of Mohammed Namadi Sambo as the Vice-President of Nigeria. To the best of public knowledge, Namadi Sambo did not yearn for the appointment, and therefore it was a choice well-made. Yet, the idle mischief makers kept polluting public mind, arguing that he was deliberately chosen so that a Christian from Southern Kaduna State could succeed him as the Governor of Kaduna state. Have these people forgotten that Mr. Patrick Yokawa was Sambo's running mate while they were voting? Such political pettiness in the name of religion is not new, and has been unfortunately going on for a while.

In 2004 when the former Governor of Plateau state Joshua Dariye was going through his self-inflicted political troubles, the *Daily Champion* edition of December 13, 2004 carried a screaming banner: "Sokoto Caliphate behind Dariye's woes—CAN". Ordinarily, one would have ignored such a story if it had been attributed to some piqued and plummeting politician. But when the news report was credited to the Christian Association

of Nigeria (CAN), I got worried, extremely worried. According to the story, CAN alleged that the caliphate was scheming Dariye's downfall first during the emergency rule and later through the courts 'because of the governor's frontline stance in the crusade for emancipation of the Middle Belt from the hegemony of northern oligarchy'.

Yet, in point of fact, Dariye, like the majority of our present day politicians, was not the champion of his people. As a Governor, he was not different from the rest of the socially inoculated politicians who have become immune to the moaning and groaning of their people. If Nigerian politicians project themselves as champions or crusaders or jihadists, they often do so only in defence of their power and pockets. To present Dariye as a crusader against the hegemony of northern oligarchy while he was indeed the oligarch per excellence amounted to blindfolding the ordinary people in the name of religion.

Addressing a press conference in Kaduna at about that time, the Secretary of Northern CAN, elder Saidu Dogo, was quoted to have argued that 'we believe Dariye, being one of our members; we should speak for him...' As the umbrella organisation for Christians, CAN has every legitimate right to promote and protect the interests of its members, including Dariye who was embattled at that time. But in so doing, it should not compromise the principles on which all religions are founded—an unalloyed commitment to justice and truth—no matter who is involved.

Beyond the mundane politics of CAN and the Caliphate, we must come to terms with the fact that the lives of ordinary Nigerians—irrespective of religious affiliation—have been wasted away by a corrupt political cabal that has taken the nation hostage.

More recently, the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in the 19 northern states and the Supreme Council for Shari'a in Nigeria (SCSN) have been involved in accusations and counter accusations over alleged domination of key federal appointments. The CAN had alleged that Muslims have dominated key appointments in the army, NNPC, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), among

others. For instance, it had argued that: "The association also noted the current trend of things in the Nigerian army under the leadership of Gen. Danbazzau where the top echelon of the army is dominated by Muslims. We have again attached a statistics of appointments in the army as at 2009 to prove this lopsidedness in appointments in the military".

In its response, the SCSN published statistics with names and religious affiliations of what it calls the 12 member National Security Committee to show that with the exception of the Chief of Army Staff and the Comptroller-General of Customs, all the other 10 members of the committee are actually Christians. It concluded by noting that: "This disproportional composition of the security agencies must immediately be rectified in line with the constitutional requirement for equitable representation in all public establishments as rightly demanded by CAN". Between CAN and the SCSN, one of them is certainly being economical with the truth but that is not even the issue.

Both CAN and the SCSN have the right to speak on behalf of their members and demand for fairness in all federal appointments. Yet, beyond the whole hullabaloo over representation, the two religious organisations have missed out the fundamental issues bedeviling the nation. As men and women of God, they need to soberly reflect on the state of the nation. This nation is sick and is in urgent need of those who can heal it—spiritually, politically and economically.

Consider, for example, how any nation of the 21st century other than Nigeria, can remain without electricity supply for weeks and months on end. How can our scientists in the universities and research institutes compete in the production of cutting edge science and technology with candles and torch lights? Do we indeed have universities in the truly 21st century context? Let the men and women of God travel across the nation and see how poverty is violently engraved on the faces of ordinary Nigerians—they are Christians; they are Muslims but poverty has no religion, and it is not an indigene of any state.

Let members of CAN and the SCSN travel on Nigerian roads and feel the pitiless impact of the gullies and potholes. At every point on the journey, let them stop by and read the bleeding epitaphs of the hundreds of thousands of road accident victims—they are Christians; they are Muslims but the monumental corruption which converted the roads into dead traps has no religion or tribe. Let them even speak with the trees drying with thirst, and listen to the shrill cries of the birds whose wings have been clipped; let them see the emaciated animals around... these are neither Christians nor Muslims but trust from God to be cared for by both Christians and Muslims. Everybody and everything in this land has been affected by the injustice, the corruption and the colossal failure of governance.

Yet, despite all this pain, upon all this suffering, in the face of all the tears of the anguished children and widowed women, all that our men and women of God know best is to quarrel and fight over appointments and draw daggers and kill each other. The silence, and often cold complicity displayed by the men and women of God in the face of all the socially manufactured suffering in the land seem to suggest that we do not understand the teachings of our religions.

Where is the Christianity that speaks against injustice and protects the poor? Where is the Islam that stands for those who are oppressed in the land? Where, indeed, is the religion in all the filthy religious politics we have been playing with every issue? Where is the religion of God in all this monkey business? I see no religion; I see false piety... I see the greedy merchants and *marabouts* of a fraudulent spirituality.

Where is the Christianity that speaks against injustice and protects the poor?

SPORTS REPORT



MICHAEL Eneramo

Enermo holds World Cup regret

Esperance of Tunisia striker, Michael Eneramo has come out with a daring declaration that his club form should have been enough for him to grab a shirt with the Super Eagles to the World Cup in South Africa.

He said if current form were to be the decisive factor for selection of players, he would be on the plane to South Africa ahead of many of those already listed.

"I was the highest scorer last season and I am the lead scorer in the Tunisian league. There is nothing I can do about it. It is painful.

"I abandoned Tunisia, who desperately wanted me to play for their national team because I love my country. It is not fair.

"But, much as I feel sad, I believe that God's time is the best. And I wish the team the best in South Africa," he said.



WILLIAM Gallas

Gallas returns to France training

France centre back William Gallas kicked a ball for the first time since late March yesterday, raising hopes he will be fit for the World Cup. Gallas, suffering from a recurrence of a calf muscle injury which has kept him on the sidelines for nearly two months, took part in a light training session at France's camp in Tignes.

The 32-year-old, who arrived in the French Alps resort on Saturday three days before his team mates, is the reason why Coach Raymond Domenech named a provisional 24-man squad instead of the official 23.