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Details scanty as 'Operation Amotekun' starts in S/West

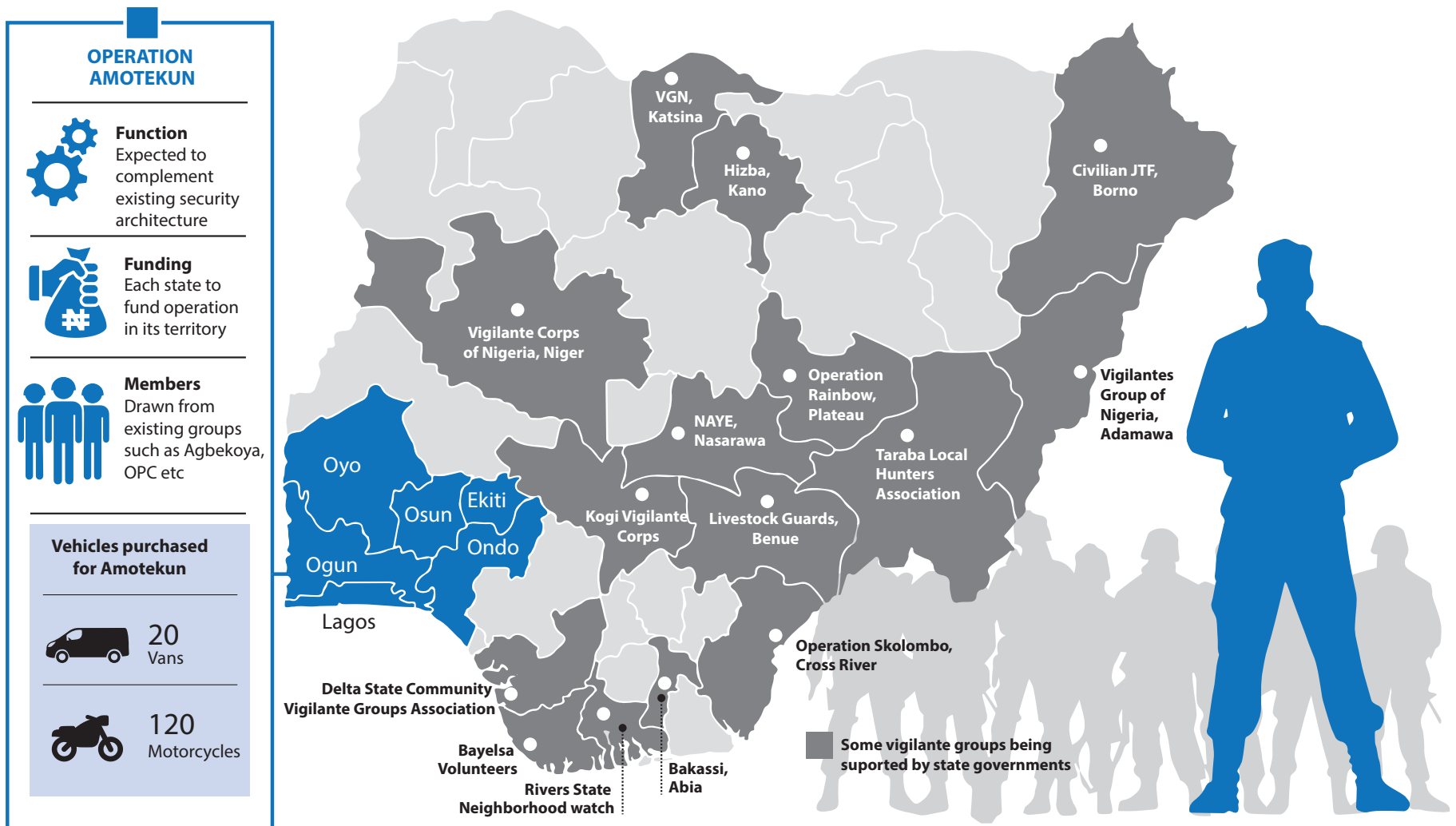
From Hameed Oyegbade (Osogbo), Bola Ojuola (Akure), Raphael Ogbonnaieye (Ado Ekiti), Jeremiah Oke (Ibadan), Peter Moses (Ogun), Abdullateef Aliyu (Lagos), Eugene Agha (Lagos) & Ronald Mutum (Abuja)

HOPEs and fears are on the rise in the South West of Nigeria as a security outfit codenamed 'Operation Amotekun' which governors of the zone put in place to curb crimes takes off tomorrow.

Governors of Lagos, Oyo, Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Ekiti met last year and deliberated on waves of attacks and resolved to come up with a formidable outfit to stem the tide. The move is already a subject of

public discuss considering that even though different states at different times had in the last 20 years launched or supported a security outfit beside

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Infographic Ali A. Geidam

Warm clothes markets boom in Jos over freezing cold P 30	Oshoala crowned African Women's Player of the Year P 47	Electricity tariff: What FG, DisCos should do – Experts, LCCI, NECA P 18
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Compiled by
JAMIL H. SALIM

WEATHER

ABUJA SUNNY 36 21 MAX MIN	KADUNA SUNNY 33 17 MAX MIN	KANO SUNNY 29 14 MAX MIN	MAIDUGURI SUNNY 31 15 MAX MIN	JOS SUNNY 28 13 MAX MIN
SOKOTO SUNNY 32 19 MAX MIN	IBADAN SUNNY 37 20 MAX MIN	ENUGU SUNNY 38 21 MAX MIN	P/HARCOURT PARTLY CLOUDY 31 17 MAX MIN	LAGOS SUNNY 34 23 MAX MIN

(Temperature in centigrade)

AFRICAN SAYINGS >>

Smooth seas do not make skilful sailors.

(Malawi)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

FOOD FOR THOUGHT >>

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.

- Benjamin Franklin



PHOTO OF THE DAY >>



Adelaide wildlife rescuer Simon Adamczyk is seen with a koala rescued at a burning forest near Cape Borda on Kangaroo Island, southwest of Adelaide, Australia yesterday. As many as half a billion animals, including pets and livestock, may have been killed in Australia's wildfires, according to experts, with potentially hundreds of thousands of injured and displaced native wildlife

Photo: AAP Image/David Mariuz/via REUTERS

PRAYER TIMES

CITIES	FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
ABUJA	5:36	12:39	3:55	6:24	7:28
ENUGU	5:38	12:37	3:53	6:19	7:23
KADUNA	5:35	12:38	3:54	6:22	7:26
KANO	5:30	12:33	3:51	6:17	7:22
KATSINA	5:32	12:39	3:55	6:26	7:30
LAGOS	5:53	12:55	4:10	6:37	7:42
MAIDUGURI	5:13	12:16	3:32	6:00	7:04
P/HARCOURT	5:49	12:47	4:03	6:24	7:28
SOKOTO	5:43	12:47	4:03	6:32	7:36

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna

STOCK INDEX AS AT TUESDAY 7, 2020

GAINERS	FIDSON	PZ	UNITYBNK	CHIPLC	CORNERST
OPEN	2.80	5.60	0.80	0.36	0.63
CLOSE	0.25	0.50	0.07	0.03	0.05
CHANGE	9.80	9.80	9.59	9.09	8.62
LOSERS	NCR	LIVESTOCK	COURTVILLE	FO	JAIZBANK
OPEN	4.05	0.46	0.24	16.90	0.65
CLOSE	-0.45	-0.04	-0.02	-1.10	-0.03
CHANGE	-10.00	-8.00	-7.69	-6.11	-4.41

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■ President Muhammad Buhari (right) with the All Progressives Congress (APC) National Leader, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, during the visit of the APC's chieftain to the Presidential Villa in Abuja yesterday

Photo: State House

Army to Zulum: Accusing troops of extortion can hinder anti-terror war

...as many back Borno gov

By Ronald Mutum

The Nigerian Army says the Monday's allegation by Borno State Governor Babagana Zulum that troops of Operation Lafiya Dole were extorting commuters along the Maiduguri-Damaturu Road can be counterproductive.

This is in the wake of commendations on the social media by some locals and travellers who believed that the governor spoke their minds.

In a statement, the Nigerian Army Operations Media Coordinator, Colonel Aminu Iliyasu, said such outburst was capable of reversing the gains recorded in the ongoing fight against the insurgency.

He stated: "However, it is important to unequivocally observe that public outburst particularly by eminent personalities such as a state executive could be counterproductive and indeed capable of reversing the gains recorded so far in the ongoing fight against insurgents and other criminal elements across the nation."

He said the army had noted the "amateur" video clip circulating on the internet and social media of the governor accusing soldiers deployed on the Maiduguri-Damaturu Road of commuters and causing them unnecessary hardship.

He said the army as a professional and disciplined institution viewed such allegations seriously, particularly coming from a state executive.

"It is on record that whenever such allegations of troops' misconduct were made in the past, the Nigerian Army never reneged in conducting thorough investigations to establish them. And where any infractions were established against any personnel, appropriate sanctions were applied in line with extant rules and regulations as provided for in the Armed Forces Act CAP A20 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria," he added.

He said the army assured the people of Borno State and the nation at large that any allegations of misconduct by its troops would be duly investigated and culprits dealt with accordingly.

"The Nigerian Army wishes to emphatically reiterate its steadfastness on the protection of lives, properties of all law abiding citizens as it is committed to wiping out insurgency in the North East and other forms of criminality across the country."

Several insurgents killed after ambushing army commanders in Borno

By Ronald Mutum

The Nigerian Army yesterday confirmed an ambush by the Boko Haram insurgents on the convoy of the Theatre Commander of Operation Lafiya Dole, Major-General Olusegun Adeniyi, on Monday.

The Nigerian Army Operations Media Coordinator, Col. Aminu Iliyasu, in a statement, said the attack occurred about two kilometres to Auno in Kaga Local Government Area of Borno.

He said several insurgents were "decimated"; while two soldiers were wounded.

He said the commander was returning from Jakana

where he visited troops' location, following his earlier meeting at Auno with Borno State Governor Babagana Zulum.

Iliyasu said the commander led the gallant troops of his convoy to engage the insurgents with superior fire power, subduing them "and thereafter assaulting the ambush site with his men thereby causing the criminal insurgents to flee the location in disarray."

He said on January 6, 2020, some marauding elements of the Boko Haram insurgents laid and eventually sprung an ambush against the commander's convoy.

He said the commander's convoy came under the

criminals ineffective and uncoordinated fire from anti-aircraft guns, machine guns, rocket propelled grenades and some of their foot soldiers.

He said: "Other senior military officers in the Theatre Commanders' convoy at the time of the ambush include the Deputy Theatre Commander, Major General MG Ali; Brigadier General EI Eze, Brigadier General SI Igbinomwanya and Lt A.A. Tejuoso.

"In the aftermath of the encounter, several Boko Haram criminal insurgents were decimated. Additionally, 20 rounds of 7.62mm Special ammunition, 2 rounds of 7.62mm NATO ammunition,

one camouflage trouser, one Nigeria Police Force fragmental jacket, 2 AK 47 rifles and 3 AK 47 rifle magazines were captured from the fleeing insurgents.

"Thereafter, the Theatre Commander Major General Olusegun Adeniyi and his convoy continued their trip and have since returned safely to the Headquarters Theatre Command Operation LAFIYA DOLE in Maiduguri.

"Regrettably, two soldiers were wounded in action during the encounter. The Wounded soldiers are currently receiving treatment at a military medical facility and are responding positively to treatment."

Insecurity: We won't keep quiet – CAN

By Abbas Jimoh

The Christian Association of Nigeria again yesterday challenged the Federal Government to wake up to its primary responsibility of protecting the lives and property of the people.

CAN President Samson Ayokunle, in a statement by his spokesman, Adebayo Oladeji, said the association was not doing the bidding of the terrorists by crying out for the freedom of Nigerians, especially Christians in the captivity of the Boko Haram terrorists.

He said as long as the unpleasant situations in the country remained the same, the leadership of the CAN would not keep quiet "since that is the only thing we can do aside from praying for the captives."

He urged the government to free CAN members from their captors.

"These criminals are targeting the predominant Christian communities. Killing, maiming and abducting the people with or without any resistance from the security agencies is unprecedented. Let the government

wake up to its responsibilities and see if we will not stop talking about its failure to protect our members.

"That is not politicisation of religion. The governor of Borno State is shouting that the soldiers are extorting money from the people instead of defending them. If the government has not been treating those criminals with kid gloves, let them publish names of their kingpins; of the terrorists, killer herdsmen and bandits in their custody and those who are being prosecution in the court of law for the world to see," he said.

Presidency to religious leaders: Don't politicise religion

By Muideen Olaniji

The Presidency yesterday told some religious leaders that the politicisation of religion, as forbidden by the constitution, has no place in Nigeria.

A presidential spokesman, Garba Shehu, while reacting to recent statements by some religious leaders, said the current government would never tolerate religious intolerance.

Shehu, who restated government's support for the freedom to practice whichever belief individuals wished, advised them to have a proper perspective of the current challenges in order to fall

into the antics of the terrorists.

He stated: "The security forces of Nigeria are working continuously to return those taken hostage by Boko Haram to their families, friends and communities. In doing this, the government has full confidence in their ability to accomplish the task.

"The government has condemned some of the appalling acts of terror, especially following the festive period. Yet, to continue to see these happenings solely in religious terms - removed from social, economic and environmental factors - simplifies complexities that must be heeded. Not seeing them as they

should be is exactly what Boko Haram and groups wish: they want Nigerians to see their beliefs as reason to turn against one another. Boko Haram should be the happiest, seeing our religious leaders tearing at one another.

"Happily, a majority of our citizens, Christians and Muslims are united in their opposition to the terrorist group and the hatred for decency that the infamous group stands for.

"Nigerians must continue to be united in ensuring that they do not subscribe to its message of division. Unfortunately, some leaders and politicians seek to make political capital from our religious

differences. As we fight Boko Haram on the ground, so too must we tackle their beliefs: stability and unity in face of their hatred is itself a rejection of their worldview.

"What this country needs urgently at the moment is addressing rampant unemployment, alleviating poverty and delivering long-delayed infrastructure. We urgently need jobs, economic growth and relief from debilitating corruption. The president does not wish to be distracted from this major focus by divisive politics promoting religion and accusations and counter accusations on baseless religious issues."

CRIME

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Gunmen kill 6, abduct 7 in Taraba

From Magaji Isa Hunkuyi, Jalingo

Six people have reportedly been killed while seven others were abducted in Taraba State in two attacks by gunmen suspected to be militia and bandits.

In the first attack, the gunmen numbering about 15, were said to have killed four passengers and abducted seven others along a federal highway in the state.

It was gathered that the incident occurred between Mahanga and Chediya towns located along Wukari-Jalingo road late Sunday night. The bandits reportedly took the passengers into the bush.

A resident of the area, Musa Haruna, told our reporter that the bandits were suspected to be part of the kidnapers dislodged from Mallam Ali area by hunters last month.

He added that several

persons including elderly women had been abducted in Dananacha, Sabongida, Tella and Gassol in Gassol Local Government Area.

In the second attack, the gunmen suspected to be militia reportedly attacked Shamaki village also in Gassol LGA. It was gathered that the gunmen, numbering up to 30, attacked Shamaki, which is a Jukun settlement at about 2am on Monday.

It was further gathered that youths in the village, who were also well-armed, confronted the attackers.

Two youths were said to have been killed in the exchange of fire, which reportedly lasted for about two hours.

The spokesman of the police in the state, DSP David Misal, confirmed the two incidents but did not provide any detail.

Suspected bandits attack Kaduna community, kill 2

From Mohammed I. Yaba, Kaduna

Suspected bandits have attacked Bana village close to Buruku town in Chikun LGA of Kaduna State killing two persons, Daily Trust learnt. Residents also feared that the attackers might have abducted many people from the village.

It was gathered that the incident happened on Monday morning but due to network problem in the area, the people could not reach out to the authorities. A vigilante member, who does not want his name mentioned, said when they arrived the village, most of the villagers had fled the area.

"The bandits arrived the area on motorcycles and attacked a community called Bana close to Buruku town. Two people were killed and many more are feared to have been abducted," he said.

The spokesman of the police in the state, DSP Yakubu Sabo, did not respond to calls for confirmation. A text message sent to him seeking clarification on the issue was also not responded to.

... kill lecturer in Katsina

From Habibu Umar Aminu, Katsina

A lecturer at the School of Basic and Remedial Studies (SBRs) of Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) based in Funtua LGA, Malam Umar Isa, was Monday night killed by suspected bandits in Malumfashi LGA of Katsina State.

Isa was said to have visited his friend, one Shuaibu Wakili at Malumfashi town when bandits struck at the residence located around Water Board area around 7pm and abducted him.

The victim, our reporter gathered, jumped off the motorcycle he was being ferried on and started running before he was shot by the fleeing bandits around Kwandala area of the metropolis. During yesterday's attack, a son of Wakili, whose name is yet to be ascertained, was reportedly kidnapped in the incidence.

Wakili, who hails from Kafur LGA and was forced to relocate to Malumfashi town, has escaped series of attacks in the past, it was further gathered.

The remains of the deceased has since been buried in Funtua town. Meanwhile, as at the time of filing this report, the police were yet to respond to enquiries on the incident.

...7 persons in Rivers

From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

Seven elderly persons have reportedly been abducted at Idu community in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Local Government Area of Rivers State.

A witness told this reporter that the victims, who included six elderly women and a fisherman, were abducted by gunmen along a farmland in the community on their way to the farm on Monday.

The witness said the gunmen took their victims to an unknown destination.

The Secretary of Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni Security and Anniversary Planning Committee, Emeka Agbarie, who confirmed the incident to reporters, said they were already combing the farmland and bushes in the area to rescue the kidnap victims.

When contacted, Rivers State Police Command spokesman, DSP Nnamdi Omoni, said he was yet to be briefed on the incident.

Police arrest 3 suspected kidnappers

From Hope A. Emmanuel, Makurdi

The police in Benue State have arrested three people for allegedly kidnapping and collecting N200,000 ransom from their victim.

State Commissioner of Police Mukaddas Garba, in a statement yesterday, said a complaint was received that an unknown person who introduced himself as "Gana boy" threatened to kidnap and kill the complainant if he did not send money to him.

"Investigation led to the arrest of one Hon. Aondona Gbakaan, Akesa Sughnen and Terkimbir Oljime all males of Konshisha Street, Makurdi who collected the sum of N200,000 as ransom," the police commissioner stated, adding that the suspects confessed to the crime.



■ Nigerian Navy personnel storm an illegal oil bunkering site at Atlas Cove in Lagos, during the ongoing Operation KUROMBE yesterday

Photo: DINFO

3 men bag 16yrs in jail for theft

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

A Benin magistrate court yesterday sentenced three men to a combined jail term of 16 years for the theft of jewellery and clothes.

While 27-year-old Simon Bedangzak was sentenced to six years in jail with hard labour for stealing jewelries and clothes by

Chief Magistrate Patricia Igho-Braimoh, the duo of Mohamed Musa, 23 and Ibrahim Aliyu, 37, bagged five years each with hard labour for receiving stolen property.

The prosecutor, ASP Osayomwanbor Omoruyi, said the convicts committed the crime on November 9, 2019 at 2, Ewemade Street off PZ Road,

Benin.

He said Bedangzak stole 11 trousers, nine shirts, two eye glasses, three pairs of shoes and a belt, valued at N480,000 belonging to one Mr Sunny Ewemade. He also stole six gold earrings, three gold pendants, a necklace, all valued at N3.2 million belonging to Mrs Osasu Ewemade.

Policeman kills driver, injure 2 passengers in Bayelsa

From Bassey Willie, Yenagoa

A policeman with the Bayelsa State Police Command has allegedly killed a bus driver and injured two passengers, including a man suspected to be a corps member in Yenagoa, the state capital.

Spokesman of the police in the state, SP Asinim Butswat, said the policeman, whose name he did not supply, had been identified, arrested and taken to the Criminal Investigation Department of the force.

He said the command will get the full report of the

incident and the suspect would be made to face the law accordingly.

It was gathered that the policeman guarding a new generation bank at Ekeki axis of Yenagoa opened fire on a commercial bus belonging to Peace Mass Transit after an argument because the driver packed beside the bank for a passenger to alight.

The cop was said to have boarded a commercial bicycle and escaped the scene shortly after shooting the people to avoid mob action.

A witness told our

correspondent that the policeman fired bullets at a close range which pierced through the driver's head and hit the two other passengers including a corps member.

One of the staff of the company, who witnessed the incident but asked not to be named, said "the bus came from Onitsha in Anambra State without problems only for this ugly incident to happen."

It was gathered that some youths around the area destroyed some parts of the bank while protesting against the action of the policeman.

Details scanty as 'Operation Amotekun' starts in S/West

— Contd from page 1

the conventional forces in response to their peculiar security challenges, pundits believe Operation Amotekun is the first major regional

outfit involving all the states of a particular geopolitical zone.

Some experts interviewed said this could be another strategy by the governors of the South West to have

a regional police, or put it mildly a state police which has remained a contentious issue for long.

Salient details relating to Amotekun in the areas of funding, genuine

collaboration among others have not been made public 24-hours to the launch of the programme.

This is amid questions from other parts of Nigeria as to whether operatives of the

outfit will be allowed to carry firearms and who among the governors will serve as the overall head.

The headquarters of Amotekun is located at Gbongan, Osun State.

How each state in S/West views Amotekun

Daily Trust reports that what has been made public so far is that the initiative was designed to involve the Police, the Nigerian Army, the Nigerian Air Force, the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), as well as local militias like the Oodua People's Congress

(OPC) and the Agbekoyas.

But while leadership of various security outfits at the centre have not yet said anything about the initiative, state commands of such agencies are being cautious on how they would contribute to the success of the programme.

Akeredolu has procured vehicles for Amotekun in Ondo

Governor Oluwarotimi Akeredolu, who is Chairman of the South West Governors Forum, has already procured 20 vans and 120 motorcycles for security surveillance in the state ahead of the launch of Operation Amotekun.

Akeredolu said Operation Amotekun would not fail,

assuring that it will protect lives of the people by reducing crimes.

However, the Ondo State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Adie Undie, declined to comment on Amotekun, saying the security initiative was that of South West governors.

Police adamant as Osun dedicates park for the new security outfit

In Osun, the state government has dedicated the Olajokun Park at the Gbongan Junction as the operational base of the task force in the state and procured 20 vehicles for it. But the police in the state seemed not ready for collaboration with the initiative. When Daily Trust contacted the Police Public Relations Officer for the Osun State Police Command, Folashade Odoro, she tactically avoided definite response on the involvement of police in the arrangement.

The Osun State Commissioner for Information, Mrs. Funke Egbemode, told our correspondent that local security hands have been recruited from all areas of the state for the purpose, saying they would be paid by their

respective local governments.

Egbemode added that government security agencies would contribute personnel for the task force and that the locals recruited into Amotekun would work with them to provide security, particularly on the highways.

"The task force will work with the cooperation across the region without conflict with the state security agencies. They will network, share intelligence and information. Security issues are not matters that are discussed in the market place, so as such we won't be divulging more details as far as its operation is concerned. But rest assured Amotekun will enhance the security architecture of the region," she said.

Ekiti: Amotekun will only complement existing security architecture

The Special Adviser to the Ekiti State governor on Security Matters, retired Brigadier-General Ebenezer Ogundana, corroborated Mrs. Egbemode's claim that each state would be funding its operation.

"The body is not recruiting anybody. The people to be used are on ground. Amotekun won't change the security architecture we have in the state.

"This is just to complement

the security arrangement on ground. We will mobilise the OPC in Ekiti State, our peace corps and our hunters as one because they have the local intelligence. They know the bushes and other terrains very well and that is why we are involving them.

"The roles of soldiers have not been fully identified but they would still be carrying out their responsibilities in the state," he said.

Ogun setting up communication hub for synergy

Governor Dapo Abiodun, while receiving the Assistant Inspector General of Police, Zone 2, AIG Ahmed Iliasu, yesterday, said his government was completing a communication set-up that will avail security outfits in the state the opportunity to

monitor activities of its patrol teams.

Iliasu was evasive when journalists asked him on the police preparedness to support Operation Amotekun, but said they would be committed to "smashing out criminalities in the country."

Lagos police waiting for Abuja's position on Amotekun

The spokesman of the Lagos State police command, Bala Elkana, declined to comment on Operation Amotekun, saying he needed

to understand the position of the Nigeria police leadership on the issue before expressing his official position on it.



■ Vehicles and motorcycles meant for vigilantes, hunters and members of the Oodua People's Congress who will take part in the Western Nigeria Security Outfit codenamed Operation Amotekun (leopard), which will be launched on Thursday

Key players differ on reasons behind Amotekun

Though the six governors in the South West are optimistic on the workability of Amotekun, some of the touted key participants have not been sounding so hopeful.

In Oyo, leaders of two of the targeted groups, the Agbekoya and OPC, have described the move by the governors as "a failed agenda."

The National Publicity Secretary of Agbekoya Worldwide, Mr. Bande Olatunji, told Daily Trust that the governors in the region are yet to approach the body for concrete agreement on Amotekun's mode of operation.

Olatunji disclosed that the governors failed to attend meetings convened in Lagos by the OPC leader and Aare Ona Kakanfo of Yorubaland, an attitude he described as "showing insincerity with our security challenges in the region."

Olatunji said there must be a template, processes and procedures to work on so that the Amotekun programme did not result in a conflict with security agencies.

The president of another faction of Agbekoya, the Agbekoya Reformed Society, Aare Dr. Kunle Oshodi, and the National Publicity Secretary of

NewEra, Odua Peoples Congress (OPC), Chief Shina Akinpelu also accused governors in the region of "not being sincere with the people."

Dr. Oshodi said, "The governors are not sincere. The proposal emanated through the Yoruba Assembly led by General Alani Akinrinade, a renowned and respected Yoruba leader.

"Our national secretary, Hon. Wale Osun, convened a meeting of all self-determined groups. That was where we discussed it and how all the documents emanated from the meeting went to the Development Agenda for Western Nigeria (DAWN).

"Now the DAWN Commission and the governors are adopting the document without carrying us along. They want to launch the vehicles without logistics. It has failed already.

"They have not done anything because there is nothing on ground. They have not recruited anybody. They have not trained anyone and they have not established a mode of operation for the programme," he said.

But reacting to the allegations against the DAWN Commission, its Director-General, Seye Oyeleye, urged residents of the South West and Nigerians generally to wait until the

launch day before commending or condemning the governors.

Also, contrary to what leaders of the Agbekoya group in Oyo told Daily Trust, the Coordinator of Agbekoya in Ekiti, Mr. Sunday Omoyajowo, said they were not only in the know of Operation Amotekun but have been attending meetings on it in Ibadan and therefore fully in support of the programme.

The Alake of Egbaland, Oba Adedotun Gbadebo, throwing his weight behind Amotekun, said any security measure at taming the insecurity challenges confronting the region and Nigeria as a whole would have his support.

But the Ogun State Commander of VGN, Adedoyin Nureni, said the group has not received any circular on whether it would participate in the regional security outfit or not.

A former chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Lagos State, Captain Tunji Shelle, hailed the initiative saying it was the way to go.

In an interview with Daily Trust, Shelle declared that the Amotekun initiative became imperative because of the failure of the conventional security outfits to curb the growing insecurity in the region.

Regional security outfit requires enabling legislation

Speaking on the initiative, retired Group Captain Sadeeq Garba Shehu said there would be confusion if no legal basis is put in place for operating any regional security outfit in Nigeria.

In an interview with Daily Trust yesterday, Shehu insisted that it should be legally backed and sanctioned by the constitution.

"The whole thing is another back way of pushing for the state police but whatever it is should be backed by law. We already have a federal police which has been given mandate as per the Police Act."

"If they are creating any additional outfit, there should be that convergence on how they would operate," he said.

According to him, "In the United States of America where they have state police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, there are rules and procedures on how they operate."

He noted that the concern in security circles is that the police and civil defence may not cooperate with the security outfit in the region.

Also speaking to Daily Trust, security expert Kabir Adamu said although the South West governors' creation of the outfit is an attempt to address the peculiar security challenges of the region, it is also indicative of the failure of the government at the centre.

He warned against creation of regional and communal outfits that turn into a monster

and become selective in enforcement.

A security analyst, Mr. John Ogunlela in a chat with our correspondent described the concept as a good way of ensuring adequate security in the South West "since the police alone cannot protect the entire citizens."

Ogunlela however advised that the guidelines for the activities of the Amotekun should be made known to the public so that the people would not be in the dark about its activities.

The security expert also expressed fear that such a force can be used to acquire arms, with which rebellion may be orchestrated against the lawful government.

B/Haram attacks: Zulum urges military not to relocate 2 communities

From Ibrahim Sawab, Maiduguri

Borno State Governor Babagana Zulum yesterday visited Jakana town barely 24 hours after his first visit on Monday. The governor had also visited Mainok, another community along Maiduguri-Damaturu highway on a similar mission.

Speaking separately in Jakana and Mainok, the governor pleaded with the federal government and the Nigerian military to change their decision on evacuating the two communities.

“Government of Borno does not support the evacuation of these two communities, simply because we don’t want to create another humanitarian crisis not only to the two communities but to the entire people of Borno state.

“Non existence of people from Jakana and Mainok would simply lead to the

closure of Maiduguri-Damaturu highway. This however entails cutting off food supplies to Maiduguri.

“We are appealing to the federal government, Nigerian military to provide more security that would secure the communities as well as the road,” he said.

Our correspondent gathered that the governor’s visit was aimed at building community resilience. The visit was also necessitated by the recent security threat around Jakana general area.

Meanwhile, Borno State Governor Babagana Zulum has paid tribute to headquarters of the Nigerian Army for the swiftness with which the Army announced readiness to immediately investigate conducts involving stop-and-search of passengers around Njimtilo area.

Zulum spoke in reaction to a statement issued on Monday night by Colonel Aminu Iliyasu, coordinator

of the Army’s operations’ media.

This was contained in another statement released yesterday by Governor Zulum’s spokesman, Malam Isa Gusau.

The statement said the speedy response from the Army Headquarters only reaffirms what every Nigerian already knows about the exceptional leadership credentials of the Chief of Army Staff, Lt.-Gen. Tukur Buratai, and many others that have done so much for Borno and Nigeria.

“Governor Zulum is very pleased with the swift action from the Army Headquarters and by implication, Headquarters of Operation Lafiya Dole.

“The decision to immediately investigate some conducts around Njimtilo in the course of (the absolute necessity to search vehicles for security purpose) only reaffirms what all Nigerians already

know of the exceptional leadership style of the Chief of Army Staff, leadership of the theatre commander of Operation Lafiya Dole and many officers and men that have given so much in trying to find peace in Borno.

“Governor Zulum’s encounter with security officials around Njimtilo yesterday (Monday) happened spontaneously. He was on his way to Jakana to meet citizens over a recent attack by insurgents.

“Going to Jakana required the Governor’s convoy passing through Njimtilo,” the statement said, adding, “As someone who took oath to serve the people of Borno State under every situation, he could not drive pass the gridlock he saw around Njimtilo, hence he needed to step in.

“Nevertheless, yesterday’s encounter does not and will not change the very high regard the Governor has for all the security personnel

operating in Borno, particularly soldiers who give up their lives and safety in finding peace for Borno,” the statement further said.

The statement added, “Zulum acknowledges and respects the sacrifices of these soldiers and the fact that they put their lives on the line operating in highways, where insurgents try to ambush them. The Governor recognizes all of these and the fact that the military needs and deserves his support and the support of all citizens.

“However, he also knows that civil-military cooperation will be better enhanced when certain conducts of few are addressed in order to preserve and protect the integrity of majority of security personnel who not only do the right things, but make the ultimate sacrifices of giving up their lives for Borno citizens,” the statement said.

Insurgents kill 3 policemen, injure 1

From Olatunji Omirin, Maiduguri

The Borno Police Command yesterday confirmed that it lost three personnel and one wounded when suspected Boko Haram insurgents attacked their base along Maiduguri-Damaturu highway on Monday, official.

The Borno State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Deputy Superintendent of Police, Mr. Edet Okon told Daily Trust in Maiduguri yesterday that the attackers came in military camouflage.

Mr Okon said the insurgents rode on five utility vehicles to storm the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) base at Kundori village in Konduga LGA which led to the death of their personnel.

“Yes, our personnel came under heavy attack by Boko Haram insurgents armed

with gun trucks. They put on military camouflage and shot sporadically at our men. Unfortunately, we lost three officers to the attack and one person was injured.” DSP Okon said.

Also, OC SARS Ibrahim Mohammed wrote on his Facebook timeline that “Yesterday 6th Jan 2020 at about 10:30am, SARS team on forward operation base at Kundori village, Konduga LG along Maiduguri/Damaturu highway came under heavy attack by Boko Haram insurgents armed with five gun trucks.

“After a fierce battle we lost three great fighters who have made the squad and the Nigeria Police Command proud in previous encounters. We pray that Almighty God in His infinite mercy grant them eternal peace in paradise.”

Ayade signs N1.1 trillion budget

From Eyo Charles, Calabar

Governor Ben Ayade of Cross River State has on Tuesday signed the 2020 “Budget of Olimpotic Merismasis”, worth N1.1 trillion into law.

Ayade said the budget is geared towards bringing into fruition his various projects numbering 33 so far, especially projects such as the 270 kilometre superhighway and Bakassi deep seaport.

He said 82% of the budget is for capital expenditure while 18% is for recurrent expenditure.

“Cross River state has 33 industries in four years and you can point at them. So, I

want to assure all of you that this budget of N1.1 trillion is something we can achieve, something we can accomplish”

Governor Ayade further said, “Cross River is the first state in the history of Nigeria to present a budget of over trillion Naira. The first time in the history of Nigeria that a state, a sub national has presented a budget in the neighbourhood of over a trillion Naira.

Nobody has asked how Cross River which gets the lowest allocation in the country and services debt in the neighbourhood of #1.8 billion manages to pay teachers, civil servants, pensioners.”



■ Residents of Jakana Town in Borno State yesterday listen to the state Governor, Prof. Babagana Umara Zulum, who warned them against hiding criminals

Youths protest alleged release of Adamawa kidnap suspects

From Kabiru R. Anwar, Yolanda

Youths from Girei area in Adamawa State have blockaded the Yola-Mubi Express Way to protest alleged release of arrested kidnapers by police authorities.

Protesters in their hundreds disrupted traffic flow for hours on Tuesday as motorists became stranded while the youths insisted that the state commissioner of police must come in person and address them.

The spokesman of the youths

who is also the traditional youth’s leader (Sarkin Matasa) in Girei District, Saïdu Hamman Girei, said they had credible information that some of the suspects they helped the police to arrest had been released.

He lamented that the kidnapers had caused the death of 10 residents and collected more than N60 million in ransom from innocent victims in recent times.

“We mobilized and supported the security in arresting about 11 suspects

with incriminating evidences but what we are hearing now is that there is order from the police headquarters that the suspects be released”, he alleged. The spokesman of the Adamawa Police Command, DSP Sulaiman Nguroje denied the allegation, saying currently a number of kidnap suspects were facing trial at the court.

Nguroje added that the commissioner of police had assigned the Assistant Commissioner in charge of Operation to visit Girei and handle the matter.

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Gov. Buni signs two bills into law

Governor Mai Mala Buni of Yobe State has signed the Yobe State Traffic Management Agency (YOROTA) and the Yobe State Drugs and Medical Consumables Management Agency (YODMA) bills into law.

YOROTA and YODMA are set up for effective traffic management and vehicle inspection and the management of healthcare consumables respectively.

The traffic management agency will be headed by a General Manager and a governing board.

Its work is to checkmate any recklessness on the part of road users in addition to creating job opportunities, especially for the youths of the state.

The Yobe State Drugs and Medical Consumables Management Agency (YODMA) will, among others, select, quantify, procure, supply, sell, distribute all medications and other reagents and medical consumables that satisfy the healthcare needs of the people of the state.

It will also engage in the manufacture of quality and affordable drugs and medical reagents and consumables as well as put into effect all national and state policies of revolving schemes.

The agency, which is meant to sanitize the healthcare sector, will also participate in regulating, coordinating and supervising the activities related to drugs, reagents and medical consumables supply system including revolving fund operations and donations in the state.

Similarly, the agency will have the power to initiate, encourage and participate in any arrangement promoting public-private partnership, participate in commodity exchange with other bodies or organizations engaged in the provision of the same or similar services to the public.

YODMA is also empowered to dispose, in conjunction with NAFDAC, damaged adulterated, expired and substandard drugs, reagents and medical consumables of the agency.



Gov. Mai Mala Buni of Yobe State waving to people during an inspection visit to the construction site of the N2.8 billion Damaturu Ultra-Modern Market

2020: Yobe Assembly approves N6bn virement for take-off of new ministries

Members of the Yobe State House of Assembly has approved virement of over six billion naira from the 2019 appropriation act for the successful take off of the newly-created ministries in the state.

The House approved the virement after extensive deliberations on the motion for the request of the virement which was presented to it by the executive arm of government.

The leader of the House, Alhaji Bukar Mustapha, said the virement would not affect the size of the 2019 appropriation act.

“Considering the increase of the numbers of Special Advisers and members of the state executive council, the virement will enable government to take care of their salaries and allowances in the approved budget,” he said.

The leader of the House applauded the effort of the executive arm for adhering to budgetary provisions in the implementation of the 2019 approved budget.

The Speaker of the House, Alhaji Ahmed Lawan Mirwa commended members for supporting the virement, which, he said, was in line with the 2019 appropriation law.

The House has proceeded on a one-month recess.



Dr. Mohammed Lawan Gana, Yobe Commissioner of Health

Yobe contributory healthcare law will improve access to quality healthcare - Commissioner

The Yobe State Contributory Healthcare Management Agency (YOCOHEMA) Bill recently signed into law by Governor Mai Mala Buni would improve public access to quality healthcare services in the state.

The State Commissioner for Health and Human Services, Dr. Mohammed Lawan Gana, disclosed this to Daily Trust following the signing of the bill into law by the state governor.

The commissioner said the agency would help reduce out of pocket expenditure for the average family and give beneficiaries a sense of security.

“It means that if and when you fall sick, you do not have to worry too much about how to cover your medical expenses. Through the

contributions that would be made, it also means that there would be more funding for healthcare facilities, including hospitals and Primary Healthcare Centres which will improve their capacity to provide more qualitative and more affordable healthcare services to the people”, Dr Gana said.

The agency was established to ensure that the people have access to quality and affordable healthcare throughout the state.

Part of its powers includes issuing guidelines for the registration of employers and employees eligible to contribute to the scheme and the rates of compulsory payments to be made by the employees of the state government, private sector and those who are self-employed.

CSOs chides govt over banditry resurgence in Katsina

From Habibu U. Aminu,
Katsina

The Coalition of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in Katsina State has berated the federal and state governments for failing to protect lives and property of citizens in the wake of resurgence of armed banditry across the state.

Rising from an emergency meeting, the coalition equally frowned at the recent dialogue with the bandits, saying even though the dialogue was initiated in good faith, it was not effective, professional and lacks

defined framework.

Addressing newsmen, the CSOs Chairman Bishir Ruwangodiya said "a thorough reflection and review of the previous dialogue should be made with the view to making it professional, effective and sustainable.

"Should this situation continue, the people would be left with no option than to take the law into their hands for self protection which may spell doom for the future of security in the state," he said.

He pointed out that a new dimension in which unpatriotic citizens connive and commission the bandits

to smuggle rice, arms, and other contraband is becoming worrisome, noting that the coalition has equally observed that the suspension of vigilante groups in the state has created an avenue for the bandits to operate at will.

He said, "Insurgency in Katsina state has made thousands of people flee their homes and relocate to other communities for safety.

Those that can afford to pay rents secure alternative accommodation in safer places within and outside the state, while those lacking in financial means relocate and stay with relatives"

Group laments neglect of A/Ibom oil producing areas

From Iniabasi Umo, Uyo

Ekid Union, a socio-cultural organisation of Ekid nation has lamented the neglect of Eket and Esit Eket Local Government Areas in the development agenda of the Akwa Ibom State Government.

The group cried out to Governor Udom Emmanuel saying that though Eket and Esit Eket are core oil-producing areas contributing to the nation's oil wealth, they have been unfairly treated.

In a communique signed by the President, Prof Asindi Asindi, and Chairman Planning

Committee of the Congress, Prof. Des Wilson, and issued at the end of its National Congress at Udo Edukere Council Hall, Uquo in Esit Eket yesterday, the group stated that the two LGAs have been neglected and deprived of key infrastructure, especially roads.

They listed the woes and pains suffered by Ekid nation to include environmental degradation, resource depletion and deprivation, biodiversity losses arising from continuous gas flaring, and incessant oil spillage.

They appealed to the

State government to construct a ring road connecting the four primary oil producing local government areas of Eket, Esit Eket, Onna and Ibeno in the state.

The communique pointed out that "The people of Ekid, over the years, have suffered painfully from environmental degradation, resource depletion and deprivation, as well as biodiversity losses arising from continuous gas flaring, incessant oil spillage with very low access to the benefits of oil and gas exploration in their land. This situation is very appalling and pathetic.

Niger govt commences IDP for Minna and Suleja

From Romoke W. Ahmad,
Minna

Niger State Government has commenced the formation of Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for Minna and Suleja to make them equitable, socially inclusive, engaging and self-sustaining cities.

Regional Metropolitan Officer, UN-Habitat, Mr Micheal Kinyanjui, led a Delegation to pay a courtesy visit to Secretary to the state government, Alhaji Ahmed Matane on the formulation of the IDP preparation.

He said the UN-Habitat was delighted with the commitment of Niger government to come up with an IDP for major cities on human

settlement for their sustainability.

"Niger is the first state in Nigeria that has shown commitment to the implementation of urban support programme, this shows that the state is ready to work and see how to manage development process," he said, explaining that the formulation process would involve stakeholders' participation to come up with their development process.

Also, UN-Habitat Consultant for the formulation of IDP in Niger, Rossana Poblet, called for collaboration between Minna and Suleja emirate, adding that the IDP would involve individual

participation.

She pledged to support the state to prepare its IDP and called on the government to set up a technical team for Minna and Suleja.

"There are a lot of potentials and resources as well as active dynamic people such as technicians, academia, and everybody to run and develop the plan," she said.

In his response, Secretary to the State Government who is Chairman of the State Technical Support Team said the IDP would help harmonise and integrate major cities in the state which were expanding on daily basis towards their development.



■ Ogun State Governor, Prince Dapo Abiodun (2nd right); his deputy, Engr. Noimot Salako-Oyedele (right); Commissioner for Education-designate, Prof Sidi Osho (left) and the National Librarian, Prof Lenrie Aina, during a courtesy call by the national librarian to the governor's office in Abeokuta yesterday

Nasarawa gov inaugurates minimum wage committee

From Ibraheem Hamza Muhammad, Lafia

Nasarawa State Governor, Abdullahi Sule has inaugurated a committee on the implementation of the national minimum wage with three weeks deadline to submit report.

The governor said the national minimum wage committee, consisting of government, as well as labour officials, was mandated to study the National Minimum Wage (Amendment) Act, make necessary consultations and recommend to government a workable template for implementation in Nasarawa State.

"The Committee, while carrying out its assignment, should be guided by the

revenue accruals to the State vis-à-vis its ability to pay the Minimum Wage. In this wise, this administration is ready to open its book of account to serve as a guide to the committee towards making appropriate recommendations to government," he said. The national minimum wage committee which has 24 members comprising of 11 government officials and 13 representatives of organized labour in the state is to be chaired by the state Deputy Governor, Dr. Emmanuel Akabe, while the committee on internal revenue which has 15 members has the state Commissioner Special Duties (Revenue), Mohammed Bashir Aliyu as chairman.



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Rivers headquarters of money laundering after Lagos – Magu

From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

The acting chairman of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, Ibrahim Magu has described Rivers State as the headquarters of money laundering after Lagos State.

Magu spoke at a press briefing in Port Harcourt on Tuesday.

Magu, who said that the

commission would not leave any stone unturned to track down and expose every form of criminal activities in the country, noted that the high rate of money laundering in Port Harcourt, Rivers State was due to the nature of its oil business terrain.

He said: "I think Rivers State is next to Lagos in terms of crime, this is the headquarters of money laundering, because

there is lots of oil money, bunkering money here. I think you can rate Port Harcourt the second to may be Lagos when you talk of people playing with sinking, diving, hiding, because of the large space of oil deals."

Speaking on the judgement restraining the commission from investigating and prosecuting Rivers governors on financial crimes, he said

"Nothing is going to stop us, even the issue of the court order allegedly obtained by Dr Peter Odili and co to stop the EFCC from investigation and prosecution has been overtaken by event even though the matter is still at the supreme Court.

"I am telling you that judgement cannot stand, it will only take some time, and we are going to conclude the

investigation. There are so many investigations we are doing, we will take it before the court; let the court refuse to prosecute their case. I am sure the matter has suffered for about 13 years now.

He disclosed that the EFCC had secured about three convictions of governors presently cooling off in prison", adding that 1,245 convictions were recorded last year.

FG charges surveyors council's president with fraud, corruption

By Clement A. Oloyede

The Federal Government has charged the president of the Surveyors Council of Nigeria, Joseph Agbenla, with fraud and corruption.

In a four-count charge filed before an FCT High Court, Zuba, the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission alleged that Agbenla, being a public officer with the Surveyors Council of Nigeria, conferred corrupt advantage upon himself.

Agbenla, a former Surveyor General/Permanent Secretary in Lagos State, was alleged to have received N2.5million from the council through one Ezekiel Okunola on December 17, 2017 as Duty Tour Allowance (DTA) and other expenses for a monitoring and evaluation exercise in the South-South region of Nigeria but failed to embark on the said tour, "but rather claimed to have used the money for other personal purposes, and thereby committed an offence contrary to and punishable under Section 19 of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000". He was also alleged to have received N2,410,000 from the council to enable him attend the 2018 International Federation of Surveyors conference which held in Turkey. He was however alleged not have attended the conference but rather claimed to have used the money for other personal purposes.

Agbenla, who was billed for arraignment yesterday, was however absent in court. His lawyer, O.O. Poroye, informed the court that his client was involved in an accident in Lagos and his doctor had advised him against traveling. He said his client only informed him of the development over a phone call. He therefore appealed to the court for an adjournment of the matter. Prosecution counsel, Evans Peters, who initially opposed the application for adjournment on the premise that no medical report was tendered before the court to support the application, later agreed for the matter to be adjourned. He acknowledged that the defendant is currently enjoying an administrative bail granted to him by the Commission.



■ Gombe State's First Lady, Hajiya Asma'u Inuwa Yahaya commissions a 'Girl- Child non- formal Learning Centre' in Kuri, Yamaltu Deba Local Government Area of the state yesterday. She is flanked by Commissioner of Education, Dr. Habu Dahiru, Emir of Yamaltu, Alhaji Abubakar Aliyu and Emir of Deba Alhaji Ahmed Usman

Amnesty Programme to train ex-militants on leadership

By Olayemi John-Mensah

The coordinator of the Presidential Amnesty Programme, Prof. Charles Dokubo, says plans are underway to enrol leaders of Niger Delta ex-agitators to in leadership training within Nigeria or outside.

Dokubo, according to a statement yesterday by his spokesman, Murphy Ganagana, disclosed this in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, on Monday while meeting with 170 leaders of ex-agitators enlisted in the phase three of the Amnesty Programme.

Dokubo noted that the

training was necessary to equip them with knowledge and skills on how to manage their followers and empower them to undertake entrepreneurship initiatives that would positively impact on the Niger Delta.

He said: "I've thought about leadership training and there was a time they sent people to South Africa. I told the phase two leaders I met here (Uyo) that we would design a programme for leadership training. If you don't have training, how can you lead your people? It is not about stipends, it how you can acquire knowledge.

This knowledge will not be confined to Amnesty, you can also get somewhere.

"So, training is very essential; I will create a programme where leaders will go. I will get a list of all the leaders so that we can send them for training in batches. We can't send all at the same time. It is for your own strength and leadership".

Dokubo asked the ex-agitators to shun violence and work in harmony to deepen peace in the Niger Delta region in order to enhance development.

"There are ways of addressing issues. Amnesty means that you've given up

violence and you've adopted a peace-making process to resolve issues that afflict our people.

That's what it is. So, somebody who has laid down his arms should not even resort to conflict again because you have accepted the rule of the Federal Government".

The national secretary of the Forum of Phase Three Leaders of Ex-Niger Delta Agitators, Tam Odogwu, expressed optimism that the interactive sessions with critical stakeholders in Niger Delta initiated by Dokubo would deepen peace in the region.

Nigeria must remain indivisible – Oyetola

From Hameed Oyegbade, Osogbo

Osun State Governor Gboyega Oyetola says keeping Nigeria as one indivisible and indivisible entity remains the only way to appreciate the selfless sacrifices and efforts of fallen heroes that fought and sacrificed their lives for the peace, unity and oneness of the country.

Oyetola spoke at the Government House in Osogbo yesterday at the official launch

of the 2020 Armed Forces Remembrance Day Celebration as well as Emblem and Appeal Fund.

He asked citizens to imbibe the spirit of patriotism and nationalism, saying the celebration of the annual Armed Forces Remembrance Day must reflect the need to strengthen the bond of unity and togetherness among the citizenry.

The governor added that

the commemoration must also motivate and prod Nigerians to collectively stand against insurgency in the country.

He reiterated his administration's commitment to maintaining the peace, unity and stability of Osun State and had made the welfare of veterans a collective responsibility.

"The State of Osun is irrevocably committed to the Armed Forces Emblem and

Appeal Fund initiative. As a way of expressing our avowed commitment, we have always donated generously to the Appeal Fund. We did it last year; we will do it again today," he said.

Earlier, the chairman of the Nigerian Legion in the state, Oladimeji Olalere, commended Oyetola's administration for its support to his chapter, describing the gesture as unprecedented.



OPINION

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Tunde Asaju

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Eyes on Australia

Australia is on my radar for obvious reasons. I have family and friends in the Back of Beyond. But most importantly, I am a professed Nigerian Christian who would never accept that the kind of fire consuming Australia is ordinary. It is either an angel rehearsing the prelude to the flames of Gehena, the consequence for Climate change denial or the effects of foreigners expropriating aboriginal land.

As a Nigerian, one of my political leaders once attributed an outbreak of disease to divine punishment for the sins of his people. He made the prognosis from the safety of a foreign trip financed on state funds of course. You see the present crop of Australians wrestled the land from the aboriginals, named it after English towns and villages and have now banned wilful migrants from making the vast and beautiful country their haven of choice. If this is divine retribution, then the aboriginals would be spared its consequences; after all, this is their ancestral land and they understand the language of the gods and nature.

Modern Australians are spoilt people. I remember in 2002, when Nigeria's democracy was just germinating after nearly 40 years of military domination. There was an explosion in the munitions depot of the Ikeja Cantonment. President Olusegun Obasanjo branched their on his way out of the country. When hapless victims started murmuring, he bluntly told them – I don't have to be here! And that was it.

But in Australia, their 51-year old prime minister, Scott Morrison, was soaking in the sun on a well-deserved vacation in Hawaii when enemies set his nation on fire. Unlike hapless and helpless Ibadan fire fighters, Mr Morrison's fire fighters are smoke-inoculated. They have fire trucks not just for display, they are adequately trained and they fight wild bush fires

every freaking day of their volunteering lives. Mr Morrison, who studied economic geography, had no training in fire fighting. While on vacation, he left the job to the professionals but quickly returned home in case his cup of water was needed to extinguish the flames. There's an epic clip of Nigerians fighting a mammoth flame with buckets of water and Omo and when a foreign journalist asked her countrymen to be grateful, she was hacked on Twitter. Critics should die!

Nigerians won't understand these kinds of things. Our President never misses an opportunity to take a break even if the nation was literally burning as it does. One could imagine presidential spokesmen picking on critics (wailers) hyperventilating because the president was vacationing while the nation burnt.

Australian buggers wouldn't let their boss be. So, a sorry Mr Morrison flew back home and quickly went to work visiting worst affected places. Unlike Nigerian patriots who would welcome back their leader at such times with traditional dances and Scottish bagpipes, he barely met his driver on the tarmac. Unlike our overpaid and underperforming governors who never forfeit their jumbo allowances but are full of excuses for not paying the recommended minimum wage, Mr. Morrison announced a 13th month bonus for the fire fighters.

You would expect them to hold a rally in celebration, but they didn't. As Mr Morrison began to show up in areas worst hit by the inferno, you'd expect grateful placard-carrying patriots thanking their leader for his empathy, but no. Everywhere Mr Morrison went; bad language and protests welcomed him.

One of those fire fighters who just received his 13th month bonus alert had the impudence of refusing to shake the hands of his

boss! Shameful isn't it? The last man to show such impudence at the national level was my late friend Bamidele Aturu. In Naija, we don't treat diligence, sorry I meant, insolence with kid's gloves, ask Sowore.

One Australian woman called her prime minister an idiot to his face and went home to lunch or dinner with her sound bite going viral! Australia looks like the right country to banish Aisha Yesufu, Oby Ezekwesili and that Ugandan teacher/agitator Stella Nyanzi. When fire-spitting Amazons die they go to Funmilayo Ransome Kuti, Margaret Ekpo and Gambo Sawaba's kind of heaven.

By the way, the fire fighter who refused to shake the hands of his prime minister did not get a query from the chief fire officer. As I shift my gaze towards Nigeria, I told myself not to go to Australia any time soon. The kind of virus that conscientizes an elected official into shame is bad for my health, not to talk of all that smoke to my asthma.

Nobody tells a Nigerian not to 'insult' the president, provided they know the cell keeper at Yellow House. But to insult the president to his face, that sacrilege is punishable with summary execution or disappearance. In Zaria, one intemperate Shia member blocked a general's convoy – over 300 died for his impudence. The leader of the group who was perhaps observing his siesta is now in jail. His group is banned. Imagine the kind of charges Abubakar Malami could exhume from the statute books for someone insulting the president to his face!

If you have an Australian family friend, please give them a berth. If they're on your social media timeline, block them. If they write a post don't read or like it. If they send you mail, let it go to the junk folder and by Jove, let their calls go to voice mail. In this New Year, flee all appearances of subversion.

Timawus Mathias

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Trump's reckless gamble

One might think that US President Donald Trump was reckless in ordering the assassination of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani. How else could he have been unmindful of the grave implications of such a drastic step on global peace and economy? Overnight, oil prices shot up and by last night, had gone up to the \$70 per barrel high. World currencies felt the jitters to the disadvantage of the United States in the long run. It was a dastardly immoral act, regardless of the provocation. All along, Trump's systematic pressure, intended to have Iran seek negotiation on bended knee, had instead caused Iran to opt for a military response using its proxies in the region to attack vulnerable western assets and military targets.

What I find disheartening is that President Donald Trump "inherited an Iran, made more manageable by President Barak Obama", and blew it. Iran had accepted a nuclear deal with America and was drifting towards a rapprochement with its avowed enemies the US, Israel, Saudi Arabia, and the rest of Europe all in the interest of world peace. But the hate of Obama and everything associated with his African-American predecessor obviously blinded Donald Trump to all the monumental gains inherent in the nuclear deal secured at such painstaking effort. It was surprising that even after Trump shredded the nuclear deal, Iran sustained it for up to 12 months making open bids to salvage it. It tried hard to retain its trade partners that had resumed business with Iran since Obama lifted the sanctions and managed to keep France, Germany, China, and Russia in partnerships, independent of the US. But Trump would not let this be and one by one, international companies fearing severe losses from the US sanctions departed Iran. Iran had taken advantage of the lifting of sanctions to procure economic repositioning needs like jumbo jets, vehicles and industrial machinery and as well secure huge exports of its gold, caviar, carpets and agricultural produce among others. All was lost to Trump's effective strangulation.

It is the reversal of the nuclear deal and the re-imposition of biting economic sanctions that served to drive Iran back to the trenches of resistance to America and the resort to military acts that escalated the tensions. In September two Saudi Aramco oil assets were attacked severely in sophisticated stealth drone fashion and without batting an eyelid, Saudi Arabia and the US accused Iran of the act. Earlier in May, four commercial ships belonging to Saudi Arabia, Norway, and the UAE were attacked off the coast of Fujairah. Saudi Arabia blamed Iran for the act. Then the Houthis a known Iranian proxy in Yemen, fired a rocket that landed in the US Embassy in Baghdad. Naturally, Iran was fingered. In June, two tankers belonging to Japan and Norway were attacked in the Gulf of Oman and just a week later Iran brought down a sophisticated US military drone. In July, to retaliate the seizure by the British of a super tanker loaded with Iranian oil, Iran also seized a British tanker, the Stena Impero, that was negotiating passage through the Strait of Hormuz. Meanwhile Iran had resumed its nuclear program viciously and by November, was enriching uranium well above sanction limits and fueling centrifuges - a move towards the Netanyahu marked red line.

As the game of military attacks in reaction to biting sanctions continued, a US contractor was killed and several US marines injured when a rocket struck an

Iraqi military base in Kirkuk. Of course regardless of which proxy fired the rocket, the US blamed Iran even as it carried out air attacks on militia sites across the region. The straw that broke the camel's back was when on New Year's eve, Iran backed protesters attempted to break into the well fortified compound of the US Embassy in Baghdad. Then just a day after US Defense Secretary Mark Esper revealed that Iran was planning more attacks, General Qasem Soleimani was killed as he left the airport in a convoy.

Many have suggested that the tensions in the Persian Gulf and the Middle East signal a drift to World War III. Others discountenance the fear pointing out that Iran possesses no such military muscle as to take on the United States of America despite the belief that the threat of retaliation for the killing of Soleimani would be carried out in an equally dramatic fashion. Iran is hemmed in by American Military bases, but its counter strategy believably anchored by Soleimani has been the funding and deployment of proxies across the region, who could effectively target American interests and attack with devastating effect.

Is Trump wise or foolish in his projection in this killing? Are we convinced that the killing of Iran's General Souleimani was worth the gamble? America lied it's way into Iraq and killed Saddam Husein. Who suffered the most from this regime change? The war cost America trillions of dollars, and hundreds of dead marines. The US economy went into a recession. America lied it's way into Libya and killed Muammar Gaddafi. Who suffered for this the most? Does the US not count the real cost of its abuse of power? Is it worth the human material and financial cost to America? Is world peace better guaranteed by a troubled Middle East? Is the State of Israel made any more secure by this deadly divide and rule in the Arab world?

When I reflect on all these deeply, I come to the conclusion that America like all bullies is only clever by half. If Trump's ploy is to achieve the political effect Obama derived from the killing of Osama bin Laden, the world instead sees the killing of Qasem Soleimani as grossly immoral and totally unnecessary. It could cost Trump the forthcoming election especially if the escalation hurts the US economy.

The fear of a Third World War in the offing is valid, even though this time, the US does not have the tacit support of its European allies as firmly as Bush, Clinton and even Obama had. Germany and France, victims of the 2nd World War think differently from Trump's US. Smaller European countries that Trump calls the 2%ers of NATO are unhappy and noncommittal. The scenario of the US taking on Iran with help of the gulf nations does not impress me. With Iran resuming its nuclear development, Israel could undertake a preemptive attack, and as well take on the Hezbollah in Syria. I fear that Russia, China, and North Korea thinking the time to make that move against an economically weakened America is now, would converge. Donald Trump is incapable of processing fast developments and might just press that Atomic button and tell us on twitter. Chaos.

Or else, the war would be asymmetric and by proxies - the world at war with small pockets of peace here and there. This is where it worries me the most. Nigeria would be vulnerable and worse off with Boko Haram buoyed the more by the ensuing chaos in the Arab world.

Letter to the Editor

e-mail letters@dailytrust.com text 08131800030

CARTOON by AKILA JIBRIN



Few things the Igbo ought to forget, oppose

2020 is a new year and a new decade, the decade of the 20's. And the Igbo must recognise and get away from a few traps set for them. Failure here will be disastrous and catastrophic for the Igbo and Nigeria.

Pursuing or encouraging anyone or any political party to promise to deliver an Igbo president is neither in the interest of the Igbo nor Nigeria for several reasons.

Being Igbo should not be a qualification for almost any office, especially that of the president of Nigeria. Anyone seeking the office must run on his abilities and no more.

If one is elected on the basis of being Igbo such a person will not be successful in the execution of his office. Igbo interest and national interest will sometimes clash. How will decisions be made on those occasions? A president such as this will lose the support of over 50% of Nigerians from the word go.

The second Niger Bridge is not an Igbo bridge. A bridge is a structure built over an obstacle (in this case River Niger) to enable people and vehicles to travel east or west at Onitsha/Asaba. Any vehicle or person can do so: the Edo, Yoruba, Hausa, Fulani, Ijaw, Igbo, etc. can use it. Promising that as a gift to the Igbo is insulting. The Igbo should boo any politician who

makes this offer. Should the federal government build it or not. It will be an inconvenience to all Nigerians and damage the economy of the Igbo and non-Igbo if not built.

Many a politician has gotten away with this fraud and this decade should put a stop to this 419 scheme.

Creating a new state will balance the zones and is good logic. But it is not necessary for the development of South East. It is another 419 on the Igbo. Igbo should fight for border adjustments that will bring the Igbo who are as minorities in other states such as in Kogi, Benue, Akwa-Ibom, Cross River, Edo, etc. back into South East. It is only when this is done that creating a new Igbo state will make any sense.

There are fights the Igbo should lead. They include restructuring Nigeria in such a manner that there is no more "born-to-rule" mentality or a perception of it; throwing away the expensive presidential type of government with its executive planes and Aso Rock type of residences and reverting to the parliamentary system of government where the Prime Minister is "primus inter pares" (first among equals) and lives among his equals i.e. the citizens.

Parliamentary system has worked very well for Commonwealth countries like Australia, Canada, etc. It will work

better for Nigeria too. The Igbo should join or lead the fight against poverty, which is a bane of Nigeria, a place where the average citizen supposedly lives on \$2.00/day which is an exaggeration as it translates to N21,000 a month. The Igbo should join or lead the fight against President Muhammadu Buhari's effort to deny freedom of speech and assembly for people like Shi'ites, IPOB, and other citizens like Omoloye Sowore and Nnamdi Kanu.

Let's hope that the decade of the 20's is one in which political 419 will be put to death, when governments will do their duty and not pretend that they are doing the people a favour by using taxpayers' money to do community work; that living by UN mandated freedoms is not a luxury or what can be abridged at the government's will.

Benjamin Obiajulu Aduba
Boston, Massachusetts
baduba54@aol.com

Re: 101 police killed in 2019

Daily Trust Newspaper cover story of Monday, January 6th 2020, about the police and its history of deaths of its officers that died in 2019, is sad, grievous and disheartening.

The police and its personnel - both in Nigeria and indeed in any part of the whole world - is symbolic of any sovereign nation's attempt to ensure that orderliness and peaceful co-existence are enforced in every society. Thus, whenever any police personnel is killed in the line of duty; subtly, quietly, but glaringly, evil has prevailed over good - to some degree - somewhere, in our country.

This is why every incumbent administration in Nigeria can never do too much for the police force, and its men and women. Modern crime fighting equipment, a good salary structure, timely and regular payment of such salaries and remunerations, befitting barrack accommodation nationwide, regular recruitments into the police force, posthumous honours for police personnel killed in the line of duty, and reasonable welfare packages, (as well as reasonable compensation for the immediate family member of slain police officer while performing their duties): all such initiatives by the federal government will go a long way in strengthening the "not too palatable, existent structure of the police force in Nigeria. Such initiatives will also boost the morale of police personnel, while performing their patriotic duties of combating crime, as well as bridling the activities of criminals in Nigeria.

A group of uniformed men and women that render such altruistic services to we all in the country, even though they have their own shortcomings, are not a group of citizens that the federal government should shortchange in anyway whatsoever.

Patrick Adaofoyi, National
Orientation Agency, Garki Abuja
patrickadaofoyi@yahoo.com

SOS to Gov El-Rufai

Mr. Governor, best wishes and pray that God will bless you and keep you safe in this New Year. My husband is one of the workers that were disengaged during the workers rationalisation exercise. Up till now, they're saying that you didn't give them a penny. Please find solution to the situation. My husband was a staff of local government.

From Maryam Ahmed Rasheed Makarfi
maryamayyub561@gmail.com

Text us on 08131800030 & 08112661608



Re: Do not let the Mambilla dream die

I want to commend you on your editorial of Monday, 6/1/2020 in which you reminded the Buhari-led administration to save the Mambilla hydro-electric project from becoming another white elephant, fraudulent project. President Buhari would have no excuse if he lets this project dies. Posterity will portray him as a weak leader who lacked capacity to accomplish great projects such as this.

Comrade Bishir Dauda, Sabuwar Unguwa, Katsina
08165270879

On Nigeria's economy

It is impossible to secure a virile economy in a nation if the majority of its citizens lack knowledge or refuse

to understand that local production and services coupled with mass domestic patronage are the underlining efforts that give birth to socio-economic development, growth and sustainability which bring about availability of job opportunities and expansion of various private and public enterprises as far as there are effective rules that sustain transparency and accountability within the national economic system.
08065681927

Making the year 2020 our finest year

By assembling the right materials that will build the vessel of change that will shape the course of Nigeria's destiny, then, and only then, a belief in "Project Nigeria" would have been born. In a divided state, there can be no belief in project Nigeria.

John R. Jimoh, 4, Olukoya Street, Ijebu-Ode
07064370351

Increase fruit quality

The manner in which fruits like oranges which are being transported, are grown and marketed call for serious attention. There are simple technologies of bagging fruits along the value chain. So if there are already markets, and small holder farmers are making profits, the problems of preservation, harvesting, marketing, grading systems, processing and price information shouldn't be there. But here, the transportation system is also a big concern including storage,

Michael Adedotun Oke
08027142077

EDITORIAL

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

Nigerian Navy and maritime security

A special press briefing recently conducted by Chief of Naval Staff Vice Admiral Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas highlighted both the successes recorded by the Nigeria Navy [NN] in 2019 and the serious challenges of securing this country's maritime environment. The Navy Chief mentioned three special operations conducted by NN in 2019 to tackle various threats. They include Choke Point and Management Control Regime in order to choke the land origins of maritime crimes. Ten houseboats otherwise known as Naval Security Stations were deployed in the creeks. In 2019 they arrested 70 large wooden boats and destroyed another 463.

NN also pursued Operation River Sweep aimed at illegal refineries in Delta, Bayelsa and Rivers States. In 2019, 378 such refineries were destroyed while 62 speed boats and 275 suspects were arrested for suspected involvement in illegal bunkering or petroleum product smuggling. This number was less than that of the previous year because swamp buggy operations destroyed identified illegal refineries and made their reactivation difficult. NN also carried Operations Tsare Teku and Calm Waters meant to combat attacks on shipping. While Operation Calm Waters focused on backwater operations, Tsare Teku focused on operations beyond the coastline. Many pirate attacks were successfully thwarted in Nigerian waters, though some were successful.

Under Operation Swift Response, NN tackled smuggling in Nigeria's maritime waters. It confiscated 10 trucks of 33,000 litres of petroleum products valued at N80 million and seized 14,056 bags of rice worth N210 million. The Navy also carried out round the clock surveillance of Nigeria's maritime space using the Regional Maritime Awareness Capability (RMAC) and Falcon Eye facilities in addition to the use of vessels and helicopters. NN's 24 Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) sensor sites across the Nigerian coastline ensured effective surveillance of all vessels in our territorial waters whether fitted with Automatic Identification System (AIS) or not. They enabled the Navy to arrest 40 vessels including 17 fishing vessels and 25 barges for contravening Nigerian Fisheries Act in 2019. NN ships spent a total of 22,262 hours on patrol last year, an increase from the previous year.

While the Navy's successes last year were impressive, the size of the nation's maritime environment shows the enormity of the challenges. Nigeria has a coastline of about 420 nautical miles [nm] and 200nm Exclusive Economic Zone [EEZ], a total 84,000 square nautical miles. Nigeria must also police the entire Gulf of Guinea, which is 574,800 square nautical miles with a coastline of 2,874nm.

This vast maritime area contains this country's network of oil and gas installations. Nigeria relies on the sea for 90 per cent of its imports and exports. Among others, the Navy listed security threats in the maritime environment to include piracy, sea robbery, crude oil theft, illegal oil bunkering, illegal unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, militancy and hostage taking. Piracy continues to threaten the nation's maritime commerce in the Gulf of Guinea, including recent cases of kidnapping of ships' crew for ransom. This insecurity affects shipping costs and insurance premiums, resulting in higher costs of goods and shipping services.

For its part, smuggling poses an economic threat to Nigeria with its perpetrators exploiting the vastness of Nigeria's maritime environment. Illegal fishing has adversely affected Nigeria's economic prosperity. The most worrisome maritime crime however is crude oil theft, illegal refinery operations and kidnapping of crew for ransom. While there has been a significant reduction in these crimes, there is still a lot of ground to cover.

Needless to state, warships and other fighting vessels are costly to acquire. Maintaining them is also a costly business, as is training of naval personnel and equipping of naval facilities. However, compared to the national economic and security benefits of securing our maritime environment, this is an investment well worth it and we urge the government to invest more in naval assets in years to come. We should also aim in years to come to enhance our local capacity to build and maintain ships, including naval vessels.



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AHMED SHEKARAU: General Manager, Business & Strategy

GARBA ALIYU ABUBAKAR: Deputy General Manager (IT)

By Jamila Abubakar

If it was possible under the circumstances, one would have chuckled at screaming headlines proclaiming the certain imminence of World War III following the assassination of a very powerful Iranian General, Qassem Soleimani and senior Iraqi military officers in Baghdad by the United States of America. It was the wrong circumstances for a chuckle, but the reality is that much of the world has been under one form of war or the other due to the activities of the two key protagonists in this latest escalation, the USA and Iran. These are the two nations with the farthest and deepest tentacles around the world, virtually all of them engineering proxy wars against each other's influence. You could say Iran and the USA were minding their normal business of planning to cause more problems for the people of the world when US President Trump upped the ante, killing a powerful and popular Iranian General on the grounds he was a threat to US lives. There is universal consensus that Iran will hit back. This is what is being passed as the commencement of the third world war.

Still, it will not be a world war. Actually, there has never been a war in which all humanity is involved, if you take out the war against hunger, injustice and impunity of a few nations like the USA. It is the arrogance of the powerful that gave birth to the idea that wars involving them, with weaker nations and peoples tagging along, were world wars. A war involving the USA and Iran will cost many lives of citizens of both countries and a lot more people from other parts of the world that had been sucked into spheres of competition and influence. It could be a brief exchange of terrible violence, or a long, patchy series of skirmishes that will keep many populations tensed up and living with daily violence. Cruel as it sounds, these populations already exist, and both Iran and USA have long mastered the exploitation of the weaknesses of many peoples and nations scattered across the world to fight their wars.

What can the world do to stop or limit an imminent escalation of violence that will deepen the turbulent insecurity of entire regions and instability in the world economy? Unfortunately, nothing. First, there is no 'world' that can do anything of substance to alter an alarming trajectory. It is a telling commentary of the state

Battle Stations!

of the global community that just a few nations can decide how millions live or die. Countries like the US can murder citizens of other countries and threaten to kill a lot more if their countries retaliate. President Trump had repudiated the Iran Nuclear Deal that was meticulously crafted to take Iran out of the league of nations that possess nuclear capability, to the chagrin of all Americas key allies. Trump was the fuel in a fire, provoking countries and allies in a dangerous region that had burnt American fingers in the past. He was obsessed with a crude plan to cage Iran, presumably because he believed that it had been pampered in the past, and it is the place of the US to restore it to a deserved size. Now he strikes at the very heart of a nation that thrives on provocations, particularly those from the US. It is fair to succumb to the tempting assumption that an impeached president facing elections in less than a year is involved in a very costly gamble to shore up his prospects of being re-elected.

Iran has been re-awakened by a single strike from the US. There is only a very slim chance that it will turn the other cheek and accept a humiliation that will permanently damage its standing as a major regional power. Its considerable assets in proxies and allies will come into action as it designs retaliation against an adversary that is spread very thin around the world, and hamstrung by abused loyalties of allies and fractured domestic support. Iran will milk this incident to the last drop, reminding a people who have gone through major privations caused by sanctions that fighting back is the only logical outcome of US action. It will resume uranium enrichment, activate sleeper proxies and cells scattered all over the world, and dust up hostility blueprints. It could keep the US waiting and worried over how it responds, or it can start fires in many places over a long spell. Like Trump, it will also have an eye on the US presidential elections later in the year, but, unlike Trump, it will act to make him less popular for dragging Americans through an unnecessary and avoidable conflict.

Iraq is on its knees, and has been in that position for more than a decade, thanks largely to the US. It is uncertain how much power (or genuine desire) it has to order US troops to leave its territory, and it has even

less power to remove Iran's multiple influences around its vital areas. ISIS will be a big winner in any move to reduce the presence of its enemies such as the US in Iraq, and the Iraqis know the prospects of a future with a weak government and no one having their back. Russia will take full advantage of this escalating conflict to expand its considerable influence in a region slipping further away from US influence. Key regional players such as Saudi Arabia should ordinarily be cheerleading any reduction in Iranian clout in the region, but this is one moment when they will be cautioning against escalating conflicts with an adversary that would harm them as proxies, as much as it would love to hurt their principal.

For West Africa, and in particular for Nigeria, this gamble by President Trump could not have come at a worse moment. ISWAP, which is ISIS's West Africa's fighting outfit, is now causing more damage than all other factions of the insurgency. This time last year, West Africa was the only territory ISIS had not been virtually crushed in. Perhaps because of this, the tempo of its activities in West Africa picked up. It dug in around the shores of the Lake Chad and reinforced its networking across the entire Sahel, but especially in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad and Cameroon. In a conflict which will largely feed-off symbolism and morale of proxies, Nigeria and West African states should brace for some escalation. It is particularly worrying for Nigeria which is bearing the major brunt of ISWAP activities and failing to shore up flagging morale and funding operations by Nigeria and its neighbours. A few more additional dollars for a barrel of crude will not make up for the damage which this audacious gamble could wrought on Nigeria.

Nigeria's restive Shia population will also find ways of standing up to be counted as Iran rallies the faithful all over the world. Just when you think the Indian medical trip fiasco had robbed the Nigerian Shia of a major grievance point, the decision to pass the buck to Kaduna State government to prosecute El-Zakzaki, and now this massive provocation by the US against Iran have sent all concerned back to the trenches. It is a very small world, and our portion of it has become a lot less secure.

Abubakar can be reached at jm1bukar@gmail.com



The Nigerian Society of Engineers

Announces the

OFFICIAL INVESTITURE

of

**ENGR.
BABAGANA
MOHAMMED, FNSE**

As the

32nd PRESIDENT

of

The Nigerian Society of Engineers

Date:

Saturday, 11th January , 2020

Venue:

Africa Hall, International Conference
Centre, Abuja

Time:

10:00 am prompt

Distinguished Special Guest Of Honour:

His Excellency,
Muhamadu Buhari, GCFR,
President and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces
of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Signed:

Engr. Dr. Okopi Alex Momoh, FNSE
Executive Secretary



■ Minister of Health, Dr Ehanire Osagie observes the successfully separated conjoined twins at the National Hospital Abuja, during a news conference by the hospital in Abuja yesterday. With the minister are the children's parent, Mr and Mrs Michael Martins and the Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development, Dame Pauline Tallen (left)

Photo:
NAN

Abia govt confirms outbreak of Lassa fever

The Abia State Ministry of Health yesterday confirmed the outbreak of Lassa fever in Olokoro community, Umuahia South Local Government Area of the state.

The permanent secretary of the ministry, Egbulefu Eze, told reporters in Umuahia that a 28-year-old man, who died in the community, was diagnosed of lassa fever.

Eze allayed the fears of possible epidemic in the state, saying that the ministry was taking measures to contain the spread of the disease.

He said that the victim died on January 1 at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Umuahia, where he was admitted.

He said, "I want to report about an outbreak of lassa fever at Olokoro," the permanent secretary said, adding that it was the fourth time Abia would experience the outbreak since 1999.

He said that the state government had always contained previous outbreaks and was already on top of the situation.

"There's no cause for alarm. Government is on top of the situation," Eze said.

He said that in the course of the

investigation, all those that came in close contact with the deceased had been identified and placed on surveillance.

He said that the disease surveillance officers of the ministry was already consulting with the state office of the World Health Organisation to map out strategies on ways to checkmate the spread of the disease.

Speaking on the disease, the Medical Director of FMC Umuahia, Dr Azubuike Onyebuchi, said the deceased was initially suspected to be suffering from acute appendicitis.

Onyebuchi said that further examination on the man revealed the case of lassa fever.

He said the hospital had identified all the hospital personnel that came in contact with him and placed them on 21 days surveillance.

Also, the chairman of the Medical Advisory Council, Dr Ugochukwu Onyeonoro, said that the hospital had been "decontaminated".

Onyeonoro said that the patient was brought to FMC from another hospital and that the state government was promptly informed after the case of lassa fever was established. (NAN)

FG to spend N100m on erosion projects in Nasarawa

By Zakariyya Adaramola

The Federal Government is to spend N100m on erosion and road projects in Roguwa and Saka communities in Karu Local Government area of Nasarawa State, the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Mohammed Abdullahi has said.

Abdullahi disclosed this during the inauguration and handing over of the erosion and road improvement work at Gora-Roguwa, Karu Local Government area of Nasarawa State, a

statement from the ministry said yesterday.

The project is one of the 15 ecological intervention projects awarded for the second quarter after approval by the Federal Executive Council on 16th November 2018 with a completion period of 24 weeks, the statement signed by the minister's spokesperson, Maryam Zakari, said.

The statement quoted the minister as saying the project, which was initiated through a request from Nasarawa State Government, would address the

effects of erosion and flood menace in the community.

The completion of the project, he added, underscored the Federal Government's resolve effort and sincerity of purpose in tackling environmental problems of the community.

He therefore urged the community to take possession of the project and ensure its adequate maintenance, adding that they should avoid filling the drainage channels with debris and refuse to avoid another spate of erosion or flooding.

National Hospital discharges separated conjoined twins

By Ojoma Akor

The National Hospital, Abuja, yesterday discharged a set of conjoined twins separated at the hospital.

The babies, named Goodness and Mercy, were separated on November 14, 2019 at the age of 15 months. They were delivered at the Federal Medical Centre, Keffi, on August 13, 2018 and referred to the National Hospital the following day because they were conjoined at the chest and the abdomen.

The Chief Medical Director of the National Hospital, Dr Jaf Momoh, said they were on admission at the hospital for over 14 months and went through several diagnostic procedures that aided the plan for surgery.

He said the management of the hospital funded the care and entire processes of the major surgical

procedure for the separation, as part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Consultant Paediatrics Surgeon and leader of the medical team that separated the twins, Prof. Emmanuel Ameh, said 78 staff were directly involved in the preparation and conduct of the twelve and half hour surgery to separate the twins.

He said the twins shared a liver, chest wall, diaphragm and pericardium (an organ covering the heart) before they were separated.

The Minister of Health, Dr Osagie Ehanire, said it was the first successful operation of that nature in the hospital and marked a bold venture in the realm of advanced surgery.

The minister said government would monitor the babies progress and assist where needed to enable them achieve their potential.

A/Ibom govt acquires two aircrafts for Ibom Air

From Iniabasi Umo, Uyo

The Akwa Ibom State Government has acquired two new aircrafts for Ibom Airlines making up a total of five aircrafts owned by the state.

The chairman of Ibom Air, Air Commodore Idongesit Nkanga (rtd), said yesterday during a press conference with newsmen in Uyo, that the new aircrafts would be unveiled this January.

He said Ibom Air has made about 3,000 flights since it began operations in June 2019, and is now flying more routes.

Nkanga explained that before the

year 2023, the state would float 10 aircrafts, adding that the government has invested a lot in the aviation business to boost the state's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR).

"Additional two aircrafts are arriving this January, within these eight months we will have five aircraft. We have operated about 3,000 flights. We have increased our routes.

"Before the end of this administration we should be able to acquire 10 aircrafts, which is the target. Before 2022 we should expand the domestic, regional and international routes." He said.

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Police boss fingers monarchs in heightened crime in C/River

From Eyo Charles, Calabar

Heightedened cult activities resulting in reprisal killings in parts of Cross River State have been attributed to backing of some traditional chieftains, influential citizens and some bad eggs in the police force.

The divisional police officer in Ugep police division in the state, CSP Shekari Andrew Abol, during a security dialogue organised by Ugep stakeholders, observed that some of the traditional rulers in the community were not helping matters as they got in the way of police in enforcing the law.

Tagged 'Stakeholders Summit 2020' convened by the Traditional Rulers Council of Ugep Village and Clan

Heads of Ugep with the consent of the Obol Lapon of Ugep and Paramount Ruler of Yakurr, he lamented at the event that most of the time the community aided suspected cultists to resist arrest, while in some cases the people helped the suspects to escape through tip-off on when the police would go after them.

He lamented that the police faced difficulties in carrying out operations to apprehend cultists, adding that lack of operational vehicles and shortage of manpower have equally compounded the problem.

"Some traditional rulers are in the habit of compromising the security architecture of the community even as my personnel, too, leak information", he said.

We'll expand revenue base to meet governance demands'

From Ahmed Tahir Ajobe, Lokoja

Kogi State Governor Alhaji Yahaya Bello has said the state government will expand its revenue base in order to meet increasing demands of governance.

He said part of the measures to shore up the internally generated revenue is to tighten all loopholes responsible for the inherent leakages by the State Internal Revenue Service.

Speaking during an internally generated revenue strategic

workshop with Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) organised by the management of Kogi Integrated Revenue Service (KGIRS) on Tuesday in Lokoja, the governor said it has become increasingly difficult for the government to meet the ever increasing challenges of infrastructure and other needs in the face of lean resources.

He noted that beyond the growing needs to provide the basic necessities of life for the people, emerging threats from

kidnappers, bandits and other security challenges facing the state have thrown up extra burden that is weighing heavily on the state's resources.

Presenting the recommendations of KGIRS toward an improved revenue generation to the governor for approval, the Executive Chairman of the revenue service Mr Aliyu Inda Salami called for improvement in capacity delivery of MDAs in terms of personnel training, release of monthly imprest and necessary working tools.

Group wants govs to repeal pension law in Kwara

From Romoke W. Ahmad

The Elites Network for Sustainable Development (ENetSuD) has called on the Kwara State House of Assembly to repeal the Governor and his Deputy's Pension Payment Law 2010.

In a letter addressed to the Rt. Hon. Speaker Yakubu Salihu Danladi,

jointly signed by its coordinator, Alagbonsi Abdullateef and Director of Legal Services Lukman Raji, and supported by 263 Kwarans who joined the advocacy, the group prayed the house of assembly to repeal the law and outlaw payment of pension, gratuity and other allowances to past governors and deputy governors apart from the

statutory 300% severance allowance provided for by the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) Act.

The organization however urged the KWHA to allow provision of personal staff and health insurance to past governors and their deputies on compassionate ground as an appreciation of services rendered to

the state.

The group affirmed in the letter that "the statutory 300% of Annual Basic Salary payable to past governors and deputy governors as severance allowance after completing their tenure (as provided in the RMAFC Act) is enough as a financial reward to them from the State.



SOKOTO STATE GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT, SOKOTO

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FLYOVER BRIDGES, DUALIZATION OF SOME MAJOR ROADS. CONSTRUCTION/REHABILITATION OF SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS IN SOKOTO STATE

The Sokoto State Government, through the Ministry of Lands, Housing & Survey, Ministry of Basic & Secondary Education and Ministry of Health intends to embark on construction of Flyover Bridges, Dualization of some major roads as well as construction/rehabilitation of Schools and Hospitals in the State in line with the approved 2020 Budget. In this regard, reputable, experienced and competent contractors are hereby invited to submit Letters for expression of Interest and Company Profile for the execution of these projects, Interested Firms shall be registered with Sokoto State Tenders Board and Bureau of Public Procurement and Public-Private Partnership.

2. Submission of the above should be on or before 15th January, 2020; at Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works & Transport, Usman Faruk Secretariat, Sokoto.

Signed
PERMANENT SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF WORKS & TRANSPORT,
USMAN FARUK SECRETARIAT, SOKOTO.

3 expatriates abducted by pirates rescued

From Victor Sorokwu, Asaba

Three expatriates kidnapped by suspected sea pirates around Sigbene/Agge community along Delta and Bayelsa states border creeks last week Thursday, regained their freedom.

Daily Trust learnt that a good number of the sea pirates involved in the abduction of the expatriates and killing of four naval ratings were killed during a joint rescue operation on Sunday.

Discreet government sources from Delta and Bayelsa confirmed the development late Monday evening, revealing that two Russians and an Indian who were taken captive were rescued unhurt.

The vessel, MV AMBIKA, believed to be working for the international oil firm, where the expatriates were abducted, was also recovered, our correspondent further gathered.

Military sources who also confirmed the rescue of the expatriates said: "They were rescued yesterday (Sunday). Many of the sea pirates were killed during the process. The vessel has been seen as well".

Investigations revealed that governments of Delta and Bayelsa, in collaboration with military authorities had reached an understanding to keep the issue secret.

"The incident actually happened at Sigbene near Agge. Both state governments have been collaborating

with the military to ensure the rescue of the victims. An agreement was also reached between them to keep mum over the issue upon their release. This is a top security issue. They were rescued unhurt", a top government source confided.

Recall that four naval ratings were shot dead while others sustained injuries when suspected sea pirates around the border coastal communities of Bayelsa and Delta States attacked an international oil vessel.

The deceased naval personnel, drawn from the Nigerian Navy Ship (NNS) Delta, were said to be escorting the vessel carrying the kidnapped expatriates when they were ambushed by the armed pirates.

Sequel to the military reinforcement, tension brewed around the communities where the pirates attack happened, compelling many of the residents of the riverine communities of Bayelsa and Delta States, particularly those in Burutu and Ekeremor LGAs, to flee their homes for fear of military invasion.

Efforts to get official reactions from the commander of the Nigerian Navy Ship (NNS) Delta, Real Admiral Ibrahim Dewu were unsuccessful.

But Navy Director of Information, Commodore Suleman Dahun told a source he was not aware of the abduction and subsequent release of the victims.

Dahun however, directed inquiries to the commander NNS Delta.

FMC to develop vaccine against Lassa fever – CMD

The Chief Medical Director of Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Owo in Ondo State says it has started a process to develop a vaccine against Lassa fever.

The Medical Director of the medical centre, Mr Liasu Ahmed, disclosed this on Tuesday in Owo during the centre's annual ward round.

Lassa fever, also known as Lassa Hemorrhagic Fever (LHF), is a type of viral hemorrhagic fever caused by the Lassa virus.

Many of those infected by the virus do not develop symptoms,

but when symptoms occur, they typically include fever, weakness, headaches, vomiting and muscle pains.

The CMD, therefore, said that with the establishment of a treatment centre in the town, the centre had begun the process of developing vaccine for the virus.

The medical director, who took journalists round the wards at the centre, said that the health facility started diagnosing Lassa fever with the use of mobile laboratory.

He added that "I want to say confidently that the hospital is fulfilling

the mandates of service, training and research. In terms of service delivery, the problem of out-of-stock syndrome in the pharmacy has been reduced to the barest minimum.

"A reference laboratory has been set up through Public Private Partnership (PPP). All equipment in the laboratory are automated and results of investigations are released within 30 minutes.

"Furthermore, our services are being improved through the introduction of Electronic Medical Records (EMR). (NAN)

Hisbah reconciles 3,136 couples in Jigawa

The Jigawa State Hisbah Commission says it reconciled 3,136 couples by settling disputes among them in 2019.

The Hisbah Commandant in the state, Malam Ibrahim Dahiru, made this known to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Dutse on Tuesday.

Dahiru said reconciling couples is part of the statutory responsibilities of the commission.

He explained that the commission has trained personnel, with good skills and deep understanding in processes of mediation between disputing

parties.

"Reconciliation is encouraged in Islam, so is better for disputing parties to reconcile than go to court.

"It is also better as it saves time and helps in decongesting courts.

"Interestingly, one is compelled to accept any court judgment, but reconciliation is done only when the two parties agreed.

He said that the target of the commission was to ensure that people, including couples live in peace and harmony. (NAN)



NIGERIAN ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PRESS RELEASE

MINOR REVIEW OF THE MULTI YEAR TARIFF ORDER FOR THE NIGERIAN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY

The attention of the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (the "Commission") has been drawn to reports in the media that an immediate increase in end-user electricity tariffs has been approved by NERC.

The Electric Power Sector Reform Act provides that the Commission shall determine and periodically review electricity tariffs charged by the electricity distribution companies (DisCos) and to provide an opportunity for utilities to recover efficient costs of operation and a reasonable return on investment. The current tariff methodology adopted by the Commission provides for a determination of a tariff trajectory over a 5-year planning horizon and biannual minor tariff reviews taking into account the impact of inflation, rate of foreign exchange, gas prices and energy available to consumers.

The minor review Order released by the Commission on January 3, 2020 has no immediate impact on end-user tariffs payable by all classes of electricity customers in the country. The order is to establish the impact of the exogenous macroeconomic parameters and costs outside the control of the utilities in the year 2019 and projections for 2020. The macroeconomic indices taken into consideration to conclude this exercise include rate of inflation, foreign exchange, gas price and volume of available electricity. The Order has further prescribed minimum market remittance threshold payable by the eleven electricity distribution companies and the projected tariff path until 2021. However, where actual end-user tariffs are likely to be impacted by the review, the required public and stakeholder consultations shall be implemented in line with requirements of the Electric Power Sector Reform Act and Business Rules of the Commission.

Dr. Usman Abba Arabi

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BUSINESS

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

	US DOLLAR	POUND STERLING	EURO	YUAN/ RENMINBI	RIVAL	CFA
Buying	306	376.1	334.4	42.9	81.5	0.48
Central NGN	306.5	376.8	335.0	43	81.7	0.49
Selling NGN	306.7	376.3	335.5	43.1	81.8	0.50

December 30, 2019

COMMODITIES PRICE	
CRUDE OIL BRENT	\$70.74/b
GOLD	\$1,485
GAS	\$2.296

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

	Dollar	Euro	Pound S.
BUYING			
	N357	N400	N468
SELLING			
	N360	N404	N471

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

AZMAN AIR
MONDAY- FRIDAY:
Kano-Lagos, 7:30 a.m., 3:45pm Abuja-Lagos 1:20 a.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:00pm Lagos-Abuja 9:45 a.m., 3:30 p.m. Abuja-Kano 2:30 p.m.
Kano-Abuja-Maiduguri 8:15 a.m. Abuja-Maiduguri 9:30 a.m. Maiduguri-Abuja-Lagos 11:20 a.m. Abuja-Yola 11:30 a.m. Yola-Abuja-Kano 1 p.m.
SATURDAY: Kano-Abuja 8.00am Abuja-Lagos 9:30 a.m.; Lagos-Kano 6 p.m.

DANA AIR
MONDAY- FRIDAY: Lagos-Abuja Departure: 7.02am, 11.07am, 3.30pm, and 5.10pm, Abuja-Lagos 9 a.m., 1.05pm, 5.28pm, 7.08pm
SATURDAY: Lagos-Abuja 7.02, 11.07am, 15.30pm, 5.10pm Lagos-Uyo: 9.17am Daily, Uyo-Abuja 11.07am daily Abuja-Uyo 1.05pm; Uyo-Lagos 3.03pm
Lagos- PHC Mon-Friday: 7.20am; PHC-Abuja 9.18am Abuja-PHC 3.30pm
Daily & Sun, PHC-Lagos 5.28pm

Oil price: FG revenue shrinks as petrol subsidy rises

By Daniel Adugbo

...workers, contractors risk delayed pay

Lower amounts of revenue might be available for sharing by the three tiers of government through the Federation Accounts Allocation Committee (FAAC) in the coming months as the cost borne by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) to subsidise petrol has increased by about N17 per litre, *Daily Trust* reports.

Subsidy on Premium Motor Spirit (PMS), otherwise called petrol, rose to N38 per litre on Monday, according to figures obtained from the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA).

Subsidy or technically, under-recovery, averaged N21 per litre in December 2019, the data showed.

The latest increase



■ GMD NNPC Mallam Mele Kyari

comes just as oil prices on Monday climbed above \$70 a barrel for the first time in four months.

The rise in the price of oil followed fears that the US airstrike that killed Iran's top military commander may trigger retaliation and disrupt global oil supplies.

Rising tensions

between the U.S and Iran have caused considerable turbulence in the oil markets.

Daily Trust reports that whenever there is a surge in oil price, the expectation is that Nigeria will earn more dollars from crude exports but because the country imports the bulk of petrol it

consumes and sells below the market price, NNPC which is the sole importer of the product for Nigeria, incurs billions in subsidy (under-recovery) daily.

The PPPRA figure showed that PMS landing cost increased from N162.91 per litre in December to N164.13 on Monday just as the open market price for the commodity soared to N183.50 on Monday, compared to N182.28 in December. The latest increase shows N38 per litre difference which NNPC currently incurs.

PPPRA estimates daily NNPC under-recovery (subsidy) at over N1.2 billion. It means that on a daily basis, over N1.2bn cannot go to the treasury for sharing to all the states.

Daily Trust reports that heavy subsidy

burden in the past have contributed to NNPC's failure to meet its obligation to FAAC thereby leaving federal and state workers including contractors without salaries or pay for months.

FAAC is made up of the 36 state commissioners of finance including officials of federal revenue generating agencies who gather in Abuja monthly to share monies earned the previous month.

The major revenue generating agencies include customs, FIRS and NNPC and remittances by the NNPC form the largest chunk of the monies shared at FAAC but NNPC remits funds only after deducting expenses including subsidy (under-recovery) on petrol.

NERC insists no immediate electricity tariff increase

By Simon Echowofun Sunday

The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission yesterday insisted that there is no immediate tariff increase till it holds public consultation for electricity consumers under the 11 power Distribution Companies (DisCos).

In a statement by the General Manager, Public Affairs Department, Dr. Usman Abba Arabi, the Commission said: "The minor review Order released by the Commission on January 3, 2020 has no immediate impact on end-user tariffs payable by all classes of electricity customers in the country."

NERC said the Order has further prescribed minimum market remittance threshold payable by the 11 DisCos and the 'projected tariff path until 2021'.

"However, where actual end-user tariffs are likely to be impacted by the review, the required public and stakeholder consultations shall be implemented," it said.

Although NERC failed to say when the rise will begin contrary to the DisCos' orders, its Chairman, Prof. James Momoh signed stipulating an expected increase from April 2020.

Standing on the signed tariff orders, the Association of Nigerian Electricity Distributors (ANED) on Monday said the increase will start April.

Spokesman of ANED, Chief Sunday Oduntan in a statement said, "the tariffs shall remain the same as they presently are (i.e. 2015 levels) until April 01, 2020 when there will be a slight increment to cater for tariff shortfalls which shall be gradually passed on to the consumer until this is fully completed by the end of 2021."

Buhari reverses former REA MD's suspension

By Simon Echowofun Sunday

President Muhammadu Buhari has reversed the suspension of the Managing Director of the Rural Electrification Agency (REA), Mrs Damilola Ogunbiyi.

President Buhari also notified the United Nations headquarters of her resignation.

A tweet by the Presidency on Tuesday afternoon announced the change. It said: "Her resignation effective 31 December 2019 has been accepted to enable her take up her new United Nations (UN) appointment."

Daily Trust reports that the Minister of Power, Engr. Sale Mamman in a statement had directed the immediate

suspension of Ogunbiyi on December 23, 2019 over "infractions".

However, a letter from the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Boss Mustapha and referenced to the Deputy Secretary General, at the UN headquarters in New York, United States, Hajiya Amina Mohammed, conveyed the resignation notice.

The letter dated 6 January 2020 and signed by Dr Habiba Lawal, the Permanent Secretary, Ecological Fund office on behalf of the SGF, said Buhari reviewed the situation and directed him to reverse the suspension for lack of due process.

"I also wish to inform you that the resignation of Mrs Damilola Ogunbiyi has fallen due by 31st December 2019

and I urge you to give her all necessary support. Please accept the assurances of the warm regards of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation," it said.

Recall that a week after the suspension, the Minister announced the appointment of Ahmad Sallhijo Ahmad as the new MD of REA.

While Ahmad assumed office at REA two days after the announcement, Ogunbiyi who had gotten a UN appointment since October 2019, announced her assumption at the duty post on 2 January, 2020.

Ogunbiyi is serving as the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Sustainable Energy for All, Co-Chair of UN Energy, and CEO of Sustainable Energy for All.

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

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

ANALYSIS

Electricity tariff: What FG, DisCos should do – Experts, LCCI, NECA

From Zakariyya Adaramola (Abuja) Abdullateef Aliyu, Sunday Michael Ogwu & Christiana Alabi (Lagos)

Electricity tariff increase is not the way to go to improve the country's power sector, experts have said.

Speaking with *Daily Trust* yesterday, an economist, Dr. Bongo Adi, said the timing of any economic policy is critical, and timing of the planned electricity tariff increase left much to be desired.

He said increasing the tariff might not be a problem, adding that the challenge is in the reliability of electricity supply which is not guaranteed.

Adi, a lecturer at the Lagos Business School, said while the electricity distribution companies continue to complain about low tariff collection rate, what consumers get in terms of supply is still not commensurate even if the collection rate is 100 per cent.

He stressed that over the years, the distribution companies have been complaining also of not generating enough money to cover cost despite the existence of the Multi-Year Tariff Order (MYTO) which provides for regular tariff increase to cover cost.

Adi said the nation's electricity industry is bedevilled by "a whole complex network of problems" which started from the time it was privatised.

According to him, it appears the industry was given to those who were not competent. "We have competency problems here," he said. "We have a lot of problems beyond tariffing and I don't think tariff hike is the best way to go now," Adi added.

To address the perennial supply problem, the economist advocated for the revisiting of privatisation.

He said: "Let's revisit the privatisation. Who are the managers? Who acquired them? Do they have the resources, both human and material?"

"Also, there is serious problem with transmission.

The transmission infrastructures are very old, and like those of the Stone Age."

Also, speaking, Dr. Austin Nweze, another economist said the planned tariff increase is unfortunate and showed that government was insensitive to the suffering of the masses.

He called for a rethink at this time of the year when people have just resumed from holidays.

According to him, the poor man has almost been squeezed out of existence.

"The whole thing is quite unfortunate. The poor man has almost been squeezed out of existence. The generation is less than 4000mw. There is some kind of insincerity in some quarters. If you are providing service and charging higher, people would be reluctant to complain. But you are not providing service and you are charging higher yet there is poverty in the land," he said.

LCCI: There should be new approach

The Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) has called for a holistic approach in tackling the problems in the power sector to address consumers' vulnerability.

Its Director-General, Mr Muda Yusuf, made the call in a statement on Monday in Lagos.

Yusuf urged NERC to address the issue of the capacity of the Distribution Companies (DisCos), estimated billing, technical and commercial losses, and metering problems.

He also said the quality and adequacy of investment by the DisCos, transmission issues, proposal on the decentralisation of the sector, promotion of off grid solutions and incentives for renewable energy solutions should also be resolved.

"The power sector problem is a multifaceted problem and it is not only about tariff. The approach should be holistic, otherwise the consumers would be vulnerable.

"Only recently, there was an increase, and now another is being proposed.



■ Minister of Power, Engr. Sale Mamman

"The tariff question is no doubt one of the problems," Yusuf said, adding that NERC should, however, also be doing something about the other issues.

The LCCI boss said addressing these issues of concern would inspire the confidence of consumers.

He said it was also critical to disaggregate and interrogate the components of cost being claimed by the discos.

"NERC should protect the interests of consumers as well as that of the investors. There is also the social dimension of electricity provision to those at the bottom of the pyramid.

"Already, many small businesses have complained about prohibitive tariffs by discos following the last review.

"What is needed is a holistic reform rather than the simplistic solution of tariff review," he said.

NECA supports electricity tariff increase

Speaking on the planned tariff hike, the Director-General of Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association (NECA), Dr.

Timothy Olawale said: "though the proposed increase in tariff might cause a shock from the consumers' perspective, it is, however, a necessity in order to get the power sector back on track."

The issue of tariff has remained topical in the sector since shortly after privatisation. While the customers have said tariff review should only take place after there has been improvement in service, service providers have said for service to improve, the right amount has to be paid.

According to Olawale, "The argument has always been the chicken and egg argument, a cyclical one. Putting the matter in context therefore, the issue of the increase is intended to enable the sector realise what can be described as right price for the product.

"It is with this right that more investment can be attracted and consequently, improved service."

Speaking further on the challenges of regular power supply and imperative for appropriate pricing of electricity, the NECA boss noted that "tariff reviews are expected".

He said there had been minor and major reviews to adjust all the variables that make up the tariffs such as generation volumes, FX price etc. "All these play a role in determining the tariffs," he added.

He said NERC for some reasons had delayed implementation of minor reviews that should normally occur bi-annually by regulation.

Olawale said: "The NERC tariff order in June 2019 took all these into account and adjusted the variables to ensure a cost reflective tariff. Cost reflective tariff is important to ensure the provider of the commodity or service can cover operational and capital expenses and most importantly stay in business and deliver on service.

"While the DisCos have had six minor reviews totalling 16%, micro and macro-economic indices have affected the ability of the DisCos to meet their cost. However, the Generation Companies have had several reviews bringing their % increase to about 116%".

While urging the DisCos to justify the proposed tariff hike, Dr. Olawale averred that "consumers and businesses are not averse to paying appropriate price for electricity consumed." He said the major contention has been estimated and sometimes outrageous billing for power not consumed, implications on cost of living and cost of doing business without a guarantee of commensurate improvement in quality of service. He said the DisCos would do well to fast-track the provision of prepaid metres, the GenCos should ensure availability of Power for the DisCos to distribute and Government should support the DisCos to curb the rampant incidence of electricity theft across the nation. He urged the NERC to live up to its responsibility and ensure strict adherence to the Regulations. "While we note the political consideration that goes into the issue of appropriate pricing and the timing of same because of the multiplier effect of hike on the society, we urge that the larger interest of the nation should guide all Stakeholders to enable Nigerians and the business community enjoy 24 hours uninterrupted power supply they crave for," he added.

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NEWS

Farm produce distributors decry multiple levies on highways

Farm produce distributors, under the auspices of Iyanoba Market Distributors Association, on Tuesday decried the multiple levies members paid on the highways while bringing food items from the hinterland to Lagos.

The distributors, who attributed the high cost of commodities to transportation cost and multiple levies on highways, urged the Federal

Government to harmonise levies payable by distributors into a single levy and fix bad roads.

The Yam Sector Chairman of the group, Mr Tosin Adegbowale, narrated the high cost of commodities in spite of various government interventions to ensure affordable food, to News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos.

Adegbowale said that transporting a lorry load of yam

from Lafia in Nassarawa used to cost N110,000 but had increased to N160,000 due to bad roads and various levies in every local government on the way.

Mrs Tejumola Ashaka, a plantain distributor, said that bringing plantain from Ofofu in Edo to Lagos had become difficult because of unwarranted levies on the highways.

Ashaka said that apart from the Federal Produce Inspectors, distributors had different local

council agents to contend with who issued different kinds of council receipts to them for the commodity conveyed to Lagos.

"I have been in this business for 11 years now but the terrain since the last three years has been herculean," she lamented.

Ashaka said that if government could come up with a single levy, it would go a long way in reducing the prices of commodities in the market and the masses would

feel the impact of government intervention. Mrs Jane Anayo, another yam distributor, said that fixing of roads to places where those commodities were being farmed, to city centres where they were needed should be a priority. Anayo advised government to provide storage facilities to preserve those perishable commodities to prevent out of season scarcity and its attendant price hike. (NAN)

Nasarawa inaugurates committee to increase IGR

From Ibraheem H. Muhammad, Lafia

Governor Abdullahi Sule of Nasarawa State has inaugurated a 15-member committee to increase the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the state.

He said while inaugurating the committee in Lafia that the initiative was borne out of his administration's determination to improve the revenue profile of the State.

According to him, "This is to provide us with sumptuous alternative sources of revenue generation as a vista for improved expenditure on projects, programs and policies geared towards the overall development of our dear state."

Governor Sule said the only way to galvanize the state's economy was by strengthening all revenue accruing sources.

The governor also said the constitution of the committee was in line with the Nasarawa Economic Development Strategy, (NEDS) and to enhance the socio-economic deliverables of the state. "This is with a twin goal of harnessing our economic potentials vis-à-vis human resources as formidable frontiers that can elevate the state to enviable heights."

"Nasarawa is one of the richest states in the country, but the state continues to be like a beggar waiting for allocation from the Federal Government to survive, whereas we can survive on our own. I, therefore, task this committee to please work and take Nasarawa State out of the woods from being a beggarly to a prosperous state," he said.



■ From left: Vice President, Nigerian Council of Registered Insurance Brokers (NCRIB) Mr. Tunde Oguntade; President, Dr. (Mrs) Bola Onigbogi; Past President, Mr. Babajide Olatunde-Agbeja; Executive Secretary/CEO, Mr. Fatai Adegbenro and Ooni of Ife, His Imperial Majesty, Oba Adeyeye Ogunwusi during a courtesy visit of NCRIB to Ooni of Ife Palace recently.

NCS Tincan Island Port command generates N346bn

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), Tincan Island Port Command, has generated N346 billion as revenue in 2019.

The Customs Area Controller, Comptroller Mba Musa, said this in a statement made available to newsmen in Lagos on Tuesday.

The statement issued by the command's Public Relations Officer, Mr Uche Ejiesieme, said that the command was however limited by challenges that hindered its operations in terms of revenue and others.

He explained that part of the challenges experienced had to do with poor access road infrastructure, lack of government warehouse facilities and non-availability of operational equipment by the terminal operators, among others. He added that not minding the challenges, the command also surpassed its revenue target for 2019 which was N342 billion.

"Tincan Island Port (TCIP) is one of the key ports in the

country.

"TCIP custom command is charged and entrusted with the responsibility of revenue generation and accounting for same, suppression of smuggling, promotion/facilitation of trade and enforcement of the physical monetary policies of the Federal Government.

Musa said that this performance came on the heels of implementation on series of transformational agenda and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) developed to facilitate trade without compromising the extant provisions.

He pointed out that the command was able to create templates and blueprints that guided its actions in line with the mission and vision of the Comptroller General of Customs, Col. Hameed Ali, Rtd. and his management.

He noted that as regards anti-smuggling, the command during the year under review, strengthened its anti-smuggling

operations for optimal performance, consequently, the command effected a total seizure of 16x40ft, 37x20ft (53 containers) and three non-containerised cargo. He listed the seizures to include rice, used tyres, pharmaceutical, vegetable oil, military accoutrements with a total Duty Paid Value of N5.9 billion. He added that when compared with 2018 seizures, it indicated a recorded improvement from the seizures of 14x40ft, 2x20ft (16 containers) and five non-containerised others.

He said that the non-containerised ranged from bales of second hand clothing, furniture, children toys, used bags and shoes, expired medicament, used tyres, used fridges, with a total DPV of N2.9 billion from year 2018.

The comptroller said that for export, the command embarked on sensitisation of stakeholders and would be exporters on the need to take advantage of the potential inherent in export and

this yielded an increase in export in 2019.

He pointed that the command exported items with a total tonnage of 269,819.5 tons with a total Free On Board (FOB) value of N130 billion in 2019 as against 254,762.77 tons with a total FOB value of N145 billion exported in 2018.

He said that the command had articulated various trade facilitation initiatives in their SOP which included the use of badges for movement of cargoes.

He added that as part of measures to increase efficiency and capacity of operations in the service, the command developed training curriculum in data analysis, NICIS 11 software, skill gap and profiling training and others. Musa also commended all stakeholders that ensured that they complied with the regulations thereby making their work easy.

He urged those that did not comply to take be patriotic in their dealings. (NAN)

Polaris Bank bags CBN award

Polaris Bank has emerged the Best Deposit Money Bank (DMB) in Consumer protection in Nigeria's banking industry as an attestation of the institution's show of strong leadership in prompt resolution of transaction issues.

The award was presented to the bank at the Jos Bankers forum- an Annual Dinner and Award event organised by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Jos branch held

to recognise and reward DMBs for their performance during the outgone year.

Speaking on the award, the Managing Director/CEO of Polaris Bank, Mr. Tokunbo Abiru, thanked the organizers for their due diligence in selecting Polaris Bank among other awardees and "recognizing its stellar performance in promptly resolving customer complaints".

On the challenges faced by customers

over issues bothering on response to various customer complaints including ATM cash retract, excess charges and other E-channels dispute received from the CBN for resolution, Mr. Abiru noted in particular steps being taken to resolve some of these issues. He stated with emphasis that these occurrences which experts ascribe to infrastructure deficit remain the most common pain points among customers who engage in

banking transactions which banks and relevant stakeholders are doing all within their powers to ameliorate for the benefit of customers. Additionally, the top banker said that "for us at Polaris Bank, because we know how embarrassing cash retract and other payment service challenges can be for customers, we ensure that their complaints are promptly and satisfactorily resolved with feedback to the CBN."

TRANSPORT

As countdown ticks on Enugu Airport

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

The closure of Akanu Ibiam International Airport, Enugu for a comprehensive repair of the runway and upgrade of facilities is no doubt a great inconvenience for the people of South-East and South-South. But it is a job that must be done for safe flight operations.

The immediate past Director-General of Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), Capt. Muhtar Usman, in September 2018 hinted that the Enugu Airport would be given the "Abuja treatment."

The aviation sector could not forget in a hurry the closure of the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja in 2016 for a comprehensive repair of the runway following which the traffic was diverted to Kaduna International Airport.

The decision generated a lot of heat in the polity as Abuja airport is the second busiest after Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA); but in spite of the hues and cries, the issue of the Abuja airport is now history.

History was however repeating itself with the closure of Enugu Airport in August 2019. Right from the early 2018, the issue of Enugu has been in the pipeline following the dilapidated state of the runway. Many airlines were said to have complained about the state of the runway which impedes smooth takeoff and landing at the airport.

Also, the governors of the South East states under the aegis of the South East Governors' Forum raised concerns about how the closure of the airport could ground the economy of the region and other parts of the South-South which also make use of the airport.

But given the safety concerns raised by the stakeholders, especially the airlines, the federal government was convinced that closing the airport was the way to go.

Following the closure of the airport, President Muhammadu Buhari approved the release of N10bn for the project which is now being handled by Messrs PW. The project involves the scraping of damaged portions of the runway, installation of other landing aids and facilities, among others with the Minister of Aviation, Senator Hadi Sirika, declaring that



passengers should expect a brand new airport in Enugu by April.

Our correspondent who was in Enugu recently reports that passengers now make use of other airports in the zone and continue their journey by road. The alternative airports are Sam Mbakwe International Cargo Airport, Owerri in Imo State; Asaba Airport in Delta and Warri airstrip also in Delta; and Port Harcourt International Airport, Omagwa Rivers State.

For the people of the South-East, the closure of the airport was felt more especially during the last yuletide festivities as many Enugu bound passengers had to land at alternate airports to access their villages in Enugu.

For instance, those who came in through Owerri airport either from Abuja or Lagos had to board a vehicle to Enugu spending three hours on the expressway.

"After spending just 35 minutes to arrive Owerri from Lagos, I spend another three hours to get to Enugu," said a passenger who identified himself simply as Kingsley on a Dana flight last week.

To ease the movement of passengers from Owerri to Enugu during the last Christmas and New Year festivals, the Enugu State Government stationed buses to convey them free of charge.

The gesture was done by the state government to reduce the impact of the

closure of the airport on Enugu indigenes, especially those who came home for the festivities.

However, the minister said the federal government was not un-mindful of the inconvenience caused by the closure of the airport as he has given his word that the airport would be ready before Easter in April.

The hitherto busy airport in Enugu is now a shadow of its former self following the stoppage of flight operations. As a corollary effect of this, other activities at the airport have been grounded. The car hire operators were nowhere to be found. The food vendors had temporarily vanished.

But the government says there is light at the end of the tunnel after the temporary closure. It was observed that construction work on the runway has reached an advanced stage.

The minister, who last week inspected the airport with the permanent secretary in the ministry, the Managing Director of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), Capt. Rabiú Yadudu and officials of the Enugu State government said the federal government attaches great importance on the speedy reopening of the airport.

"I am very satisfied with the level of work. According to the programme of work approved and established by us, we are beating the deadline. As to question of whether Easter is

feasible, indeed it is. By our programme of work, we would be leaving this runway, God willing, before Easter. And that's sacrosanct by the grace of God.

"We take this job very seriously. We know the importance of Enugu, not only being an international airport, we know that it is a centre for the south eastern part of the country, all of the commercial activities, the trading activities and festivities are domiciled and centred around this city, a very important city for that matter.

"We take it very seriously. Personally from the level of the ministry and under the leadership of Mr. President, Muhammadu Buhari, every single assignment is in the interest of this country. Therefore, the future and the fortunes of this country cannot be mortgaged no matter which way and if assignment is given to us, we would deliver and deliver it very well so that you will continue to reap dividends of democracy."

Daily Trust reports that the runway project would come with other facilities like the instrument landing system, airfield lighting, taxi lighting, among others.

"Every single equipment or system of operation that this airport would need, you would have it as we deliver this airport to you...I guarantee and assure you that by the time we are done with Enugu, you

would be very, very proud of this airport and very, very proud of services we have provided," the minister reiterated.

Besides the runway project and installation of the other supporting facilities, the airport landscape would also change with the ongoing construction of a new terminal. The terminal which is about 70 per cent completed is being constructed by China Civil Engineering and Construction Corporation (CCECC). Meantime, while the terminals in Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt and Kano airport were being constructed with loans from the China Exim Bank, the Enugu terminal was solely funded by the Federal Ministry of Aviation.

In explaining the terminal, Sirika said, "The terminal building is a special consideration given to Enugu. The loans we got from the Chinese were meant for Lagos, Abuja, Kano and Port Harcourt and because of the importance of Enugu, government decided to fund it through the budget, not through loan and we are progressing very, very well."

As the minister promised to deliver the project before Easter, many Nigerians especially the users of the airport are holding him to his words as he did with Abuja Airport which he delivered before the six weeks promised for the completion of the project.

ASOCHRONICLE

DAILY TRUST PUBLICATION



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Kidnappings: Kabi-Mangoro residents want abandoned police outpost put to use

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Following incessant cases of kidnapping and armed robbery on residents of Kabi-Mangoro in Kuje Area Council, the people are calling on the police authorities to, as a matter of urgency, put the abandoned police outpost in the community into use.

A resident, Isaac Emmanuel, who spoke with *Aso Chronicle*, said the police outpost, which was built over two years ago, has been abandoned.

He said the need to post police officers to the outpost to provide security for lives and property was urgent due to recurring cases of

kidnapping and armed robbery on innocent villagers.

He said gunmen have continued to lay siege on the community at will, maiming and killing those who are either returning from the market in Kuje or from the farm, a situation which, he said, has continued to create fear and a sense of insecurity in the community.

He said suspected kidnappers often ambushed and abducted residents at gunpoint, demanding huge sums of money in ransom.

"In fact, family members of the kidnapped victims have to sell their farm produce and borrow before they raise money to pay ransom to

kidnappers," he said.

Another resident, Musa Shadrach, said the absence of security personnel in the community has emboldened the criminals into carrying out their attacks at will.

He also said armed robbers, who snatch motorcycles, take advantage of the deplorable state of the road to attack people and snatch their bikes.

He therefore appealed to the police authorities to as a matter of necessity come to the aid of residents of the community by equipping the abandoned police outpost and putting it into use.

"I believe by the time the police outpost is put to use, even the kidnappers or armed

robbers will be scared of kidnapping people around this community," he said.

It will be recalled that gunmen suspected to be kidnappers on December 29, 2019 killed four persons, including a middle aged woman in the community.

Reacting, the spokesman of the FCT police command, DSP Anjuguri Manzah, said the command has already put security measures in the community to tackle cases of armed robbery and other crimes.

He said the command will also look into the state of the police outpost in the community before a decision would be taken on it.

AMAC's 2020 budget prioritises rural infrastructure - Candido

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The Chairman of Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC), Alhaji Abdullahi Adamu Candido, has said the council's 2020 budget that was passed by the legislature will give priority to the provision of rural infrastructure.

Candido, while speaking with our reporter over the weekend in Abuja, noted that the budget was not going to be different from that of his first tenure, which he said focused mostly on provision of viable infrastructure across the council.

He said provision of potable drinking water, good road networks that will link to rural communities, healthcare service delivery across rural communities and education sector were prioritised in the budget.

He added that the council has also in its budget, captured the renovation of palaces of traditional rulers which, he said, was a deliberate move to give the traditional institutions and their subjects a sense of belonging.

"Aside that, we are also going to ensure that all the ongoing projects, including the AMAC school for gifted are completed before we embark on new ones that have already been captured in the 2020 budget," he said.

The chairman, therefore, called on residents of the council to live in peace and accommodate each other irrespective of ethnic, religious and political affiliations and also pray for their leaders.



■ Gbagyi cultural dancers entertain during the celebration of 5th Annual Cultural Festival of Karu Chiefdom Development Association in Karu, Abuja last weekend.

Photo: Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Traffic congestion: FCTA to seal multiple entry points in Dutse Alhaji market

By Malikat Umar Shuaibu

Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) has resolved to take further steps towards tackling the protracted traffic congestion at Dutse Alhaji roads, by fencing the market and sealing off all unnecessary multiple entry points.

The Chairman, FCT ministerial task team on traffic

free flow, Ikharo Attah, stated this when he, alongside some Engineers from the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB), Department of Development Control and officials of Bwari Area Council, visited the troubled spots for a pre-construction inspection.

Attah said the new

development was in line with the commitment and passion of FCT Minister, Mallam Muhammad Musa Bello, to end traffic gridlock across the FCT.

He pointed out that the multiple entry points into the market from the main roads are sources of the disturbing traffic gridlock.

Attah said, "It is a common knowledge in planning that

access to property is not allowed from primary roads."

He added that after the fencing work, major entry points into the market would be from the roads inside Dutse Alhaji.

The Head of Enforcement and Operations at the Abuja Environmental Protection Board, (AEPB) Mr. Kaka Bello, who was part of the inspection

team said decision to fence the market was in the overall best interest of millions of road users and in compliance with the approved plan for area.

While FCDA engineers assured that the work would soon commence, officials of Bwari area council and market associations have pleaded that a small entrance point be provided by the primary road.

Agora of Zuba confers 39 new traditional titles on personalities

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The Agora of Zuba, His Royal Highness (HRH) Alhaji Mohammed Bello Umar, has announced the conferment of 39 new traditional titles on some personalities in his chiefdom.

Alhaji Umar made the announcement when the recipients of the titles led by the vice chairman of Gwagwalada Area Council, Alhaji Mohammed Kassim Ikwa, who was given the title of Wakili of Zuba chiefdom, paid him a visit in his palace.

The chief also announced Mohammed Magaji as the new ward head of Konkole community in the chiefdom, saying the conferment of the new title was done after unanimous resolution of members of his traditional council.

He said the palace decided to confer the traditional titles on the personalities because of their immense contributions to the palace and the entire chiefdom.

The traditional ruler said the palace was making arrangement to set a day when the 39 title holders and the new ward head of Konkole community would be formally turbaned.

Speaking on behalf of the recipients, the vice chairman appreciated the Agora of Zuba and members of his traditional council for finding them worthy for the titles.

He assured that all the recipients would continue to support the palace for peace, unity and development of Zuba chiefdom.

SSG bags chieftaincy title from Agatu Chiefdom

From Ibraheem Hamza Muhammad, Lafia

Secretary to Nasarawa State Government, Alhaji Tijjani Aliyu Ahmed, has been conferred with the chieftaincy title of Sadauki of Agatu chiefdom.

The SSG, who is a former commissioner for education, was conferred with the title by Chief Ahmed Kwanaki Guto in Olegepe, Loko Development Area of Nasarawa State.

Others conferred with titles were Mr Joseph Oyigege as Madaki Agatu; Alhaji Danlami I. Umar as Omukama Agatu; Alhaji Ibrahim Ahmed Guto as Ciroman Agatu; Hajiya Halimat Ahmed Guto as Gimbiyan Agatu, and Hajiya Fatimat Ahmed Guto as Zinariya of Agatu chiefdom among others.

The turbaning ceremony was attended by many dignitaries across the state.

The chief called on the newly turbaned personalities to contribute their quota towards developing Loko, Nasarawa and Nigeria in general.

Be vigilant, council boss tells newly turbaned village chiefs

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The Chairman of Gwagwalada Area Council, Alhaji Adamu Mustapha, has urged newly turbaned village chiefs in the area to always be vigilant and security conscious in their domains.

Mustapha, who made the call during the turbaning

ceremony of seven new village chiefs at Dobi yesterday, also urged them to ensure security of lives and property of their subjects remain their top priority.

The chairman, while congratulating the village chiefs, called on them to ensure peaceful coexistence among their subjects and other ethnic groups in their

domains, saying peace and unity should always be their watch ward.

Also speaking, a former House of Representatives member for Abuja South, Alhaji Zakari Angulu Dobi, also called on the newly turbaned chiefs to represent their people with the fear of God, adding that they should ensure they did justice in

resolving whatever crisis was brought before them devoid of tribal or religious sentiments.

Among the seven newly turbaned village chiefs were, Bamusa Sarki, as village chief of Ashara, Usman Galadima as village chief of Gulu Pai, Adamu Tanko Bello, village chief of Ledi I, Yunusa Mohammed, village chief of Ledi II, and Abdullahi Pada, village chief of Ledi III.

APC passes vote of confidence on Nasarawa speaker

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

The national leadership of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) has passed a vote of confidence on speaker of Nasarawa State House of Assembly, Alhaji Ibrahim Balarabe Abdullahi, for his quality representation, describing him as an asset to the party.

A statement by the chief press secretary to the speaker, said the National Vice Chairman, North Central of the party, Ahmed Suleiman Wambai, passed the vote of confidence during a performance assessment of the speaker in Toto local government of the state on Monday.

He noted that the speaker has impacted positively on the lives of rural dwellers in the state, which was what moved the national leadership of the party to express confidence on him.

He said the national leadership of APC assured

that the party would continue to monitor its representatives across the country to reward

their hard work.

The statement also said the student union in Umaisha

presented an award of excellence to the speaker for his quality representation.



Deputy Speaker, Nasarawa State House of Assembly, Nehemiah Tsentse Dandaura, second right presents a sewing machine to a woman. Photo: Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Toto council chair's wife holds breastfeeding campaign

From Ibraheem Hamza Muhammad, Lafia

Wife of the chairman of Toto Local Government Area in Nasarawa State, Hajiya Rakiya Dauda, has advised nursing mothers to exclusively breastfeed their children.

She gave the advice during a sensitization campaign in

Kofa town in Toto, stressing that breastfeeding promotes better health for mothers and children alike.

"Breastfeeding of a child is the best way to provide ideal food for healthy growth and development of infants," she said.

She described breast milk as the first natural food for

babies, adding that it provides all the energy and nutrients that the infant needs for the critical months of life.

Hajiya Rakiya distributed diapers and other items to nursing mothers in the locality, where she explained that "nutritious complementary foods should then be added while

continuing to breastfeed for up to two years or beyond."

She said it is recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) that exclusive breastfeeding starts within one hour after birth until a baby is six months old.

The event was attended by health personnel and women in the area.

ADC chieftain pledges to continue empowerment of youths, widows in 2020

Mr Jacob Ajegana-Kudu, a chieftain of African Democratic Congress (ADC) in Nassarawa Eggon East constituency, on Monday, promised to continue to empower youths, widows, orphans and the less-privileged in Nassarawa State.

He made the pledge while speaking with newsmen after receiving stakeholders and ADC members from the constituency who paid him a courtesy visit in Akun, Nassarawa State.

According to him, the

gesture was aimed at improving their standard of living and enabling them to contribute their quota to the development of the state.

"I have assured ADC members, coordinators from the seven electoral wards of Eggon East constituency and other stakeholders who visited me that I will continue to empower the youths, widows and other less-privileged to improve their standard of living.

"I have been doing a lot in the area of empowerment, such as disbursement of

interest-free loans to youths, distribution of motorcycles, vehicles, Keke Napep and sewing machines. We will still continue the gesture this year.

"We are also assisting many students with school fees, the sick ones with money and many others with various challenges in order to let them have sense of belonging.

"Just to ensure that those in my Ogba community celebrated the Christmas and New Year with joy, wrappers and food items

were distributed to about 150 widows in the community," he said.

Ajegana-Kudu advised ADC members to remain focused in the interest of the party.

He called on the people of the constituency to continue to live peacefully and tolerate one another irrespective of their religious or political affiliations, adding that peace was necessary for development to thrive.

Ajegana-Kudu was the 2019 candidate for the Nassarawa Eggon East state constituency. (NAN)

AREWATRUST

WEEKLY

DAILY TRUST PUBLICATION

Vol. 1, No 62



How cold weather is affecting businesses, residents in Kaduna, Katsina

From Faruk Shuaib, Emmanuel Akaw, Kaduna & Habibu Umar, Katsina

As the harmattan season bites harder in many parts of the north residents have been forced to adopt measures to survive the situation.

Arewa Trust Weekly correspondent reports that the weather has changed the way of lives of many residents as people now come out late and close early from their work.

Many businesses now open from 10 a.m. as against the 8 a.m. schedule or earlier before the advent of the cold season.

Wale Adetunji, a phone repairer, said he no longer ventured out early to his workshop as he used to because of the cold weather.

“I do not go to work as early as he used to due to the change of weather in Kaduna. Before the harmattan set in I used to go out as early as 7am, but now due to the cold weather, I wait till around 10am.”

He said that he had also realized that his customers no longer come out early and that also forced him to change his timing adding that his customers now come between 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Idris Abdulrahman, a sachet water wholesaler said: “Since the cold weather started, there has really not been much sales. Before the harmattan season, we were selling between 300 to 400 bags of sachet water but now sales have dropped to as low as 150 bags at most.



■ Katsina residents buying secondhand clothes to beat the cold weather.

Muhammadu Sani a sachet water hawkker said sales has reduced drastically due to the weather.

“Before the season, I used to sell between 17 and 20 bags but now I sell 10 to 12 bags daily.

A tea seller in Bakin Dogo market, Aliyu Auwal said the weather condition has improved his sales.

“The weather is bringing more customers to my business because right now customers troop in and out even by 2:00pm to take tea unlike before this season when by 8:00am or 10:00am business is fluctuating.”

It is a similar story in Katsina as it has forced sudden changes in social

and behavioural attitudes of the residents.

Arewa Trust Weekly reports that temperature in the state gets as low as 7 degrees Celsius in the morning and rises to about 12 degrees by afternoon and then gradually decreases as night falls.

Residents, especially men who usually hold social interactions and catch ups at various places, locally referred to as Zaman Majalisa, are fast closing up.

The cold season is also making housewives happier, as their husbands who usually come home late are now forced indoors.

Khadijat Saulawa said: “In our area the men, especially the married ones, are seen more often at home than before. By 7p.m. the streets have dried up as husbands have returned to their families, I wish it will continue like this.”

Some husbands spoken to said they were now being forced to return early because of the cold weather.

Halilu Bashir said: “Men are known to be outside fending for the family but the cold is forcing us home and the wives are happier. They should know that people like us have to go and look for money to sustain the house and continuous stay indoors have its repercussions as well,” he added

A commercial motorcyclist, Yusuf Ibrahim, said the cold weather has led to a drop in the number of people being ferried.

However, Malam Salisu, who sells tea along Kofar Kaura road said business is booming because most youngsters and bachelors besiege their joints all through the day for a hot cup of tea to warm the body.

“Before the cold period, I mostly operate between 6am and by noon morning session will be over but now it’s almost through till midnight,” he said

It is also a boom for Mohammed Sani, a second hand cloth dealer who says the cold season should continue to enable him sell more of his wares.

“People are daily rushing to get sweaters, jackets for themselves and children, the market is moving and we thank God for it.”

Councillors move to impeach Zaria council chairman

From Isa Sa’idu, Zaria

Ten of the 13 councillors of the Zaria local government area have signed impeachment notice meant to remove the chairman, Alhaji Aliyu Idris Ibrahim, from office over various allegations.

Speaking on behalf of the councillors, majority leader, Akilu Abubakar, said the move was based on the provision of section 9(1), (2), (3) and (4) of Kaduna state local government law No. 3 of 2018, which empowered the legislative arm of the local government to serve impeachment notice to the chairman.

According to Abubakar, the council chairman is not adhering to due process in discharging his duties.

He added: “We are accusing the chairman of misappropriating the local government funds. Other offences include violation of Procurement Act, violation of budgetary provisions and usurpation of the legislative powers among many others. We have attempted to serve the notice to the Secretary of the council, as the law provided, but we were not able to



■ Zaria LG chairman, Alhaji Aliyu Idris Ibrahim

see him up to now.”

Abubakar said during their oversight visit to many projects sites, they have discovered many abnormalities that the chairman needs to defend himself before a panel.

Responding at a press conference, Alhaji Ibrahim said the impeachment move by the legislative arm was just a mere fiction.

Alhaji Ibrahim, who spoke through Alhaji Abubakar Rilwan, Adviser on Media and Publicity, said the chairman learnt about the impeachment in the media.

He added: “We learnt that there was an attempt by the councillors of Zaria local government to impeach the council chairman based on certain allegations. Actually, the

move is a purported one. The entire move emanated out of ignorance of the law and eagerness to achieve selfish aim.

“Since we assumed office, we make sure that we advertise contracts in line with Procurement Act. There were transparent biddings before the contracts were awarded in the presence of state government’s representatives, the press, NGOs, contractors or their representatives among others. In budget, all the councillors were invited to make submission so that it will be included in the budget and we operate a transparent financial administration. The move may not be unconnected to efforts of the councillors to get contracts from the council. The councillors who benefited from contracts in last year’s budget were yet to reach 30 per cent of the work after collecting over 80 per cent of the total money.”

The impeachment notice obtained by our correspondent indicated that councillors from Anguwan Fatika, Dambo, Kufena, Kaura, Tukur Tukur, Gyellesu, Limancin Kona, Anguwan Juma and Kwarbai ‘B’ wards signed the document.

Man demands refund of dowry over failed marriage

From Fatimah Binta Idris, Kaduna

Usman Abbas has asked a Kaduna State Sharia Court sitting at Magajin Gari to compel Maryam Yusuf Nadabo, a woman he intended to marry the and her father Yusuf Nadabo to refund his dowry.

Usman told the court that he spent a total of N110,000 for the introduction, dowry and fixing of the date for the wedding which he handed over to Maryam’s family.

He said since the marriage between him and Maryam did not take place, the family should refund his money.

“I paid N10,000 for introduction, N60,000 for bride price and N40,000 for fixing of the wedding date.

“The wedding was expected to take place after I had fulfilled all marriage obligations but I travelled during the time of the wedding. When I came back, I noticed a change in my relationship with Maryam.”

Maryam’s father, Yusuf Nadabo agreed to the claims made by Usman but said the bride price paid was N50,000 and not N60,000 as claimed by the complainant.

Yusuf informed the court that he had an agreement with Usman’s father to pay back the money by the January, 31 but instead of waiting, he decided to take the matter to court.

The Judge, Murtala Nasiru, adjourned the case till January 13 for the parties to bring their witnesses.

CALIPHATE TRUST

DAILY TRUST PUBLICATION

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Beating Sokoto's piercing cold

By Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

With the biting Harmattan cold that has swept across Sokoto State, residents have continued to adopt measures to overcome the chilly climate.

"When this frosty weather started, we had to tackle the cold draft- that's the current of cold air drawn indoor," disclosed Amina Lawal who resides in Arkila area of the State capital.

"What we did was to place towels at the base of our exterior doors and cover the windows with heavy blankets to keep cold air from coming through the gaps and spaces."

Some other residents said they used layers of plastics to seal out the cold air while others used trampoline covers to plug the cold drafts.

For Aisha Bello: "In my house, we use hot water bottles a lot to keep warm and of course thick blankets to cover ourselves."

She noted that at night it tends to get chillier outside while during the day it is colder inside the house.

"During the day when the inside feels colder than outside,

I sit in a sunny section of the compound."

Caliphate Trust observed that at some places of work, some workers come out of their offices to sit under sun to warm up.

On the streets, use of thick jackets, sweaters, socks and other appropriate outdoor clothing, has become the most common sights.

Wearing layers of clothes is another resort. "I wear three sweaters, two trousers, thick socks and gloves to beat cold," Nasiru Isa, a businessman stated.

Adults and children alike spend much of their time indoors. Some housewives especially are enjoying the best of the season.

Zalihat Aminu, 41, said she always cherished arrival of the harmattan season which keeps her husband at home and minimises the challenges in controlling her little children's movements in the neighbourhood.

"My most cherished gift from the harmattan is keeping my husband close to the family for most of the day during weekends and evenings on working days.

"My husband is one of those you call outdoor type, and he spends much time outside with friends. The coming of harmattan has limited his stay outside."

Meanwhile, some businesses have continued to suffer temporary setbacks. However, people have different stories to tell depending on the nature of their trade or vocation.

A Fura da Nono seller at Kwanar Gidan Liman Sultan Palace area, Mama Buhari, said the sale had been very low since the harmattan season commenced.

"During the hot season, I used 10 measures of millet to make Fura da Nono and I rake in N60,000. During Ramadan I earned about N80,000, due to high demand.

"But now, I hardly get N3,000 from three measures of millet I produce. We are just managing, but Alhamdulillah, it will soon be over, and business would bounce back."

A shop owner, Malam Hassan Alkammawa, who sells cold drinks and sachet water, said harmattan had robbed him of his otherwise good business in cold beverages and sachet water.

"During the hot season, people troop to buy cold drinks and cold sachet water or buy the bigger pack of 20 pieces for their families. From making N5,000 daily, the sale has shrunk to just N500," he lamented.

A commercial motorcycle operator, Ibrahim Salihu, said every year during harmattan patronage drops considerably from between N3,000 and N4000 daily to N1000 and N1,500 daily.

"To get patronage we move around, expending fuel but we do not get as many people as before" he added.

"Even as we manage to be on the road at the time people remain indoors, we are exposed to cold-related sicknesses, which is part of the hazards."

However, tea sellers are having a swell time. Muhammadu Sani said: "Harmattan is the best moment for us, and we always look forward to its arrival due to high level of patronage we record during the season."

Muhammad revealed that even during the hot season, he enjoys considerable patronage, adding that the sale triples during harmattan.



■ Muhammadu Sani

He stated: "During the harmattan season, people rush to this joint to have a hot cup of their favourites. They also stay to discuss issues, making me open early and close late due to high demand.

"For me there is no dull moment in the season."

Hajiya Halima Sani an educationist, underscored the need to stay safe and healthy in the cold climate.

"There is a need to ensure children and others at risk from cold weather hazards are well protected," she advised.



■ The State Programme officer, Dr Ibrahim Abdullahi Gusau giving the soft loan to one the beneficiaries in Kwaren Ganuwa community

Hisbah Committee recovers 11 abandoned babies, 63 children in Kebbi

The Kebbi State Hisbah Committee has said that it recovered 11 abandoned babies and 20 abducted single and married women in 2019.

Alhaji Abubakar Muhammad, the state's Director of Shari'a/Hisbah, told the News Agency of Nigeria, (NAN) in Birnin Kebbi on Tuesday, that 63 cases of missing children were resolved and reunited with their parents.

He added that the committee also resolved 210 disputes between spouses, friends, parents and children, among

others within the year in review. Abubakar said that the committee also recorded 19 unwanted pregnancy, buried - alive baby, two homosexual case, six forced marriages and two cases of Hajj fraud.

"I appeal to parents to monitor the whereabouts of their children at all times and to be mindful of their activities among peers."

He also revealed that 12 youths were arrested for camping young girls in hotels, while 25 women were also arrested for prostitution.

He said 11 youths and women were arrested for drug addiction, 19 women for abortion and three other women married with pregnancy.

"We have a huge task and could not have been successful without the support of the state government and collaboration with other security agencies," Muhammad said.

The director appealed to the state government to resuscitate the 21 local government Hisbah offices for smooth operations. (NAN)

More Zamfara rural women, others get FSA loans

From Shehu Umar, Gusau

At least 46 women and 15 men in Kwaren Ganuwa community in Tsafe local government area of Zamfara state have benefited from the Financial Services Association loan which is being supported by IFAD CASP in the state.

The state Programme officer, IFAD- CASP, Dr Ibrahim Abdullahi Gusau, said the loan repayment period was three months after which other beneficiaries would be given the loan.

He said over time, the soft loan for the rural women was found to be improving their financial status and freeing them from the bondage of unemployment and poverty.

Dr Ibrahim Gusau further explained that the state government was planning to give N1.5 million and the IFAD -CASP would also invest N1 million as counterpart funding to strengthen the institutions for better service delivery.

He said hundreds of women in many communities across the 14 local government areas had earlier gotten the loan that changed the narrative of their financial status.

Some of the beneficiaries, who expressed happiness over the gesture, said they would make judicious use of the money to add value to their respective families.

"I'm into petty trading, with this money. I will endeavour to jack up my capital base which I have been longing for quite a long time. This is an opportunity for me and my family and I will make sure I repay the loan within the stipulated time for others to get it also," Sadiya Rufai said.

Also IFAD - CASP has distributed 30 water pumping machines to dry season farmers to boost agricultural business in the community.

The beneficiaries would pay half of the price of the machines for the money to be invested into the Financial Services Association (FSA).

A beneficiary, Mamma Turaki, said he would immediately put the machine to use.

Earlier, eight women from four local government areas in the state were given grinding machines each and are expected to pay half of the price of the machines to boost the revolving funds in Financial Services Association.

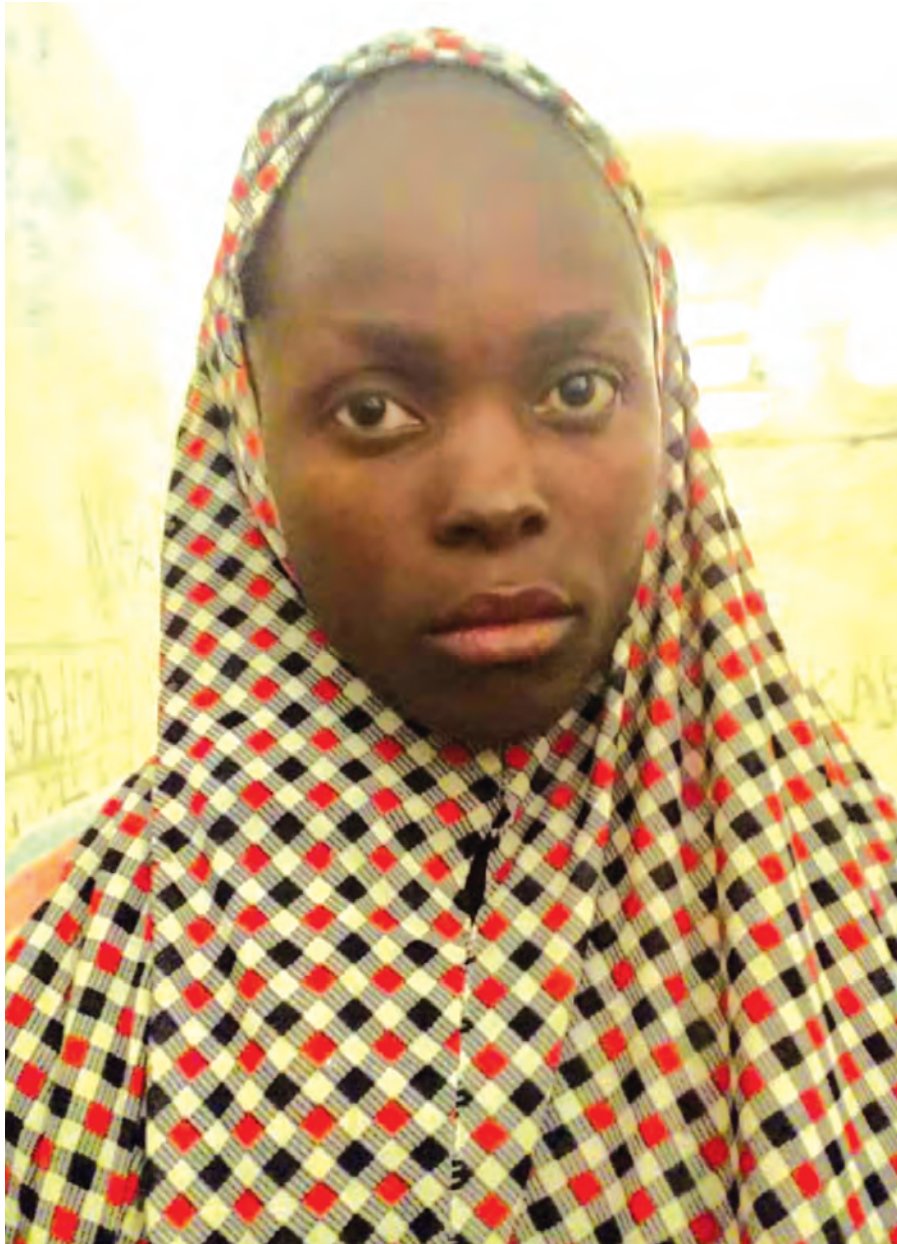
KANO/JIGAWA CHRONICLE

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House wife alleged murder: Husband, deceased family differ on circumstance of death



■ The suspect, Hauwa Lawan



■ late Zuwaira Lawan

By Tijjani Ibrahim and Ummul Khairi Bello Yunusa

On the 3rd of January in Rurum village, Rano local government of Kano state, a 28-year-old pregnant woman, Zuwaira Sani, was allegedly pushed into a well together with her 18-month-old baby whom she was carrying on her back.

However, the child, because he was first to be rescued, survived and his mother was brought out of the well lifeless.

The suspect, a 30-year-old, Hauwa Lawan, who was accused of pushing her partner along with the baby into a well, has since been arrested by the Kano Police command.

When our reporters visited the village where the incident took place, family members differed on the circumstances that led to the unfortunate incident.

Malama Binta Yakubu, an aunt to the deceased, said it was not long the late Zuwaira left her place that the incident happened.

“When she came I asked her whether all was well and she said there was no any problem, she only came to visit, but some moments after, I was called that she was pushed into the well by her co-wife,” she said.

Also speaking to our reporters, Malama Amina Sani, a stepmother to the deceased, said the deceased complained on several occasions about her co-wife because they both lived in the same compound.

The mother-in-law, who also live in the same house with the two wives, said she was not in the house when the incident happened, but when she got back she could hear screams and immediately went out to seek for help but before they could get her out, she had given up the ghost.

The uncle of the deceased, Malam Sani, said he was among people who brought out the deceased's lifeless body from the well.

“When I heard about the incident, I rushed to the house, and without any hesitation, as her uncle, I went into the well and I lifted her up and

realized that she was not alive there and then,” he said.

He said she sustained injuries on her forehead and at the back of her head, adding that since the 18-months-old baby was rescued before the mother, the time she took in the well with those injuries could have been the cause of her death.

However, the husband of both the suspect and the victim, who was said to be out of town when the incident occurred, said he got a distress call about the death of his wife on his way back home. He, however, maintained that both wives were living happily together without any problem, contrary to the claim that they lived in perpetual squabble.

The spokesperson of the Kano Police, DSP Abdullahi Haruna Kiyawa, said the suspect, Mrs Hauwa, was trailed and arrested following an order by the state Commissioner of Police, Habu Sani Ahmadu.

He said the police received the report on Friday that Hauwa Lawal, of Rurum village in Rano local

government area of the state had pushed her co-wife and an 18-month-old baby into a well.

“The suspect had a misunderstanding with the victim in the process they started fighting in the house. The suspect pushed her partner along with the baby, whom she was carrying on her back, into a well,” he said.

He said: “The commissioner of police in the state ordered that the fleeing suspect be arrested within 24hours.

“Operation Puff-Adder swung into action and arrested the suspect on Saturday at about 1:17 am.

“The victims were evacuated from the well and rushed to Rano General Hospital, where Zuwaira Sani was confirmed dead, while her son is alive and has been discharged from the hospital.”

Mr Kiyawa added that the case has been transferred to the homicide department at the state police headquarters, Bompai, for further investigation.

Why I raised N5m for Magajiya Dambatta- Jaafar

By Yusha'u A. Ibrahim

The publisher of *Daily Nigeria* online newspaper, Malam Jaafar Jaafar has said that he raised N5 million for the famous Hausa Singer, Hajiya Magajiya Dambatta, in order to improve her wellbeing.

Speaking at the official commissioning of his Media Centre, Penlight Center for Media Innovation in Kano, Jaafar said he found the famous singer living a miserable life and decided to change her life for the better.

"Initially, I thought the woman is dead, but later I discovered that she is still alive. So, when I paid a visit to her village in the present Makoda local government, I found that she is living

in abject poverty despite her immense contributions in the area of education.

"I learnt that her song on education had contributed a lot in attracting many people to enroll their children in western schools during her time. But in the end this woman was easily forgotten by the society. Honestly, the situation I found this woman moved me to initiate the fund raising for her and God in his infinite mercy, within few days, we were able to generate N5 million.

"Our plan is to get a befitting house for the woman, place her on a monthly allowance for her up-keeping in order to improve her life. We intend to improve the life of this woman because of the contribution she gave to the society," he said.

Turning to the media center, Jaafar said it was established last year with a view to addressing challenges associated with information dissemination especially among youths in the northern region.

Jaafar lamented that many youths in the north do not know how to use social media and Information Technology as sources of information to advance a positive course.

He noted that the center, which had headquarters in Abuja, was established with the support of the N20 million grant and 25 computer sets donated by the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) and other philanthropists.

Jaafar, who is also the Editor-in-Chief of the *Daily Nigeria*, added

that the center was expected to train youths on the usage of social media, investigative journalism, publication and media interface, as well as social media empowerment, social justice, transparency, and accountability.

"Our target is individuals, groups, rural communities and constructive engagement of women to debate on national issues, among others.

One of the Directors, Malam Isa Sanusi, promised that the center would offer free training to members of the Kano State Correspondents' chapel.

Earlier, Chairman of the Penlight Center, Yushau Shuaibu urged all prospective journalists to patronize the center by enrolling themselves for various trainings related to modern journalism.

Kano to enroll additional 100 IDPs students

By Ibrahim Musa Giginyu

Kano State Government yesterday said it will enroll an additional 100 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from insurgency affected states at its Mariri Boarding Primary and Junior Secondary School.

This was contained in a statement signed by the Public Relations Officer, Ministry of Education, Malam Aliyu Yusuf.

According to the statement, the Commissioner for Education, Malam Muhammad Sanusi Sa'id Kiru, disclosed this when he and his counterpart of the Ministry of Women Affairs Dr Zahrau Muhammad Umar jointly received the committee representing the parents of the IDP students at the school.

The commissioner said accommodating additional students would bring succor to the children who lost their parents as a result of the insurgency in Borno state.

The Commissioner of Women Affairs, Dr Zah'ra'u Muhammad Umar, emphasized the importance of assisting orphans in the society, appealing to wealthy individuals and other agencies to complement government's effort in running the school.

Speaking earlier, the leader of the committee, Hon Fanta Baba Shehu said that the quarterly visit to the school was initiated to enable the students to have a sense of belonging adding that, the students were carefully selected from the 27 local governments of Borno state.



■ Scavenger pushes cart along Kano street.

Photo Sani Maikatanga

Disability Commission: Kano Coalition calls for inclusion of disabled groups

By Ibrahim Musa Giginyu

Amputee Coalition of Nigeria, Kano state chapter, yesterday called on the federal government to ensure that the planned disability commission encompasses all the various disability groups in its formative stage for an effective take off.

The coalition said the federal government should put into consideration the various classifications in disability in addition to regional representation which is enshrined in the disability law 2018.

This was contained in a statement signed by the state coordinator Amputee Coalition of Nigeria Malam Hisham Habib.

According to him, the globally identified classification and clusters, that includes people with physical and mobility disability, spinal cord injury, head injury, vision, hearing impairment, cognitive and invisible disabilities, should be carried on board, for the commission to perform efficiently.

He said there were Nigerians with capabilities, despite their challenges of

disability, who could be given roles to play in the organization.

The coalition said the over 27 million Nigerians with various disabilities faced many challenges and the urgency in dealing with their predicament could not be over emphasized.

It urged the minister for humanitarian affairs to launch a sensitization campaign in all 36 states of the federation on the importance of creating disability friendly over pass bridges to ease the burden faced while crossing the road by people with disability.



■ Governor Abdullahi Umar Ganduje of Kano State

Ethnic base hate speech tops December 2019's record- survey

By Ibrahim Musa Giginyu

A recent survey conducted by Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) has revealed that the volume of consistent ethnic tension through comments and remarks of Nigerians on social media has increased.

The survey was conducted in collaboration with support from National Democratic Institute (NDI) under its countering hate speech project in Nigeria.

It said out of the 205 hate speeches

tracked, 69 instances, which represent 34 percent were ethnic based.

This was revealed by the CITAD Coordinator countering hate speech project, Malam Hamza Ibrahim, during a press briefing on monitoring and countering hate speech.

According to him, the outcome had shown how intolerant people of different ethnic groups and linguistic affiliation were becoming.

He said the rise needed serious attention as a diverse nation, adding that there was a need for something to be done to address the issue before it

escalated.

"A country as diverse as Nigeria shouldn't underestimate the power of tolerance decay and ought to therefore put measures in place to ensure sustainable mutual coexistence, respect, unity and love for one another among people no matter the difference in tribe, religion or language," he said.

The coordinator also urged traditional institutions in the country to enlighten, promote and emphasize tolerance and strongly discourage hate speech in all forms on social media and any other platform.

EKOTRUST

DAILY TRUST PUBLICATION



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Much ado about Akara Zenith in Ado

From Raphael Ogbonnaiye, Ado-Ekiti

What is in an ordinary bean cake? A lot, when it is Akara Zenith in Ado-Ekiti.

'Akara' in Yoruba or 'Kose' in Hausa language is the bean cake delicacy that many people take delight in savouring, which can be accompanied by akamu (pap) or bread.

Again, the age-long norm is that it was only women who fried akara for a commercial purpose. Not anymore, what with young, unassuming male entrepreneurs like Stephen Wisdom.

Akara normally comes round and small. However, in Ado-Ekiti, the Ekiti State capital, at a T-junction along Bank Road, 24-year-old Wisdom, an Ebonyi State indigene, is reinventing the akara delicacy with his big akara, in the Akara Zenith initiative.

Wisdom's akara is exceptionally big and inviting.

The young businessman said the akara idea sprouted in him when he realised his seasonal business of exercise books sale was not just paying him enough. And in order not to go into the unemployment market and avoid a situation where he would rely on people to make a living, he decided to do something legitimately unusual. And so, Akara Zenith was born.

Wisdom told *Eko Trust*, "I don't like depending on anybody to live. I have always known that if anybody works hard, he will make it."

"There was a business I was doing before this. I came all the way from the east to Akure, Ondo State, where I was doing a seasonal business. But there came a time the business was



■ Stephen Wisdom, on the (Left hand side) with one assistant frying akara

shaky and I wasn't making enough money to keep body and soul together. So I started thinking of engaging in edibles that people must consume every day.

"I went to Lagos and checked around. I studied what consumers in Yorubaland like taking every day. I observed that akara was selling well every day. I told myself that was what I would go into. After all, life is all about risk. If you cannot take risk in life, you are going nowhere."

"I told myself it's better to try and fail than not trying at all. That is why I came all the way from Akure to search for a location here."

Wisdom said he actually spent about a month in Lagos in search of what business he

could do for a living.

He said that, for now, he was operating the business only at the T-junction, though he had an intention to expand. He had, however, introduced a friend of his age to the business.

"He is along Ajilosun market. I was the one that brought him into the business. He is my friend; he is the owner of the business at the Fayose market. He is Ezekiel Godwin. We are of the same age," he said.

Wisdom disclosed that he was educated to secondary school level but couldn't advance due to lack of assistance from expected quarters. He said he did make efforts to attend a tertiary institution but to no success, so he decided to learn how to

sell foodstuffs.

He didn't quite eventually start his business life selling foodstuffs. It was exercise books, which was a kind of a regret and he had to retrace his steps.

Wisdom said he started the akara business about a year ago. He said though it isn't hugely profitable as many people wrongly believe, it brings him a moderate income and pays his bills.

He said, "I am not making big profits now in the business because everything we use in producing akara is costly; prices are on the high side. Prices of the main ingredients like beans, vegetable oil, pepper, onions and the gas keep going up."

"Sometimes, I make some little profit. Sometimes, at

the end of the day, I lose. I won't make up to the cost of production. But then, as a man, I must understand losses are part of the risk in business."

As most private businesses go, especially the start-ups, Wisdom has no annual leave, neither does he open shop late in the morning and close early in the evening. As early as 8am, he is already selling his akara and doesn't go home until 9pm.

So how does he rest his body and mind? "I rest only on Sundays. On environmental sanitation days, I am compelled not to start sales early," he said.

The akara entrepreneur is single, saying he hasn't achieved his plans.

He said, "Everybody has plans and determinations. I want to achieve some things before my marriage."

Wisdom advised youths waiting forever for government and white collar jobs to lift themselves up and be self-employed. He said they should not depend on government, relatives and even only their certificates to succeed in life.

"There are other things that you can do to earn lawful money. Don't depend on salary. If you don't work hard, you cannot be a star. Dip yourself in little businesses that make sense and you can be making your daily bread."

"Successful people work hard every time. When you are still young, you don't go out there running after boyfriends or girlfriends when there are better things you can do with your time. Think of the business you can do, make it special, package it well and see whether people will not patronize you," he said.

Lagos records 39 fire incidents in 7 days

From Risikat Ramoni, Lagos

A total of 39 fire incidents were recorded in Lagos State in the first week of 2020, the Commissioner for Special Duties and Intergovernmental Relations, Dr Adewale Ahmed has revealed.

Ahmed, who stated this yesterday during a media briefing at Ikeja, attributed the fire outbreak to the harmattan season.

He pointed out the need for all residents to be more careful

as the dry harmattan period enhances the spread of fire easily.

The Commissioner further called on Lagos residents to be more proactive and safety-conscious, especially during the harmattan period in the state.

Reiterating government's determination to secure the lives and property of residents of Lagos, the Commissioner enjoined residents to place gas cylinders outside the kitchen.

He also implored residents

to desist from storing fuel or diesel at home, as well as avoid the use of candles except when necessary during a power cut, adding it was essential for people to put off candles before going to sleep to prevent fire accidents.

On the recent fire outbreaks experienced in some markets across the country, Ahmed called for caution among traders and advised that all electrical appliances should be put off at the end of business hours every day.

Bricklayer convicted for stealing church property

From Hameed Oyegbade, Osogbo

A magistrate court in Osogbo, Osun State, has sentenced a 22-year-old bricklayer, Wakili Ganiyu, to imprisonment for eight months for stealing the property of Dream Center of the Life Oasis International Church.

The police prosecutor, Mr Olayiwola Razaq, told the court that Ganiyu stole iron sheets on January 5, 2020 at about 9.30am at Osun-Jela community in Osogbo.

Rasaq said the item the accused person stole was

valued at N80,000.

The prosecutor stated that the offence committed by the accused person was in contrary to and punishable under Section 516 and 390(9) of the Criminal Code, Cap 34, volume II, Laws of Osun State Nigeria, 2002.

Ganiyu, who pleaded not guilty to the offence levelled against him, did not have a legal representative.

But the magistrate, Mr Opeyemi Badmus, rejected his plea and sentenced him to eight months imprisonment.

Street fight:
2 men
charged
with
murder

From Adelanwa Bamgboye,
Lagos

Two middle-aged men were yesterday charged with murder before a Botanical Garden Chief Magistrate's Court in Ebute Meta, Lagos, on two separate criminal charges.

First was the case of 23-year-old Kabiru Akinsanya, who was alleged to have killed one Alhassan Isaa by stabbing him to death with a knife on his chest.

According to the police, the accused person committed the offence on December 26, 2019 at about 5am at the Ajegunle area of Takwa Bay, Lagos.

No plea was taken from Akinsanya, who was to be remanded in custody pending legal advice from the office of the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), Lagos State.

In a separate charge, 25-year-old Uchenna Ifeakor was alleged to have killed one Mohammed Zaradeen, 26, during a fight by stabbing him to death with a knife.

The prosecuting police officer, Jimoh Isaghede, alleged that the offence was committed on December 18, 2019 at about 12pm at No. 22, Keshington Street, Satellite Town, Lagos.

No plea was also taken from Ifeakor and his case was adjourned till February 2, 2020, pending legal advice from the DPP.

Sanwo-Olu empowers 1050 indigent residents



■ Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State (middle) flanked by his deputy Dr. Obafemi Hamzat (right) and Commissioner for Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Mrs. Cecilia Bolaji Dada; Chairman Committee on Women Affairs, Hon. Mojisola Meranda (5th left); Permanent Secretary, Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Mrs. Oluyemi Kalesanwo (4th left); Secretary to the State Government, Mrs. Folashade Jaji and beneficiaries of Y2019 Mega Empowerment Programme at the Blue Roof, LTV Complex in Agidingbi, Ikeja yesterday Photo: LASG

From Abdulateef Aliyu, Lagos

The Lagos State governor, Mr Babajide Sanwo-Olu, yesterday empowered 1,050 residents in the state that his administration considered vulnerable and indigent.

The move, Sanwo-Olu said, was in fulfilment of his pledge to end poverty through the implementation of socio-economic empowerment programmes.

The beneficiaries, including graduates of skill acquisition centres, got support to enable them drive their own businesses.

They received, in addition to financial support, business support tools and equipment

like grinding machines, hair dressing tools, sewing machines and tyre repair kits.

At the event held at De Blue Roof in the Lagos Television complex, Ikeja, thousands of residents hailed the governor for delivering on his promises to the people.

Sanwo-Olu said the gesture was to "lift them (the beneficiaries) out of poverty and set them firmly on the journey to financial/economic independence."

He noted that the programme was in line with the foundational ideology of his political party, the All Progressives Congress, adding that it was an attempt to boost the economy of the most vulnerable in the society.

He said, "One of the key functions of government is to bring the greatest good to the greatest number of the people. Living in poverty, or on the edge of poverty, is akin to being submerged in water, struggling to stay afloat. Poverty alleviation seeks to ensure that every person in the water is helped out onto a boat, where they can then get a chance to take charge of their lives and their journeys henceforth.

"What we are doing here today, therefore, is lending a hand to pull the most vulnerable people among us out of the water, in line with our campaign promises and the manifesto of our great party, the All Progressives Congress."

The Commissioner for Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Mrs Cecilia Dada, explained at the event that women formed the backbone of the economy in Lagos State and the current administration was ready to place women where they belong.

Dadasaid, "It is an established fact that the economic activities of the women often constitute the back bone of our economy. Studies have shown that increasing women's economic opportunities is the key to poverty reduction and economic growth. Lagos firmly believes that women's economic empowerment is a crucial pillar of sustainable development and poverty alleviation."

NDLEA gets court's nod to detain suspected drugs dealer

From Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

A Federal High Court in Lagos yesterday ordered the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) to remand a suspected hard drug dealer, Onuegbu Ozoemena Stanley, who had been declared wanted by Interpol, since 2017, till January 21, 2020.

Justice Hassan Sule, who presided over the court, gave the order while granting an ex parte application filed and argued by the NDLEA lawyer, Mr Fingere Dinneys.

The NDLEA lawyer,

Dinneys told the court that the remand order sought for was pursuant to section 35 (1)(C), 6 (6)(b) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 as Amended, and Section 41 (b) (iii) of the NDLEA Act Cap. N30 laws of the federation of Nigeria 2004 and other relevant provisions.

He also told the court that the suspected drugs dealer arrested on December 27, 2019, was needed upon reasonable suspicion of committing an offence under the provision of the NDLEA Act.

Dinneys particularly told

the court that the order sought for was for further investigation of the arrested drugs suspect, whose co-conspirator, one Onwuabor Chukwuemeka Emmanuel, was arrested on July 8, 2015, in Hong Kong with 1.52 kilogrammes of cocaine.

He added that Onwuabor, upon his arrest, named the arrested drugs dealer as his sponsor and owner of the cocaine package.

He also told the court that upon the revelation made by Onwuabor, the name of the arrested drugs dealer was sent to Interpol as a fugitive, and the name

was on February 23, 2017 placed on a watch-list by the Interpol as a wanted person.

He added that the suspected drugs dealer, who had been at large since 2017, was arrested on December 27, 2019, at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport, Ikeja, Lagos, on his arrival from Hong Kong.

Dinneys also told the court that the request to remand the suspect was to enable the NDLEA and Interpol conclude investigation into his drug activities, which the prosecutor said had already commenced and a lot of hidden issues were being

unravelling.

He, therefore, urged the court to grant the application, as the suspect would not be prejudiced.

In granting the ex parte application, Justice Hassan held, "I have carefully examined the applicant's ex parte application, as well as affidavit in support, the exhibits attached and written address. I have also listened carefully to the submission of the applicant's counsel.

"The application is hereby granted and the matter is adjourned till January 21, 2020 for report of investigation."

(18)

EASY CROSSWORD >>

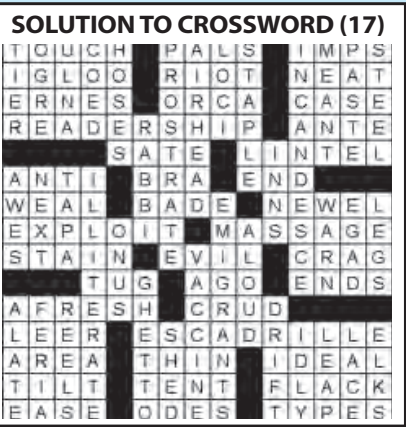


ACROSS

- 1. Near
- 6. Fraud
- 10. Varieties
- 14. Mayhem
- 15. Vagabond
- 16. Rational
- 17. Something to shoot for
- 18. Mining finds
- 19. Portent
- 20. Brownish-red earthenware
- 22. Gentle
- 23. Carry
- 24. Highest goals
- 26. Bawdy
- 30. Holiday drink
- 31. Small portable bed
- 32. Dull pain
- 33. Membership fees
- 35. Sea eagles
- 39. Knickknack
- 41. Least difficult
- 43. French for "Our"
- 44. Stair
- 46. Carryall
- 47. Play a role
- 49. Historic period
- 50. Gush
- 51. Glutinous
- 54. Infamous Roman emperor
- 56. Hue

DOWN

- 57. Corridor
- 63. Hindu princess
- 64. Nile bird
- 65. Muse of love poetry
- 66. Chocolate cookie
- 67. A flat mass of ice
- 68. Provide a permanent fund
- 69. Alert
- 70. Cravings
- 71. Oozes



SUDOKU >>

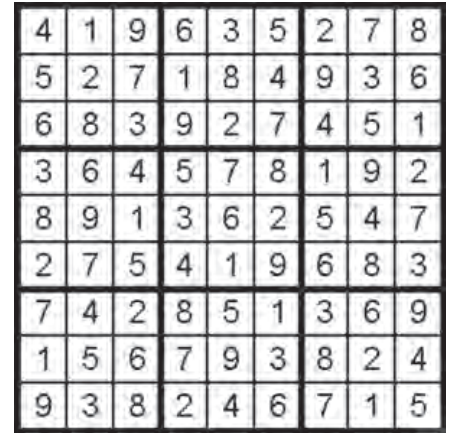
How to play: The number 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3 x 3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid. There is only one correct Solution to each sudoku.

Good luck!

18



Solution to Sudoku 17



SNAPSHOT >>

Crustacean Invasion! This crab migration hack is a 'pinch' of genius



Millions of ruby-red crustaceans have started their annual trek towards the ocean, bringing traffic to a standstill across Christmas Island, Australia, as swarms of the tiny creatures mark the world's biggest land crab migration. The scarlett procession is world renown, with tourists and locals alike flocking to see the mass migration as the crabs set off to lay their eggs near the Pacific Ocean. The land-dwelling crabs have their work cut out of them, navigating the lush forests, rocky terrain and even busy roads. Sadly the red crabs are frequently crushed by vehicles and sometimes cause accidents due to their tough exoskeletons which are capable of puncturing tires. However, in recent years a network of specially adapted crab bridges, tunnels and crossing places were added to much of the road network to reduce casualties. A couple in Australia uses their nifty invention — shoe-like street sweepers attached to their vehicle tires (inset) — to avoid running over the millions of these crabs.

Photos: Daily Mail(Australia) and New York Post.com

SIGN LANGUAGE >>



■ Tell us which ANGLE please. Your ANGEL perhaps.
Photo location: Florida. Spotted by Joe Brophy

— Source: splitpics.uk

SMES >>

Warm clothes markets boom in Jos over freezing cold

From Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos

The business of winter clothes is booming in Jos, the capital of Plateau State due to the low in temperature that makes the City and its environs the coldest in the country since last week.

Daily Trust reports that sellers of jackets, sweaters, hats, scarves, socks and gloves across the state capital are witnessing huge market as residents troop into major selling points on daily basis to

patronise the clothes to warm themselves.

Our correspondent, who visited Laranto and Terminus markets where second-hand clothes are hugely sold, witnessed how both wholesalers and retailers are enjoying the cold season from the increase in their sales.

At the Terminus market, retailers from Ahmadu Bello Way down to First Bank and Murtala Muhammed Way were seen displaying different clothing bales - jackets, sweaters, gloves and hats

for customers to make their choices.

Dauda Muhammad Ibrahim, chairman of second-hand clothes sellers at Terminus market said at every cold season, customers usually shifted from patronising other categories of clothes to winter clothes to keep themselves warm. They shelve buying clothes just for fashion.

Ibrahim however said, "Though the demand for winter clothes is high, the price has not changed much

compared to when the demand was low. We don't increase the price. Apart from jackets and other winter clothes, all other heavy clothes that warm the body are also patronised."

Adamu Muhammad Aliyu, a dealer also confirmed the boom in sales saying "winter clothes are bringing money due to the cold weather. Your gain in the business depends on your capital. Those that have invested much gain more. The truth is that we are enjoying brisk business now."

Daily Trust reports that the market may hold on going by the prediction of the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMET). It said last week that the harmattan and cold season which began in late December may last till March. The temperature level reached all-time lowest degree in some parts of the country.

It was 6.7 degree Celsius in Jos, Plateau, as extreme cold hit the state. Kano was also less than 9 degrees and the state was reported to be colder than London, in the UK.

'Agro industrialisation key to economic growth'

Managing Director of AgroNigeria, Mr Richard-Mark Mbaram, has said industrialisation of the agriculture sector is key to achieving economic transformation and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Mbaram, who is also the Director-General of Feed Nigeria Summit (FNS), said in Lagos recently that agriculture plays a critical role in transforming economies to reach the SDGs, along with achieving other essential development goals such as ensuring food security and improved nutrition.

He called for increased economic momentum through partnerships with the private sector to advance the industrialisation of the agricultural sector.

Nigeria, he said, has huge potential for agro-allied transformation. This includes hosting a large spectrum of suitable agro-climatic conditions that allow a broad range of agricultural production.

"Using agriculture to power industrialisation calls for a strong public-private sector partnership that would increase small farm holders' productivity and enhance their contributions to national and regional value chains," Mbaram said.

He lauded the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr Sabo Nanono, for propelling a partnership with the African Development Bank (AfDB) to promote agro-allied industrialisation.

According to Mbaram, the minister has demonstrated that the ministry is ready to work with AfDB to use agro-allied industrialisation as an effective strategy to achieve productivity, increased employment generation and poverty reduction.

He added that the minister was doing all to support a home grown agenda for economic and social transformation through strong collaborative efforts with the private sector.



■ Many people purchasing warm clothes in Jos because of freezing cold

Photo: Ado Abubakar Musa

Why Ihedioha created rice seed farms - Aide

From Jude A. Owuamanam, Owerri

The Senior Special Assistant to Imo State Governor on Commercial Agriculture, Mr. Victor Mbalewe, has said that Governor Emeka Ihedioha sponsored the establishment of rice seed farms to avoid the supply of poor and adulterated rice seeds to farmers in the state.

Mbalewe, who is also the project manager and coordinator, Anchor Borrowers Programme, speaking to our correspondent in Owerri, regretted that

supply of poor and adulterated rice seed to farmers is a yearly occurrence, adding however that by choosing to produce rice seed locally, Imo State has taken the first major step towards guaranteeing the quality of its planting material.

He said it was also in line with the federal government's vision in agricultural development since "In agriculture, what you sow determines what you reap."

Mbalewe said, "across Nigeria, supply of poor and adulterated rice seeds to farmers is a yearly occurrence.

By sponsoring the production of rice seed with the support of international rice agencies, and later sponsoring the training of rice farmers from all the 27 local government areas, Governor Ihedioha has within one growing season boosted the interest of our farmers in rice production and processing as business. That also ensured the transfer of skills to our local people, and guaranteed availability of virtually all the pure-line rice seeds Imo farmers would need in 2020.

He said the government is

also sponsoring the training of farmers in Ezinihitte, Onicha Uboma and Ideato axis, adding.

"In all of these places and many others, the government of His Excellency Rt. Hon. Ihedioha is training farmers, opening new lands for massive agricultural production, installing processing mills for rice and other crops, and developing the shores of Imo River and our other perennial waterways with their rich alluvial deposits for all-year crop production and aquaculture."

Njalo.ng FREE online marketplace launched

By Simon Echewonfun Sunday

Njalo.ng, a FREE classifieds platform that emphasizes safety and convenience to sellers and buyers, has launched operations in Nigeria. Starting operations on Monday January 06, 2020, Njalo.ng goes live with a promise to empower millions of individuals and businesses in Nigerians with free access to sell anything ranging from smartphones, cars, laptops, clothes, shoes, bags, property, furniture, books/literature, kiddies' wears, job placement/vacancies, amongst

others. Speaking during the media launch, the Co-founder/Chief Technology Officer of Njalo.ng, Mr. Emeka Orjiani described Njalo as the unique meeting room between potential seller and buyer.

He said, "Njalo.ng is here to contribute her quota in the Nigerian digital economy; to create fundamental changes in the Nigerian ecommerce space.

"Digital Marketplace is a reality! What used to be sold in the open, regular market can now be sold at the speed of a click.

China's textile industry posts stable growth in 2019

China's textile sector reported stable development in the first 11 months of 2019, data from the National Development and Reform Commission showed.

Value-added output of enterprises above designated size rose 2.5 per cent year on year, with output in the sub-sectors of fibre, industrial textiles and garment up 11.8 per cent, 7.1 per cent, and 1 per cent, respectively, according to the commission.

Domestic retail sales of apparel and knitwear stood at 1.2 trillion yuan (about 172.4

billion US dollars), up 3 per cent year on year.

Online garment sales continued to expand nationwide, with the turnover reporting a 16.5-per cent yearly growth and new sales modes such as live video streaming attracting consumers, the data showed.

From January to November 2019, China's textile and garment export declined 2.6 per cent year on year to 246.9 billion dollars, with the pace of drop decelerating 0.1 percentage point from one month earlier.

BRAND EQUITY

... telling brands' stories

Insurance brokers name Ooni of Ife Brokers Ambassador

By Chris Agabi

The Nigerian Council of Registered Insurance Brokers (NCRIB) has named the Ooni of Ife, Oba Adeyeye Ogunwusi as the Insurance Broking Ambassador in Nigeria.

A statement from NCRIB said the President of the Council, Dr. Bola Onigbogi made the pronouncement during a courtesy visit paid by the delegation of the Council to the traditional ruler in his palace in Ile Ife, Osun State.

The NCRIB President noted that the traditional ruler has continued to demonstrate outstanding leadership and commitment to the growth of the insurance broking profession in Nigeria, stressing that the insurance industry's capacity for growth would be enhanced if notable figures identified with the profession which she noted was the bastion of national economic growth.

Onigbogi implored the royal father to utilize his position in the comity of other prominent traditional rulers in the country to assist with the propagation of insurance to enhance their understanding of the pivotal place of insurance for strengthening of social relationship at the grassroots as well as being a safety valve against perennial losses of property and lives.

"It is often the case that traditional rulers by virtue of their closeness to the grassroots are often the first point of contact by the people, especially when they suffer a loss and the embrace of insurance by the people would reduce the misery they often suffer and at the same time enhance the relevance of the traditional rulers to the people" Onigbogi said.

Responding, Oba Ogunwusi promised to assist the Insurance Broking profession and the industry generally to underscore the crucial place of insurance as a risk mitigating device amongst traditional rulers in the country, stressing that there is no economy that could archive desired progress and development if insurance and risk management are not giving their deserved place.

In a similar vein, the Governor of Osun State, Mr. Gboyega Oyetola has assured that Osun State would continue to deploy insurance as a prudential strategy for protecting the human and material assets of the State.

Oyetola who spoke when a delegation of the Nigerian Council of Registered Insurance Brokers, led by its President, Dr. (Mrs.) Bola Onigbogi paid him a courtesy visit in Osun State noted that the state was already working our ways to collaborate with the National Insurance Commission to grow the industry and accelerate its acceptance in Osun State by giving impetus to the law on compulsory insurances.

Sterling Bank is Nigeria's 3rd best in retail banking - KPMG

By Zakariyya Adaramola

Sterling Bank Plc is the third best retail banking institution in Nigeria, according to KPMG Nigeria in its 2019 Nigeria Banking Industry Customer Experience Survey released in Lagos recently.

The ranking which singled out Sterling Bank as one of the biggest movers in the banking industry since 2017 was the outcome of a research that was completed across the second and third quarters of 2019 and collected via face-to-face and online survey methodology.

According to the survey, which covered 25,466 retail customers, 3,045 SMEs and 369 commercial/corporate organisations, "After the 2017 peak, we have now seen two years of decline in overall customer experience (CX) performance in the retail segment

with nearly half of the rated banks falling below the industry average."

Sterling Bank scored 72.1 percent, along with Access Bank, both trailing GTBank and Zenith Bank Plc which scored 74.2 percent and 73.4 percent to rank first and second respectively in the period under review.

The report said the top two performers had remained the same for the fourth consecutive year although GTBank replaced Zenith Bank as the top-rated bank in this year's rankings while Sterling Bank, First Bank and UBA are the biggest movers this year - occupying 3rd, 5th and 7th positions respectively.

It noted that only two banks recorded actual increases in their customer experience scores - reflecting higher customer expectations and the imperative to respond to rapidly evolving customer expectations.

Further analysis of the report showed dynamism in the SME segment in this year's ranking. Despite lower levels of overall satisfaction for SMEs, Fidelity Bank and Ecobank made the greatest improvements with both banks moving up more than four places into the top ve.

"In the corporate segment, we also see a dip in overall CX scores compared to the previous year's performance. Citibank and GTBank maintained top spots from last year, with new entrants Standard Chartered and Access Bank making top ve positions at 3rd and 5th places respectively," the report said.

Since 2007, KPMG in Nigeria has been asking customers across segments about their individual experiences with their banks. Over this period, more than 200,000 customers had been interviewed across the country.



■ LG CordZero

LG to demonstrate energy-saving cleaning solutions at CES 2020

By Zakariyya Adaramola

LG Electronics (LG) says it is upping the ante at CES 2020 with new cord-free cleaning products with new mopping capabilities.

The LG CordZeroThinQ A9 Stick Vacuum delivers effective vacuuming and mopping from a single stick-type device, while the new CordZeroThinQ M9 combines LG's robotics and appliance knowhow in a compact package that can take on the most difficult cleaning jobs.

LG's proprietary Power Drive Mop™ technology transforms both the CordZeroThinQ A9 and

CordZeroThinQ M9 into the perfect tools for keeping floors spotlessly clean.

Thanks to an advanced automatic water supply system, the two rapidly rotating mop pads always have just the right amount of water to clean without leaving a puddle behind. To accommodate different types of flooring and cleaning power, users can choose to increase, decrease or completely shut off the flow of water.

Homeowners who also own the CordZeroThinQ R9 Robotic Vacuum can connect the two units via Wi-Fi to create a comprehensive home cleaning network that will be the

envy of the neighbors. Once the R9 has completed vacuuming, it notifies CordZeroThinQ M9 with information on areas of the home that require mopping.

"With more consumers today opting for hard floors, it was apparent that vacuums alone wouldn't satisfy everyone," said Dan Song, president of the LG Home Appliance & Air Solution Company.

"By leveraging our technological expertise and in-depth understanding of consumers' needs, we developed the CordZeroThinQ Power Drive Mop to handle the most challenging cleaning jobs."

Bajaj, DAG roll out free service camps for three-wheeler riders

By Zakariyya Adaramola

Bajaj Auto Limited and its distribution partner in Nigeria, DAG Motorcycles Limited recently stormed major cities across the country to offer free service/checkup camps for their 3 wheeler riders.

They are conducting 28 camps in North Central (Abuja, Jos, Minna,

Suleja and Nasarawa), North East (Bauchi, Yobe, Adamawa and Borno), North West (Kano, Sokoto, Kebbi, Jigawa, Zaria and Kaduna) and Lagos from November 2019 till Jan 2020.

"Nigeria is a very important market for us and that is why we are working tirelessly to come up with products to serve the various needs of its people," the company said in a

statement.

The company also reiterated its commitment to expand its presence in Nigeria by making life simpler for customers through innovating more technologically-powered products - creating jobs, improving the transportation system and generally contributing to the socio-economic development of the country.



ABUJA MUNICIPAL AREA COUNCIL (AMAC)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Following the ambiguity being created by the Operations of the Department of Outdoor Advertisement and Signage's (DOAS) as it relates to regulation of Outdoor Advertisement /Signage and Mobile Advertisement, the Council wish to clarify as follows; The powers of the Abuja Municipal Area Council to regulate Advertisement is in line with **Section 7 and the Fourth Schedule to the 1999 Constitution, Taxes and Levies (Approved List for Collection) Act CAP T2 LFN 2004, Local Government Act, Laws of FCT Vol.3, 2006.**

Following the above provision, and to effectively regulates advertisement, the Council enacted Two (2) Bye-laws known as:

- i. **The Abuja Municipal Area Council Control of Advertisement Bye-law (No. 5) 2012.**
- ii. **The Abuja Municipal Area Council Regulation of Mobile Advertisement Bye-law (No.6) 2012,**

While the Abuja Municipal Area Council Control of Advertisement Bye-law (No. 5) 2012 regulates all Outdoor Advertisement and Signage's (Sign Post), the Abuja Municipal Area Council Regulation of Mobile Advertisement Bye-law (No.6) 2012, **regulates Mobile Advertisement (On all operational and branded vehicles). Mobile Adverts documents issued to Motorist include Mobile Advert permit, Mobile Sanitation, Loading/Off Loading, vehicles Radio License/Permit.**

It is imperative to state clearly that while the Council delegated its powers under **The Abuja Municipal Area Council Control of Advertisement Bye-law (No. 5) 2012** to the Department of outdoor Advertisement and Signage (DOAS) through the Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC) Delegation of its Control and Regulation of Outdoor Advertisement and Signage Powers to Department of Outdoor Advertisement and Signage (DOAS) Bye-law 2012, **The Council reserved and retained its powers on the Regulation of Mobile Advertisement and did not delegates its powers on the Regulation of Mobile Advertisement to DOAS.**

Upon discovery that the Department of Outdoor Advertisement and Signage (DOAS) were distributing Demand Notices to corporate organisations and individuals for the payment of Mobile Advertisement Permits, the Council via a letter dated 21/11/2019 demanded that the Department DOAS should withdraw the Demand Notices distributed as it does not form part of the understanding between the Council and DOAS, and also that the action of DOAS does not fall within the scope of power delegated to the Department DOAS by the Council.

The Public is by this notice advised that **ALL Collections** with respect to **Mobile Advertisement** is made by the Abuja Municipal Area Council **and not by Department of Outdoor Advertisement and Signage (DOAS).**

The Abuja Municipal Area Council has NOT delegated or transfer its powers with reference to Regulation of Mobile Advertisement to the Department of Outdoor Advertisement and Signage (DOAS) nor any other Agency or organisation. The Council retains its powers on regulation of Mobile Advertisement within the Council **and urge the general public to please take note.**

Similarly, the public is hereby notified that all payments for **First Party Advertisement and Signage** should be made to Abuja Municipal Area Council.

While the Department of Outdoor Advertisement and Signage (DOAS) are only responsible for the collection of **Third Party Signage's.**

Any person or persons who deals with DOAS on Mobile Advertisement does so at his/her detriment as such person or persons must be made to comply with collection on Mobile Advertisement by the Council at the point of enforcement.

Members of the public are advised to take note that the Council will consider any document purportedly issued by DOAS in the name of the Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC) and relating to **MOBILE ADVERTS PERMITS** as forgery as the Council did not authorise or delegates its powers on Mobile Advertisement to the Department DOAS and the Council will take all necessary legal actions against any person with whom such document(s) are found with.

For further inquiry contact the Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC) Chief Revenue Officer.
Thank You.


ABUJA MUNICIPAL AREA COUNCIL
Office of the Executive Chairman

Olusegun Obasanjo Way,
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The Director,
Department of outdoor Advertisement
And Signage (DOAS),
Ministry of Federal Capital Territory,
Abuja



Sir,

**COLLECTION OF REVENUE ON SIGN POSTS, AND SIGNAGE'S AND
MOBILE ADVERTISEMENT**

As a follow-up to the understanding between your office and the council, and the series of meetings held, I have the pleasure to inform you that the council has decided that your office should only be concerned with the collection of Revenue on Third Party signage's only while the council, through its Technical Partner, YABANNIE FAIR RISE LTD will collect all first party signage's.

2. Similarly, the collection of Mobile Advertisement is to be handled by the council as it not part of the franchise given to your office by the council. Your office should therefore not distribute demand notices on Mobile Advert to avoid duplication of demands on this item.

3. It is hoped that these clarifications will put to rest all confusions and misunderstanding surrounding our operations to avoid conflicts on the field.

4. While thanking you for your usual co-operation, please be assured of our maximum co-operation.


Hon. Abdullahi Adamu Candido
Executive Chairman
AMAC.



ENVIRONMENT

From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

Some Port Harcourt residents have expressed concern over their health as soot resurfaces in the state. Those most affected by the menace are the residents in the windward directions and those living close to the creeks such as Borokiri, Reclamation Road, Old Port Harcourt Township, Old and New GRAs, Agip Estate, Woji, Iwofe, Abuloma, Amadi-Ama, Oyigbo, Eleme, and Onne.

Environmental experts said Port Harcourt is among the most polluted cities in the world considering its Air Quality Index (AQI).

An environmental advocate, Fineface Dumnamene, said the black soot has at no point in time since it emerged completely disappeared.

He said the soot resurfaced because there was no deliberate, constructive policy direction of government at all levels to address the problem.

"We were told from reports and research findings, especially that of the Rivers State Government on black soot submitted to the governor, that oil theft and artisanal refining activities in Rivers State contribute to the black soot that envelops the city.

"As such, we at Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC) have been one of those at the forefront of the campaign for this issue to be addressed in many ways. First, we have recommended the provision of alternative means of livelihood to those youths involved in that act so that they can desist from it and the soot will subside.

"It would be recalled that the federal government in 2017, during his tour of the Niger Delta, Vice President Yemi Osinbajo, promised to establish modular refineries for these youths but till date, nothing has been done, but we will continue to advocate for this to happen.

"The state government, on the other hand, can as well develop policies that can address youth unemployment,

Residents panic as black soot resurfaces in Rivers



■ Black soot in Rivers

targeting this category of youths to address the soot issue. The security operatives that are deployed to police the creeks and end artisanal refining are trying their best," he stated.

Dumnamene called on the Rivers State government to publish the report on soot pollution that was submitted to the governor so that its recommendations can be used for advocacy and to push for its implementation. He also called for the identified sources of soot to be blocked.

He called on the United Nations Environment Programme's special team that visited Port Harcourt to investigate sources and causes of soot

and not to relent in putting pressure on both national and local institutions on the ground to address the soot pollution problem in Port Harcourt and its environs.

A Port Harcourt resident, Cyril Amadi, said the black soot is life-threatening. He said since it resurfaced in Port Harcourt, residents are exposed to a high rate of respiratory diseases such as cough and catarrh.

He said that all surfaces in houses such as floors, windows, doors, cars and food items are exposed to black substances.

"All my children are down with catarrh and cough. I also have catarrh. I

noticed that anytime I sneeze blackish mucus always comes out from my nose. I also cough out black substances. I'm very worried that if nothing is done the situation might get out of hand," he said.

He called on the state government to do something urgent to arrest the situation.

The state government's ad hoc committee on black soot led by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment, recently visited the army and navy on an advocacy visit and to seek collaboration with the ministry to find ways to reduce the life-threatening soot in Port Harcourt and its environs.

Lagos moves to tackle plastic waste

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

The Lagos state government has partnered with some civil societies to rid Badagry of plastic wastes.

The partnership, through a sensitisation campaign, was initiated by the Green Janitors Sustainability Initiative and Lagos State Waste Management Authority (LAWMA) and also involves the Food and Beverage Recycling Alliance (FBRA).

The Pick-a-Plastic campaign, which will last for three months, commenced in December as part of efforts to reinforcing the Blue Box programme of Lagos State government aimed at ensuring a cleaner environment.

The initiative is aimed at educating Lagos communities on waste separation from source and rewards for collection of post-consumer packaging waste, especially plastics for recycling.

The programme saw representatives of the Lagos State governor, LAWMA, members of FBRA, recycling organisations and other stakeholders in the waste management industry in attendance.

During the one-week awareness drive in Badagry, the state government, in collaboration with FBRA, participated in the distribution of waste bags for the collection of recyclables (plastics, nylon, cans and glass wastes) and domestic waste.

Addressing Badagry residents during the kick-off of the campaign and rewards exercise, FBRA's chairman, Sade Morgan, represented by a director of the alliance, Ekuma Eze from Nigerian Bottling Company (NBC), emphasised the need for all to promote recycling at the community level in order to foster environmental sustainability and a cleaner environment.

He said the alliance was highly delighted in partnering with Green Janitors in its environmental conservation initiative which is in line with the state's Blue Box programme.

"FBRA is committed to developing a sustainable recycling economy as the Badagry initiative is part of its ongoing campaign of engaging communities to promote recovery and enhance recycling through its buy-back and rewards scheme as a means of mopping up the post-consumer packaging waste from the environment," Eze stated.

He emphasised the need for all to take action on the plastic waste menace in the environment through collaborative efforts of various stakeholders.

FBRA has been embarking on community enlightenment campaigns through the rewards programme to reduce environmental pollution, create awareness for segregation at the source and encourage proper disposal of waste, especially plastics that have contributed to flooding in most

areas. It is committed to doing more to enhance the recovery, collection and recycling of post-consumer packing waste from the environment.

FBRA's activities are in compliance with the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policy of the federal government which transfers significant responsibility to producers for the entire lifecycle of their product, Eze said.

Commenting on the Pick-a-Plastic campaign, the Director of Research and Development at LASEPA, Adebodun Toplonu Sewanu said, "Imagine what would have happened if these plastic bottles were not mined through this initiative today?"

"Our drains will have been clogged with the potential of flooding, the shorelines of surface water would have half of them, tourism will not thrive with plastic nuisance on shorelines, waterways will not be swimmable and navigable. So, this programme is 'a win' for me by improving waste management in the coastal area not only in Badagry but in Lagos as a state."

The Executive Director, Green Janitors Sustainability Initiative, Ashade Abdulsalam, said it was quite encouraging as both old and young embraced the initiative with a sense of responsibility of keeping the environment free from food and beverage packaging waste, especially plastics.

DAILY TRUST
DIALOGUE

20 YEARS OF DEMOCRACY IN NIGERIA:

Strengths, Weaknesses and Opportunities

Chairman



Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo, GCON, MNIA, FNIA
Former Vice President,
Federal Republic of Nigeria

Special Guest of Honour

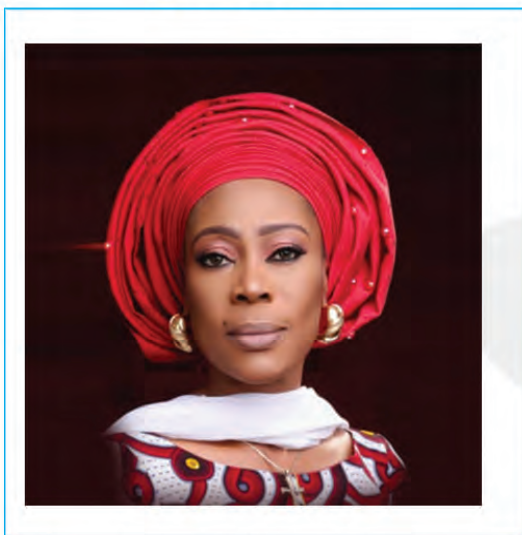


Senator Ahmad Lawan, PhD, CON
President of the Senate,
Chairman, National Assembly
Federal Republic of Nigeria

Speakers



Senator Kashim Shettima
Chairman, Senate Committee
on Interior and former Governor
of Borno State



Hon. Lynda Chuba Ikpeazu
Chairman, House of Representatives
Committee on Maritime Safety,
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Dr. Kayode Fayemi
Governor, Ekiti State & Chairman,
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CHANGE OF NAME

JOSEPH: I, formerly known as **AYODELE JAMES JOSEPH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AYODELE JOSEPH** with date of birth **2nd February 1976**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MURTALA: I Formerly known as **MURTALA NAJIB**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MURTALA NAJIBULLAHI HARUNA**. During my B.V.N verification at **UBA** my date of birth capture as **13/01/1992** instead of **03/03/1998**.my correct date of birth is **03/03/1998**.All former documents remain valid and The General public should please take note

MUSA: I formerly known as **MUSA YAHYA**, but now wishes to be known and addressed as **MUKTARI YAHAYA MUSA** with Correct **DOB as 11/10/1997**. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I am formally known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR BAKIRU** and now wish to be called and addressed as **BALA ABDULBAKIR** date of birth **31-12-1999** not **01-01-1991** all former documents remain valid authorities concern and general public should take note

SAHEED: I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS. ADEBAYO RAMOT IDOWU** and **ADEBAYO RAHAMATA IDOWU**, Now wish to be known and addressed as **SAHEED RAHMATULLAH IDOWU**. All former documents remain valid. **OSUN STATE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, ILA-ORANGUN, POLARIS BANK, INEC, NEGCO, NABTEB** and general public take note.

I formerly known as **HAUWA ABUBAKAR ZANNA** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAUWA ABUBAKAR MUHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

RIYESI: I, formerly known as **SAIDU ZAINAB**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BAKO ZAINAB RIYESI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

EMMANUEL: I Formerly known as **EMMANUEL OLIVER**, now wish to be known and addressed as **EMMANUEL OLIVER AJIYA**. During my B.V.N verification my date of birth capture as **21/07/1988** instead of **20/10/1999** my correct date of birth is **20/10/1999** All former documents remain valid and The General public should please take note.

IMOBIGHE: I, formerly known as **AGBOOLA FUNMILOLA ABOSEDE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IMOBIGHE OLUWAFUNMILOLA ELIZABETH**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and The General public should please take note.

TERFA: I, formerly known as **TERFA TERNENGE RITA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **TERFA RITA** with correct date of birth **28th September, 1993**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and The General public should please take note.

MRS. JOSEPHINE: I, formerly known and addressed as **JOSEPHINE NWADI EBERECHUKWU**, Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS. JOSEPHINE NWACHUKWU EBERECHUKWU**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly known as **MUSA ABUBAKAR ZABI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

NWOSE: I, formerly known as **OLODU E. NATHANIEL**, now wish to be known and addressed as **NWOSE E. NATHANIEL**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

RIDWAN: I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR LURWAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR RIDWAN**. All former documents remain valid. The General public should take note.

VERIFICATION OF NAME: LAMIDO: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AS **LAMIDO DUNDU** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **LAMIDO DUNDU KALGERI**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINED VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

MUSA: I formerly known as **MUSA MOHAMMED RUWANDORUWA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSA MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. **FCMB**. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

GRACE: I, formerly known and addressed as **GRACE KEMI OWATE**, Now wish to be known and addressed as **GRACE KEMI OWATE IDRIS**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MOHAMMED SULEIMAN INGAWA** wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED SULE**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

JOEL: I, formerly known as **USMAN MAMODU LAWRENCE / OSMAN JOEL M.**, now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN MAMODU JOEL**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MATTHEW: I formerly known as **OLOKOR EGLIWE & OLOKOR MATTHEW**, now wish to be known and addressed as **OLOKOR EGLIWE MATTHEW**. All former documents remain valid. The General public should take note.

VERIFICATION OF NAME: SAMUEL: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AS **OVEY ABIMS** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **SAMUEL BARNABAS OVEY**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINED VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE.

RILWANU: I formerly known as **MARWANA YAHAYA** now wish to be known and addressed as **RILWANU YAHAYA**. All former documents remain valid. **FCMB**. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

ADENIKE: I formerly known and addressed as **AFUSAT ADEGOKE ADENIKE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEGOKE AFUSAT ADENIKE**. All former documents remain valid. Bank and general public should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **BISHIR MUHAMMAD BISHIR** wish to be known and addressed as **BISHIR MUHAMMAD RULWAN**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

SAMSON: I, formerly known as **GWATANA KEKE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **KEKE G. SAMSON**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ABDULLAHI: I formerly known as **UMAR ABDU AUNA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI UMAR**. All former documents remain valid. The General public should take note.

VERIFICATION OF NAME: MOHAMMED: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AS **MOHAMMED BAKURA** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **MOHAMMED UMAL GREMA**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINED VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

I formerly known as **OKORO EKPEREAMAKA MARY** now wish to be known and addressed as **EMEKA EKPEREAMAKA MARY**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

THELMA: I formerly known and addressed as **TAHIR ZAINAB**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM ZAINAB THELMA**. All former documents remain valid. Bank and general public should take note.

I Formerly known as **AMINU MOH'D ABUBAKAR** now Wish to be known And addressed as **KABIRU MOH'D**, all former documents remain valid general public should take note

AISHAT: I, formerly known as **RUFADAT MUHAMMAD JIBRI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHAT MUHAMMAD JIBRI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

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

HAPPY: I FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED **MIS HAPPY CHUKWU** WISH TO HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AND CALLED **MRS. HAPPY MICHAEL AKUBOH**. ALL DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. FIRST BANK, UBA AND GENERAL PUBLIC TAKE NOTE.

NKEM: I, formerly known as **AGWUNWA CYPRIAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **AGWUNWA NKEM CYPRIAN**. All former documents remain valid. National Emergency Management Agency and the general public should please take note.

USMAN: I, formerly known and addressed as **ZAKARIYU MUSA DAM** date of birth **02/02/1994** now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN IBRAHIM** with date of birth **02/02/1997**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known as **IBRAHIM ADAMU** now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM K. ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid. General public, **ACCESS BANK AND NIMC** to take note

CHIKEZIRIM: I, formerly known as **STANLEY IBEZIM IBEABUCHI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **STANLEY CHIKEZIRIM IBEABUCHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ISIAK: I formerly known and addressed as **KWANGE ISHAKU** now wish to be known and address as **SABASTINE ISIAKU**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and First Bank Nig Ltd should take note, please.

APEWA: I WAS FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED **APEWA OMONIYI AUSTIN** AND NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **APEWA OMONIYI ENOLA**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINED VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

SHARU: I, formerly known and addressed as **ISMAILA EGBAKO SHARU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ISMAILA SHARU**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

HASSAN: I, formerly known and addressed as **HASSAN MOHAMMED ANGO** now wish to be known and addressed as **HASSAN MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I Formerly Known As **KAMALU SAHABI ABUBAKAR** Now Wish To Be Known And addressed As **KAMALU SAHABI My D.O.B Is 16/01/1992** All Former Documents Remain Valid General Public Should Take Note.

KOLAWOLE: I, formerly known as **LAWAL TAOFEKE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **LAWAL TAOFEKE KOLAWOLE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I was formerly known as **LAWAN KABIRU BELLO** now wish to be known and addressed as **LAWAN KABIRU**. During my national identity card registration the recorder mistakenly captured my date of birth as **27-07-1994** instead of **29-07-1994**, my correct date of birth is **29-07-1994**.all former document remain valid general public should take note.

EJIGBO: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AS **JIBRI MUSA** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **EJIGBO MUSA**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINED VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

SALOME: I, formerly known and addressed as **DAINA AMALI** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALOME PETER**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

OLAYINKA: I, formerly known and addressed as **FUNMIBI OLUWASEGUN** now wish to be known and addressed as **OLUWAFUNMIBI OLUWASEGUN**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I Formerly Known As **ABUBAKAR IDRIS** Now Wish To Be Known And addressed As **ABDULLAHI IDRIS My D.O.B Is 01/01/1986**. All Former Documents Remain Valid General Public Should Take Note.

TEMITAYO: I, formerly known as **MORIYONU OLUWABUSAYO** **TEMITAYO** now wish to be known and addressed as **BELLO OLUWABUSAYO TEMITAYO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

JOB: I, formerly known as **PETER JOB FRIDAY** now wish to be known and addressed as **PETER JOB NWAMEYI**. All former documents remain valid. The General public and any authority concerned should take note please.

CORRECTION OF DATE OF BIRTH: I FORMERLY KNOWN AS **BAKO ANASTASIA VERA** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AS **BAKO ANASTASIA VERA**. DATE OF BIRTH **08/07/1989**, **08/04/1989** THE CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS **08/07/1993**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINS VALID AUTHORITIES CONCERN AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO TAKE NOTE.

OBAKHEDO: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS PATRICK FAITH**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS FAITH JOSEPH OBAKHEDO**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

PAUL: I, formerly known and addressed as **SILAS PAUL** with date of birth **30-12-2029** now wish to be known and addressed as **SILAS SALIHU PAUL**. with correct date of birth **13-3-2001**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I Formerly known as **HASSAN IBRAHIM** now wish to be known And addressed as **HASSAN S/ZAMFARA**. all former documents remain valid general public should take

RABIU: I, formerly known as **RABIU HUSSAINI** now wish to be known and addressed as **RABIU SANI**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly known as **LEKWOT BELLO**, now wish to be known and address as **LEKWOT PETER BELLO**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and authorities concern especially Access Bank should take note please.

LIGOM: I, formerly known as **KORNA NGUVAN MARVEL**, now wish to be known and addressed as **LIGOM NGUVAN MARVEL**. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

OMOSAYE: I formerly known and addressed as **OGIE RAYMOND**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OMOSAYE PETER**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to note

MOJIROLA: I, formerly known and addressed as **SALAKO RUKAYAT MOJISOLA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEDAYO-ADENIREGUN RUKAYAT MOJIROLA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I Formerly known as **ABDULHAMID IBRAHIM** Now Wish to be known And addressed as **HAMIDA IBRAHIM**. all former documents remain valid general public should take note

IDRIS: I, formerly known as **SANNI ABDULSAMAD OLOLADE** now wish to be known and addressed as **IDRIS ABDULSAMAD OLOLADE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

PEACE: I formerly known and addressed as **PEACE FELIX** now wish to be known and addressed as **PEACE INYANGBE FELIX**. All former documents remained valid. general public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MISS ANWANZE HENRIETTA KAQBINDI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS OJEIFO HENRIETTA KAQBINDI**. All former documents remain valid. The general public should please take note.

EMMANUEL: I formerly known and addressed as **CLEMENT EMMANUEL**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **AKON EMMANUEL**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note

FADAKA: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS FARIDAH OZIREN OLUWABUKOLA ABU** Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS FARIDAH OZIREN OLUWABUKOLA FADAKA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I Formerly known as **AISHATU ADAMU GUSAU** now wish to be known And addressed as **AISHATU ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid date of birth **06/05/1975** And general public should take note

OKO: I, formerly known as **CHRISTIANA UWGOME ONYA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **OKO CHRISTIANA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

RAFAT: I, formerly known as **MISS ANIBABA RAFAT ARAMIDE** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS ABDULRAHMAN ANIBABA RAFAT ARAMIDE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I Formerly known and addressed as **BABA ALHAJI GANA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD BABA GANA**. All former document remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

SUNDAY: I formerly known and addressed as **FRANCIS SUNDAY CHRISTIAN**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ARONOKHALE SUNDAY**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note

RAHMA: I, formerly known and addressed as **OLAMIDE OLAITAN OLADOSU** now wish to be known and addressed as **RAHMA OLAMIDE OLADOSU**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I Formerly known as **ADEYEMO KADIJAT ADEYEMO** now wish to be known And addressed as **ADEYEMO KADIJAT ADEYEMO**. All former documents remain valid general public should take

AMINU: I, formerly known as **SULEMAN ABDULLAHI** with **02-02-1988** as my date of birth, now wish to be known and addressed as **SULAIMAN AMINU** with **20-04-1999** as my date of birth. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME: This is to notify the general public that my name was wrongly captured as **ELVIS ETESEMIAN** in my B.V.N. My correct name is **ETSEMITAN, ELVIS OBUKOHWO**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AS **NDAMAN ISAH SULEIMAN** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **ISAH ALHAJI SULEIMAN** ALL FORMER DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE

ABU: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS ALHASSAN ZAINAB**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS. ABU AHMAD ZAINAB**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note

I formerly known as **GODWIN OGBU** now wish to be known and addressed as **GODWIN ODEH OGBU**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I Formerly known as **MUSA UMARU GUSAU** now Wish to be known And addressed as **MUSA UMARU**. all former documents remain valid date of birth **06/06/1966** And general public should take note

EGBUDO: I, formerly known as **MISS EUCHARIA EBERE EZEH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS EUCHARIA EBERE EGBUDO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **JAMILA HASSAN**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMILA SANI**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AS **YANDA NDASHAYI** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **MOHAMMED NDASAPKE** ALL FORMER DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE

OSIKHENA: I formerly known and addressed as **UMORU MOHAMMED**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **AGIOGU UMORU OSIKHENA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known as **BILKISU MAMMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **BILKISU MAMMAN DEE**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I Formerly known as **BUHARI ADAMU** now Wish to be known And addressed as **BUHARI S. GALADIMA**. all former documents remain valid general public should take note

ALASHE: I, formerly known as **OJO OLAYINKA AFOLAKE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ALASHE OLAYINKA AFOLAKE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MONICAH: I, formerly known as **NANNIM MONICAH** WITH DATE OF BIRTH: **01/05/1988**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MANASSEH MONICAH** MWOLDING. WITH DATE OF BIRTH: **18/10/1986**. All former documents remain valid. FIRST BANK, Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MUBARAK MUHAMMAD**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUBARAK MUHAMMAD DANJUMMA**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

MUHAMMED: I formerly known and addressed as **ABDULLALIKI MARIAM OMOH**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS MUHAMMED MARIAM OMOH**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

I formerly known as **AMIRA SANUSI** now wish to be known and addressed as **AMIRA SANUSI ABDULKARIM**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I Formerly known as **ABUBAKAR UMAR** now wish to be known And addressed as **ABUBAKAR D.TOFA**. all former documents remain valid general public should take note

EKOJA: I, formerly known as **MISS MARY UCHEENNA OBASI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS EKOJA, OBASI MARY UCHEENNA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AISHA: I, formerly known as **AISHA ALIYU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHA MUSA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and the General public should please take note.

AHMED: I am formally known and addressed as **AHMAD LAWAL** and now wish to be called and addressed as **AHMED LAWAL BAKURA** all former documents remain valid authorities concern and general public should take note

CHUKWU: I formerly known and addressed as **CHUKWU NDIIDAMAKA GOODNESS**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **CHUKWU OLUCHI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note

I formerly known as **MUSTAPHA IBRAHIM BOGA** now wish to be known and addressed as **SABIU IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I formerly known as **TEKO OLUWASEUN ANTHONIA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEYEMI OLUWASEUN ANTHONIA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

BUBOGHENE: I, formerly known as **PERE AROTU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **PERE AROTU BUBOGHENE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

HAMZA: I formerly known as **ABDULLAHI MOHAMMED**, but now wishes to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI HAMZA**. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AISHA: I am formally known and addressed as **AISHATU ABDULLAHI** and now wish to be called and addressed as **AISHA ABDULLAHI** all former documents remain valid authorities concern and general public should take note

IGILI-OWEN: I formerly known and addressed as **OSASUMWEN MONALISA AHANON**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OSASUMWEN MONALISA TOPWILL IGILI-OWEN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note

I formerly known as **ALONGE AYODELE MATTHEW** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALONGE AYODEJE MATTHEW**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I formerly known as **ADAMU MAIMUNA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU MAIMUNA AUDU**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

OJOBO: I, formerly known as **MARY OYILONYE JOSEPH OJOBO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MARY OYILONYE OJOBO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as **SALIHU MUHAMMAD SALIHU**, but now wish to be known and addressed as **IDRISS SULEIMAN MUHAMMAD**. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

BALA: I FORMALLY KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **ABDULRAHMAN BALA**, NOW WISH TO BE CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **ABDULRAHMAN BALA JEGA**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID AND MEMBERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

DAILY TRUST Classifieds made easy

I formerly known as **TIMOTHY JWANSE ISHAKU** now wish to be known and addressed as **TIMOTHY ISHAKU DOB 6/7/1990**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

AISHATU: I formerly known as **AISHATU MAKINTA LAWAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHATU MAKINTA**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

HAMISU, I formerly known as **HAMISU MUHAMMAD BABAYARO** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAMISU MUHAMMAD JEGA**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

LAUWALI, I formerly known as **LAUWALI ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **LAUWALI K. DOSARA**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

ABBAS: I FORMERLY **ABBAS SALIHU ABDUL** NOW WISH TO BE CALL AND ADDRESS AS **ABBAS ABDUL MY DATE OF BIRTH IS 12 - 03 - 1989 NOT 23 - 03 - 1990**. FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. STANBIC IBTC BANK ZARIA CITY AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

IBIDUNNI-OLUWABUSAYO: I formerly known as **IBIDUNNI AISHA BUSAYO**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **IBIDUNNI-OLUWABUSAYO ALIMI AICHA**. All former document remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known as **AMOUGH NANCY** wrong DOB 3/8/1984 now wish to be known and addressed as **IGBA NANCY**. Correct DOB 24/8/1999. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

YAGANA: I formerly known as **YAGANA A UMARA** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAGANA UMARA**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

I was formerly known as **ABDULLAHI MUHAMMED** now wish to be known and address as **ABDULLAHI AMADU**. All my former documents remain valid and general public should please take note

Lawan, I formerly known as **Lawal Hashimu** now wish to be known and addressed as **Lawan Abdulkarim Hassan**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

BLESSING: I, formerly known as **BLESSING MBA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BLESSING EMMANUEL**. OGUCHE. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

Mrs. **AFONJA** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Mrs. OGUNTADE BUKOLA BUNMI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. AFONJA BUKOLA ZAINAB** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **SULEMAN DAKKA AUWAL** now wish to be known and addressed as **AUWAL SULEIMAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

AISHA: I formerly known as **HAJJA-FATI MALLUM ABBA** now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHA AHMED ALI**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

I was formerly known as **RAMATU MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and address as **RAMATU MUHAMMAD SALAHUDEEN**. All my former documents remain valid and general public should please take note

RABIU, I formerly known as **RABIU ADO** now wish to be known and addressed as **RABIU ADO SUNUSI**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

BLESSING: I, formerly known as **BLESSING MARVIS ADOBOR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BLESSING OKEMUTE TEMISA**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

Mrs. **ODUMOSU** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **IDRIS MONSURAT** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. ODUMOSU DEBORAH OMOWUNMI** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **UMAR MUSA GIDA** now wish to be known and addressed as **UMAR MUSA KALGO**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

MAGDALENE: I formerly known as **MAGDALENE OGHENEKEWVE OMO** now wish to be known as **MRS MAGDALENE OGHENEKEWVE AJAYI**. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note.

I was formerly known as **BASHIR DAUDA MOHAMMED** now wish to be known and address as **BASHIR DAUDA**. All my former documents remain valid and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **KARIMATU SALE** now wish to be called and addressed as **RABI SHEHU FAGGE**. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note

BULUS: I Formerly known as **CEPHAS IRIMIYA** Now wish to be called and addressed as **BULUS AKUT** All former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the General public and any authority concerned to please take note

OKUWA : I, was formerly known and addressed as **NKOBI NWAOKAKU** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **OKUWA MIKE NWAOKAKU** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **SHEHU IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **Ibrahim DANMUMINI SHEHU**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **MOHAMMED IBRAHIM** now wish to be known as **MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM IDRIS**. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

I was formerly known as **DIJE ADO T/ WADA** now wish to be known and address as **DIJE ADO**. All my former documents remain valid and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **MARYAM BELLO DABO** now wish to be called and addressed as **MARYAM BELLO**. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note

Confirmation of name This is to notify the general public that **AISHATU YUSUFU HASSAN** and **AISHATU MUSA** is one and same person who now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHATU YUSUFU HASSAN**. All documents bearing either name remain valid. Concerned authorities, general public to take note

ADDITION OF NAME JESUSANWO : I, was formerly known and addressed as **JESUSANWO ABDUDUN**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **JESUSANWO OGWOTOMO ABDUDUN** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **NASIR LAWAL** now wish to be known and addressed as **NASIR AHMED LAWAL**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

SAMUEL: I formerly known as **CHUKWUKA SAMUEL OKECHUKWU** now wish to be known as **OGBONNA SAMUEL OKECHUKWU**. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

I was formerly known as **FIDDAUSI SA' ID** now wish to be known and address **ABU SAFIYANU**. All my former documents remain valid and general public should please take note

I formerly known as **Musa samaila** now wish to be called and addressed as **Musa samaila Rogo**. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note

GARBA: I FORMERLY **ABUBAKAR MAGAJI** NOW WISH TO BE CALL AND ADDRESS **GARBA MAGAJI** . FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID .KADUNA STATE PENSION BOARD AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

ADEJARE : I, was formerly known and addressed as **ADEJARE OLUADE** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEJARE STEPHEN** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

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

STELLA: This is to inform the general public that **OMEIZA STELLA OMOWUMI, OMEIZA AROWOSOLA STELLA, STELLA OMOWUMI AROWOSOLA, STELLA OMEIZA ADAMAIGBO, STELLA O. OMEIZA and ADAMAIGBO STELLA OMEIZA** all refer to one and the same person. All documents bearing the names remain valid, the general public should take note

HAROONLAFIAGI, I formerly known as **HAMMATT LAFIAGI ALIYU** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAROONLAFIAGI ALIYU**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

IDRIS I formerly known as **IDRIS UMAR** now wish to be called as **IDI MAI TAHUNA** . All former documents remain valid. Authority Concern and the general public should please take note.

OBIDEGWU: I formerly known and called as follows - **OBIDEGWU CHINWE ROSITA** and **UMEH CHINWE ROSITA**. Now wish to be known and called as **OBIDEGWU CHINWE ROSITA**. Former documents remain valid. Authority concern and general public to take note.

Mrs. **BAMMEKE** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Miss. SHOBOWALE TOYIN TEMITOPE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. BAMMEKE TOYIN TEMITOPE**. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

MRS OKWORI: I formerly known as **OKWORI CHARITY ENE** now wish to be known as **OKWORI CHARITY** All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and General Public Please take note.

HASSANA, I formerly known as **HASSANA BANJO** now wish to be known and addressed as **HASSANA BANJO**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

SALIHU, I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR JUMMAY KHADIJA** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALIHU JUMMAY KHADIJA**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **Tukur Mohammed** now wish to be called and addressed as **Tukur Ismaila**. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note

CORRECT INFOMATION: ISAH ALIH. DATE OF BIRTH: 17-09-1994.. **WRONG INFORMATION: ISAH JOHN ALIH**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

LAWAL: I, was formerly known and addressed as **LAWAL IBRAHIM ADEKUNLE** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **LAWAL ADEYINKA ADEKUNLE** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

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

MAHI, I formerly known as **HAMZA MAHI** now wish to be known and addressed as **MAHI HAMZA ABUBAKAR**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

ASMAU, I formerly known as **ASMAU JAMILU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ASMAU ABUBAKAR**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

UMMA, I formerly known as **UMMALKHIR MUSA KASIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **UMMA TANKO KYAURE**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

YOHANNA: I Formerly known as **YOHANNA MARY AYA** Now wish to be called and addressed as **YOHANNA MARY BATURE** All former Documents Remain Valid **UBA BANK PLC** Authority concerned to please take note

Mrs. **SANNI** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Miss. KEHINDE OLUWABUKOLA ODUSANYA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. SANNI KEHINDE OLUWABUKOLA** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

ABDU: I formerly known as **ABDU AKPA OCHOLI** and **ABDU OCHO** now wish to be known as **ABDU AKPA IYAJI**. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

SA'ADIYA, I formerly known as **HALIMA SADIYA YAKUBA** now wish to be known and addressed as **SA'ADIYA YAKUBU UMAR**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MUHAMMED, I formerly known as **MUHD HARUNA ILIYASU** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED HARUNA**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

JAMILA: I formerly known as **BLESSING DAVI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMILA BLESSING JUDE DANJUMA**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

KALTIMI: Formerly known as **KALTIMI SALEH HABU** Now wish to be called and addressed as **KALTIMI HABU** All former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

Mrs. **ISMAILA** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Miss. YUSRAH JAFARU** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. ISMAILA YUSRAH JAFARU** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

RUKAIYA: I formerly known as **RUKAIYA ALHAJI USMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **RUKAIYA USMAN**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

YUSUF, I formerly known as **YUSUF HARUNA** now wish to be known and addressed as **YUSUF MALAM HARUNA**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

SURAJO, I formerly known as **SURAJO MUHD BACHA** now wish to be known and addressed as **SURAJO MUHD BELLO**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

HALIMAH: I, formerly known as **HALIMAH ADEJARE SADIYA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HALIMAH ADEJARE OSHIBAJO**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

SUNDAY: I Formerly known as **BENJAMIN ADOU** Now wish to be called and addressed as **SUNDAY DOGARA** All former documents remain valid Any Authority concerned to please take note

Mrs. **ISMAILA** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Miss. YUSRAH JAFARU** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. ISMAILA YUSRAH JAFARU** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD MUSA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD ASSADAQ AMAR**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

Habu, I formerly known as **Abdu Ibrahim** now wish to be known and addressed as **Abdu Ibrahim Alhaji**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

LABARAN, I formerly known as **LAMARA ADAMU BAZAM** now wish to be known and addressed as **LABARAN ADAMU BAZAM**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

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

YAWURI: I Formerly known as **PATIENCE YAWURI YOHANNA** Now wish to be called and addressed as **YAWURI JATAU** All former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the general public to please take note

Mrs. **CHUKWUMA** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Miss. MICHAEL VINCENT CHUKWUMA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Miss. MICHAEL VINCENT CHUKWUMA** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

BUKAR: I formerly known as **ALHAJI BUKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **BUKAR CHILA**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

NAIMA, I formerly known as **NAIMA B. ABDULKADIR** now wish to be known and addressed as **NAIMA BINTA ABDULKADIR**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

HADIZA, I formerly known as **RASHIDA MUAZU** now wish to be known and addressed as **HADIZA ABUBAKAR**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

JAMILA: I, formerly known as **JAMILA DANBABA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMILA ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

YAWURI: I Formerly known as **PATIENCE YAWURI YOHANNA** Now wish to be called and addressed as **YAWURI JATAU** All former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the general public to please take note

BOADE : I, was formerly known and addressed as **BOADE AYOIMIDE HALIMAT SALEWU** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **BOADE HALIMAT AYOIMIDE** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as **FATIMA ABUBAKAR CHIKIDE** now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

YUSUF, I formerly known as **YUSUF MUHAMMAD USMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **YUSUF BUHARI USMAN**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

ADAMU, I formerly known as **ISMAILA MUHAMMAD DOB = 2/1/1995** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU MUHAMMED DOB = 27/2/1993**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

SANU : Formerly known as **SANU ABDULJENINI** Now wish to be known, Called and Addressed as **SANU ABDULJELIL**. Former documents remain valid. Public note

SHEHU: I formerly known as **SHAIKHO USMAN** now wish to be called and addressed as **SHEHU USMAN MATAWALLE** all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

Mrs. **ENWEKA** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Miss. AGUGHALAM JUDITH CHIKODINAKA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. ENWEKA JUDITH CHIKODINAKA** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

ADAMU: I formerly known as **PETER DAVID** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU IBRAHIM ISHAKU**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

IBRAHIM, I formerly known as **IBRAHIM SANI** now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM SANI BELLO**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MUSA, I formerly known as **MUSA SHEHU** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSA SHEHU GAJALE**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MANZANNI: I formerly known as **DAVID MANZANNI** Now wish to be called as **MANZANNI DAVID UCHARA** all former document remain valid my correct date of birth is 19/01/1960 general public all authority concern should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **MOHAMMAD ADAM** now wish to be called and addressed as **IBRAHIM ADUM** all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

YONRONFUN : I, was formerly known and addressed as **OKE DEBORAH OLUWASEUN** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **YONRONFUN DEBORAH OLUWASEUN** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

HAUWA: I formerly known as **JUMMAY MADAKI** now wish to be known as **HAUWA UMARU**. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

AHMED, I formerly known as **AHMED ABBA YUSUF** now wish to be known and addressed as **AHMED AHMED YUSUF**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **Buhari Hassan Aliyu** now wish to be known and addressed as **Buhari Hassan**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern to please take note

MAYASKY : Formerly **PAPERS MAYASKY** Now wish to be known, Called and addressed as **ESEZEBOR MATTHEW**. Former documents remain valid. Public note

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

ENEMALI : I, was formerly known and addressed as **SULEIMAN AISHAT** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ENEMALI BLESSING AISHAT** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

RASHEED: I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD ABDULRASHEED** now wish to be known as **MUHAMMAD ANNIAIR RASHEED**. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

MOHAMMED, I formerly known as **MOHAMMED A YARO** now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED ALHAJI YARO**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MUSTAPHA I formerly known as **ABDULLAHI LAWAN ADO** now wish to be called as **BABANGIDA MUSTAPHA LAWAN** . All former documents remain valid. Authority Concern and the general public should please take note.

AMINU: I was Formerly known as **AMINU AHMAD** and **AMINU AHMAD KINDESS** now wish to be known and called as **AMINU AHMAD SANKALAWA**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

HAMZA: I formerly known as **HAMZA AHMED** now wish to be called as **HAMZA AHMED BELLO** all former document remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note.

Mrs. **OLOMO** : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Miss. OLUFWOTE OLUBUNMI BOLA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. OLOMO OLUBUNMI BOLA** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM DANLAMI** now wish to be known as **IBRAHIM UMAR**. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

YAKUB, I formerly known as **YAKUBU MUHAMMAD GONI KABIRU** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAKUBU MUHAMMAD KABIR** my dob 1st Oct, 1968. All my former documents remain valid. **COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION** and general public should please take note.

BILKISU formerly known as **MOROURRANTI AKINWANDE BILKISU MOROURRANTI BILKISU KINS -1-1-40** now wish to be called and addressed as **AKINWANDE BILKISU MOROURRANTI -6-4-1964** . All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note

MUHAMMAD: I, formerly known as **AMINA YAHAYA HAJJAYE** and **AMINA MUHAMMAD**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD AMINA ALIYU**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

MUAWIYA: I, formerly known as **YAHAYA HALIRU**, now wish to be known and called **MUAWIYA ABDULLAHI OLD D.O.B 01/01/1985 NEW D.O.B 19/12/1997**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

OBAYOMI : I, was formerly known and addressed as **FOLARIN TAIWO OLUOSOLA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **OBAYOMI TAIWO OLUOSOLA** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

ALHERI: I formerly known as **ISTIFANUS ALHERI TALKAS** now wish to be known as **ALHERI ISTIFANUS**, my correct date of birth is 15-01-1997. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

SA'ADU, I formerly known as **SAIDU HALLIRU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SA'ADU HALLIRU**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I **IBRAHIM** formerly known as **IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR ILU** now wish to be called and addressed as **IBRAHIM ILU** All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note

OKOME-MAS: I was Formerly known as **OKOME-MAS VIZE MIRACLE** now wish to be known and called as **OKOME-MAS OGHENEVIEZE MIRACLE**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

MASIUD: I, formerly known as **AMINU MASIUD YASALAM** now wish to be known as **MASIUD YASALAM AMINU** . All documents remain valid. Kaduna State Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to please take note.

AIBE : I, was formerly known and addressed as **AIBE GODWIN . G .** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **AIBE GODWIN YABA** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

HAUWA: I formerly known as **HAUWA YAKUBU LAWAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAUWA LAWAL**. All former documents remain valid general public should please take note

SA'ADU, I formerly known as **SAIDU HALLIRU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SA'ADU HALLIRU ABDULLAHI**. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

I, **UMAR** formerly known as **SAMINU UMAR** now wish to be called and addressed as **SAMINU UMAR ARZAI**. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note

FAUZIYYAH: I formerly known as **MISS FAUZIYYAH ABUBAKAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS. FAUZIYYAH ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

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OBOH : I, was formerly known and addressed as **EDIALE FAITH** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **OBOH EDIALE FAITH** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

FAWIBE : I, was formerly known and addressed as **AWE FUNMILAYO MARY** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **FAWIBE FUNMILAYO MARY** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

AJOSE : I, was formerly known and addressed as **OLUTUNDE TEMITOPE OLUWAKEMI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **AJOSE TEMITOPE OLUWAKEMI** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

NWANNAEBULAM : I, was formerly known and addressed as **OKERAFOR VITALIS ERNEST** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **NWANNAEBULAM VITALIS UGOCHUKWU FRANCISE** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

ABDULLAH : I, was formerly known and addressed as **ABDULLAH FARUK KURA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAH FARUK USMAN** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

OLAIYA : I, was formerly known and addressed as **OGUNTASE OLAYINKA CHRISTIANA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **OLAIYA OLAYINKA CHRISTIANA** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

CHANGE OF NAME TO DUE DIVORCE OKOLO : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Mrs. OKOLO FELICIA ILEYEMI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. OKOLO FELICIA ILEYEMI** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

ABDUSALAM : I, was formerly known and addressed as **ISHOLA AKINTUNDE TOLANI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDUSALAM MONSURU AKINTUNDE** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

NKECHI : I, was formerly known and addressed as **NONYELUM NKECHI OKEOMA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **NKECHI EUODIA OKEOMA** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

AIYANYOR : I, was formerly known and addressed as **OHWAIBORUA ESEOGHENE** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **AIYANYOR ESEOGHENE** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

ADAKOLA : I, was formerly known and addressed as **ADEKOLA ELIZABETH** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAKOLA ELIZABETH** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

NWOSU : I, was formerly known and addressed as **NNADI TOCHUKWU JUDITH** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **NWOSU TOCHUKWU JUDITH** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

Mr. OLUWAFEMI : I, was formerly known and addressed as **Mr. OSUNBOTI EMMANUEL OLUWOLE** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mr. OLUWAFEMI EMMANUEL OLUWOLE** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

BEN-ISRAEL : I, was formerly known and addressed as **UCHEGBU NNADOZIE NWAFO** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **BEN-ISRAEL GARIKAI DE-BOLA UCHEGBU** . All former documents bearing my former name remain valid, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

ADEROJU : I, formerly known and addressed as **ADEROJU RASAQ** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEROJU RASAQ IDOWU** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

ADEVILEKA : I, formerly known and addressed as **FASAYEDE TAIWO KENNETH** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEVILEKA TAIWO KENNETH** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

ALOHAN : I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss OKUZOR MERCY IFECHUKWUDENI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ALOHAN MERCY IFECHUKWUDENI** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

AKINYOYE : I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss ADEWOLE OLUWAFUNMILAYO ELIZABETH** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs AKINYOYE OLUWAFUNMILAYO ELIZABETH** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

ADUBI : I, formerly known and addressed as **AKINSANYA ADIJAT** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADUBI ADIJAT** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

KELANI : I, formerly known and addressed as **KELANI ADEMOLA HAMID** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **KELANI ADEMOLA BOLUWATIFE** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

MIGAN : I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss OGUNKOYA TAIWO IBUKUNOLUWA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs MIGAN TAIWO IBUKUNOLUWA** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

BALOGUN : I, formerly known and addressed as **Mr. BALOGUN BABABUSUYI OPEYEMI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mr. BALOGUN JAMEHU BABABUSUYI OPEYEMI** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

BALOGUN : I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss GINSANRIN ABOSEDE TOYIN** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs BALOGUN ISWAT ABOSEDE TOYIN** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

AZEEZ : I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss ADEWALE SAKIRAT ADEOLA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs. AZEEZ SAKIRAT ADEOLA** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

NNEKA : I, formerly known and addressed as **OSAKWE-OGO NNEKA VIRGINIA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **NNEKA VIRGINIA EZEH** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

SOWEMIMO : I, formerly known and addressed as **SOWEMIMO OLUFUNKE OLADUNKE** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **SOWEMIMO OLAWUNMI OLADUNKE** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

ELUGBAJU : I, formerly known and addressed as **OSASONA BUKOLA ABOSEDE** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ELUGBAJU BUKOLA ABOSEDE** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

AWOFESO : I, formerly known and addressed as **ADEWALE ADERONKE RUTH** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **AWOFESO ADERONKE RUTH** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

ONI : I, formerly known and addressed as **ONOWODE HELEN TOBORE** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ONI HELEN TOBORE** . All documents bearing my former name remain valid, General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

IGWE : I formerly known and addressed as **EMAREYO Eunice** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **IGWE EMAREYO Eunice** . All former documents remain valid, General public kindly take note.

OPEYEMI : I formerly known and addressed as **AJETUNMOBI WASIU ELIJAH** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **AJETUNMOBI WASIU OPEYEMI** . All former documents remain valid, General public kindly take note.

VIVIAN : I formerly known and addressed as **MIRACLE OKAFOR** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **VIVIAN OKAFOR** . All former documents remain valid, General public kindly take note.

OSUNMAKINDE : I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss OJEWANDE ABOSEDE ABIODUN** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs OSUNMAKINDE ABOSEDE ABIODUN** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

ALI : I, formerly known and addressed as **ALI DANIEL** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ALI MUSA** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

AJAYI : I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss FAMAWODE SERAH IREOLUWA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs AJAYI SERAH IREOLUWA** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

NOJE-ELLIOT : I, formerly known and addressed as **NOJE-ELLIOT JOYORD HANNASAM** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **NOJE-ELLIOT JOYORD INIAEMINAMEN** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

OLADIRAN : I, formerly known and addressed as **OLADIRAN KEMI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **OLADIRAN OLUWAKEMI OJUTALAYO** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

ADEMOYE : I, formerly known and addressed as **ADETUNJI ADEMOYE** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADEMOYE SUNDAY ENITAN** . All former documents remain valid, general public please take note.

IDOWU : I, formerly known and addressed as **IDOWU OLUWAKEMI ALABI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **IDOWU OLUWAKEMI MARIA** . That I was born on 2nd day of June, 1986 not 24th day of June, 1980. All former documents remain valid, Zenith Bank, UBA Bank and general public please take note.

I Formerly known as **MUHAMMED SALIU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALIHU MUHAMMAD ALANANA** . All former documents remain valid, general public to take note.

JOY: formerly known as **MISS OFOMANA EGUONO JOY** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS AJIBOLA EGUONO JOY** . All former documents remain valid, General public to Take note .

FEMI; formerly known as **TIMOTHY FEMI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **FEMI OBAFEMI** . All former documents to remain valid. General public to Take note.

REMOVAL OF NAME, I formerly known as **ATTAH ANUH ILEMONA** . I now wish to be known and addressed as **ATTAH ILEMONA** , , all former documents remains valid, GTBank plc and general public should take note.

ISHAKU I, Formerly known as **MUHAMMADU SANI MAKAMA** now wish to be known as **AUWAL SHARU ISYAKU** . All former documents remain valid, Public to take note.

Formerly **I, JAFARU ABUBAKAR OGAH** now wish to be known and addressed as **JAFARU OGAH ADOPU** . All former documents remain valid, public to take note.

BELLO: I formerly known as **USMAN BELLO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR BELLO WALA** . All former documents remain valid. **UBA BANK PLC**, and general public should please take note

YANA: I Formerly known as **YANA MUTAH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **YANA MUTAH JOBBY** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

BUKAR: I Formerly known as **ABUKAR MUSTAPHA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BUKAR MUSTAPHA** . All former documents remain valid. With **DOB 1/1/1979**, general public should please take note

JAMILA: I Formerly known as **JAMILA YAKUBU YOBE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMILA YAKUBU** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

YUSUFU: I Formerly known as **YUSUFU DAMBOMA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **YUSUFU DAMBOAMA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

ABBA: I Formerly known as **MELERI ABBA UMAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULRAHMAN ABBA UMAR** . All former documents remain valid. With **DOB 1/1/1988**, general public should please take note

ALI: I Formerly known as **ALI AHMADU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ALI MUSA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

MUHAMMAD: I Formerly known as **MUHAMMAD A MUHAMMAD**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD ABDULLAHI** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

FANTA: I Formerly known as **FANTA UMAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FANTA UMARA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

LADAN: I Formerly known as **ALHAJJI MANAGER**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM LADAN YAKUBU** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

HAFIZU: I Formerly known as **HAFIZU HALILU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HAFIZU HALILU AHAMED** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

KAKA: I formerly known as **KAKA ZAINAMI AND ZAINAB RABIU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **KAKA ZAINAB AMINU** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

FALMATA: I Formerly known as **FALMATA ABATCHA ALHAJI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FALMATA ALHAJI ABATCHA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

ABBA: I Formerly known as **MUHAMMED BABAGANA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED BABAGANA ABBA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

TIMOTHY: I Formerly known as **TIMOTHY THOMAS**, now wish to be known and addressed as **TIMOTHY THOMAS CHINDA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

FALMATA: I Formerly known as **FALMATA MOGORAM**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FALMATA MOGORAM ABATCHA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

YAGANA: I Formerly known as **YAGANA MOHAMMED ABATCHA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **YAGANA ALHAJI ABATCHA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

ADESINA: I Formerly known as **ADESHINA YUSUF**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ADESINA YUSUF ABIODUN** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

ALI: I Formerly known as **ALI ZANNA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MALLAM ALI ZANNA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

AISHATU: I formerly known as **AISHA GAMBO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHATU BUKAR GAMBO** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

HAMSATU: I Formerly known as **AMSOTU ALHAJI LAWAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HAMSATU GONI** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

DAVID: I FORMERLY KNOWN AS **FAITH DAVID**, NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **DAVID FAITH YAT** . ALL FORMER DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID GENERALPUBLIC SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

BUKAR: I Formerly known as **BUKAR MODU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BUKAR LAWAN MODU** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

PAUL: I FORMERLY KNOWN AS **ROBO EZEKIEL**, NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **DANBOYI PAUL ELISHA** . ALL FORMER DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID GENERALPUBLIC SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

REBECCA: I FORMERLY KNOWN AS **REBECCA AYUBA YAYE**, NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **REBECCA AYUBA** . ALL FORMER DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID GENERALPUBLIC SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

ABDULLAHI: I formerly known as **ABDULLAHI SARKI** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI S NOMA** . All former documents remain valid concerned authority and general public should take note.

ALI: I formerly known as **MOHAMMED ISA BIU** now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED M.H. ALI** . All former documents remains valid. Authorities concerned and general public to take note.

TIJJANI: I formerly known as **TIJJANI ALI KWARI** now wish to be known and addressed as **TIJJANI ALI** . All former documents remains valid. Authorities concerned and general public to take note.

YUSUF: I formerly known as **YUSUF SANI YAHAYA** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAHAYA YUSUF MAKERA** . All former documents remain valid **DOB 14-09-1997** general public should please take note.

HUSSAINA: I formally known as **HUSSAINA SULEIMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **HUSSAINA ABDULLAHI** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

ISAH: I formally known as **ISAH HAUWAW** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAUWAW JEGA ISAH** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

ZEENAT: I formally known as **ZEENAT MUHD** now wish to be known and addressed as **ZINATU ILLO MUHAMMAD** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

GARBA: I formally known as **GARBA ABDULLAHI** now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN MUHAMMAD** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

BABA: I formerly known as **BUKAR G ALHAJI BABA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BABA GANA ALHAJI BUKAR** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

BAKURA: I, formerly known and address as **BAKURA ALI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **BAKURA ALI GARGA** . All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

MODU: I, formerly known and address as **MODU MUSTAPHA JILLI** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **MODU MUSTAPHA** . All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

GANA: I, formerly known and address as **ALHAJI KINNARIMA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI KINNARIMA GANA** . All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

HAJARA: I, formerly known and address as **HAJARA USMAN ISMAILA** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **HAJARA ISMAILA MAGAJI** . All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

MUHAMMAD: I, formerly known and address as **MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD WAKIL** . Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD WAKIL** . All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

AUWAL: I Formerly known as **AUWAL MUSA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AUWAL ALHAJI MUSA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

GABAKAU: I formerly known as **ISHAKU SANI** now wish to be known and addressed as **ISHAKU SANI GABAKAU** . All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

ZARA: I formerly known as **ALHAJI BRRADIGIDAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **ZARA MUHAMMAD** . All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

SALEH: I formerly known as **ABDULLAHI YAKUBU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI YAKUBU SALEH** . All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

MIRI: I formerly known and address as **ISA SULAIMAN GWALLAMEJI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SABIRU MUHAMMAD MIRI** . All former Documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note.

MALLAM: I formerly known as **BABAGANA BABA MALLAM**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BABA GANA MALLAM** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

BABAJI: I formerly known and address as **YAHAYA SALLAU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD BABAJI** . All former Documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note.

SARKIN: I formerly known and address as **LAWAN S. PANDUM MOHAMMED**, now wish to be known and addressed as **PANDUM MOHAMMED SARKIN** . All former Documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note.

GIRBO: I formerly known and address as **AUWA ABDULLAHI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HAUWA ABDULLAHI GIRBO** . All former Documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note.

GALADIMA: I formerly known and address as **ADAMU HASSAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SA'IDU GALADIMA** . All former Documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note.

SUNUSI: I formerly known and address as **SUNUSI SALEH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SUNUSI SALE S** . All former Documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note.

ABDULLAHI: I formerly known and address as **YUSIF MOHAMMAD**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD YUSUF ABDULLAHI** . All former Documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note.

YAKUBU: I formerly known and address as **ADAMU BAWAJI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **YA'U YAKUBU** . All former Documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note.

NURA: I, formerly known as **NURA ISA AHAMADU** now wish to be known and addressed as **NURA AHMADU** . All former documents remain valid. And my correct **DOB is 04-04-1999 not 08-01-1998**. General public should take note.

ESSU: I, formerly known as **ESSU BLESSING** now wish to be known and addressed as **ESSU BLESSING RITA** . All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

LINUS: I, formerly known as **BINFEL LINUS DAUDA** now wish to be known and addressed as **BINFEL LINUS** . All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

MARYAM: I Formerly known as **ANTY FATIMA GANA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM BULAMA** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

GASI: I, formerly known as **MOHAMMED DANJUMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED DANJUMA GASI** . All former documents remain valid. General public should take note

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

AMINA: I formerly known as **ASABE IBRAHIM**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AMINA IBRAHIM** . All former documents remain valid. Bauchi state Local Government service commission should take note.

ABUBAKAR: I Formerly known as **ABUBAKAR NIKE MUTIAT**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR ADENIKE MUTIAT** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

IBRAHIM: I formally known as **NASIRU MANNIR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM MANNIR** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

AUWAL: I Formerly known as **AUWAL MUKTAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AUWAL MUTARI** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

DANIEL: I, formerly known as **ADESIPO ADEDAYO MUYIWA**. Now wish to be called and addressed as **DANIEL ADEDAYO MUYIWA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

ISAH: I Formerly known as **USMAN ABUBAKAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN ISAH ABUBAKAR** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

AISHATU: I formally known as **AISHATU IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHATU IBRAHIM BARMA** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note

HABIBA: I formally known as **HABIBA BUKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **HABIBA BUKAR SANDA** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

BINTU: I Formerly known as **BINTU UMARA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BINTU BABAGANA FERUBE** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

HAJJA: I formally known as **YAKAKA BUKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAJJA KAKA BUKAR** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

UMAR: I formally known as **BABA GANA BABA KURA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED ABUBAKAR UMAR** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

SULEIMAN: I formally known as **BUNDI UMAR SULEIMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **UMAR SULEIMAN** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

MAIMUNA: I formally known as **MAIMUNA A MUSA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MAIMUNA MUSA** . All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

SANI: I formerly known as **MURTALA ABUBAKAR SANI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MURTALA SANI** . All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

HAUWA: I formerly known as **HAUWA K HARUNA** now wish to be known as **HAUWA INUSA** . All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

BELLO: I formerly known as **BELLO DANJUMA** now wish to be known as **BELLO UMAR** . All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

M

DAILY TRUST Classifieds made easy

OYEYEMI : I formerly known as BABAJIDE OYEYEMI OLUWATIMILEYIN now wish to be known as OYEYEMI BABAJIDE TIMILEYIN. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

SULEIMAN : I formerly known as SULEIMAN UMARU now wish to be known as SULEIMAN IBRAHIM UMAR. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

CHIBUEZE : I, formerly known as NWAIKE BLESSING UDOCHI. Now wish to be known as MRS. CHIBUEZE BLESSING UDOCHI. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

MUNONYE : I, formerly known as MUNONYE JECINTA. Now wish to be known as MUNONYE JECINTA CHINYEAKA. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

AMATU: That I was formerly known called and addressed as HOLYMARY BEAUTY PLACE. Now wish to be known called and addressed as YEFIMARY BENSON AMATU. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

AISHA: I, formerly known as AISHATU ABUBAKAR YALLI now wish to be known and addressed as AISHA SHEHU ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

JANET : I formerly known as AISHAT JANET YAKUB now wish to be known as JANET OLU. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

MODU : I formerly known as ALI DANNABE now wish to be known as MODU GANA DALA. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

UMESHIEM: I, formerly known as BESTMAN EZEH. Now wish to be known as UMESHIEM EZE. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

OGBEGBE : I, formerly known as OGBEGBE EZINNE MAUREEN. Now wish to be known as OGBEGBE EZINNE RITCHELLE. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

FRED: That I was formerly known called and addressed as HANNAH AMADI. Now wish to be known called and addressed as MRS. HANNAH FRED AMADI. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

SAMBO: I, formerly known as SAMBO MAGAJI now wish to be known and addressed as SAMBO IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. Zamfara State Female Education Board Gusau, Ecobank and general public should please take note.

BALIKIS: I Formerly known as BALIKIS ISHOLA ADEBOLA, now wish to be known and addressed as BALIKIS ISMAIL ADEBOLA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUSTAPHA : I formerly known as BAAMASHA MALLAM ANNA now wish to be known as MUSTAPHA GONI. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

EMMANUEL: I, formerly known as ETTEOBONG EFFIONG ANDEM. Now wish to be known as EMMANUEL EFFIONG ANDEM. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

JOYCE: I, formerly known as MISS JOYCE NWANKWO. Now wish to be known as MRS. JOYCE CHIJIOKE NWINYE. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

KALADAPPA: That I was formerly known called and addressed as MISS. UGOCHUKWU GOODNESS UZOWURU. Now wish to be known called and addressed as MRS. UGOCHUKWU GOODNESS BIEDIMABO KALADAPPA. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

FIRDAUSI: I, formerly known as FRIDAUS ASABE ADAM now wish to be known and addressed as FIRDAUSI ADAMU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

JIBRIN : I formerly known as JIBRIN ALI BIU now wish to be known as JIBRIN ALI. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

HALIMA : I formerly known as HAJJA HALIMA KAUMI now wish to be known as HALIMA KAUMI. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

OKPALAEBUBE: I, formerly known as MISS. UNACHUKWU CHIZOBA ROSELINE. Now wish to be known as MRS. OKPALAEBUBE CHIZOBA ROSELINE. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

OLUSIJI: I, formerly known as OGUNSIJI AKINLOYE SAMUEL. Now wish to be known as OLUSIJI AKINLOYE SAMUEL AMAO. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

DUMBARI: That I was formerly known called and addressed as SAMUEL JOY. Now wish to be known called and addressed as SAMUEL JOY DUMBARI. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

USMAN: I, formerly known as NASIRU ABUBAKAR now wish to be known and addressed as USMAN ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

USANG : I formerly known as OFFOR USANG USANG now wish to be known as USANG BROWN GEORGE. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

ISMAIL: I formerly known as ISMAIL KYARI ALGAMDI, now wish to be known and addressed as ISMAIL KYARI NGAMDU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MARTINS: I, formerly known as ONUNWA LOVE KELECHI. Now wish to be known as MARTINS LOVE KELECHI. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

FADEYI: I, formerly known as FADEYI RISI. Now wish to be known as FADEYI RISI OMOLARA. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

SAINT: That I was formerly known called and addressed as SAINTSON GOODLUCK. Now wish to be known called and addressed as SAINT GOODLUCK. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

UMMARU: I, formerly known as UMMARU NOMA now wish to be known and addressed as UMMARU SARKIN NOMA. All former documents remain valid. Polaris bank and general public should please take note.

FATIMA : I formerly known as YAKAKA MUSTAPHA ISA now wish to be known as FATIMA MUSTAPHA ISA. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

BUKAR : I formerly known as BABAGANA PHOTOMA now wish to be known as BUKAR MUSTAPHA. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

Correction of Name/Date of birth: That my name was wrongly written on my Bank Verification Number as ONYENMA ONYENMA OKECHUKWU instead of ONYENMA OKECHUKWU KINGSLEY. That my correct name is ONYENMA OKECHUKWU KINGSLEY. Also my correct date of birth is 12/12/1989. All documents bearing the above name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

OKERE: I, formerly known as MISS. OKORO NKEIRUKA MERCY. Now wish to be known as OKERE NKEIRUKA MERCY. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

MOLOKWU: That I was formerly known called and addressed as MISS. CHIDINMA MARYANN CHINEDU. Now wish to be known called and addressed as MRS. CHIDINMA MARYANN MOLOKWU. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I, formerly known as ALIYU SIDI now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM SIDI. All former documents remain valid. Access bank and general public should please take note.

MUSTAPHA : I formerly known as MOHAMMED TIJJANI MOHAMMED now wish to be known as MUSTAPHA TIJJANI. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

BURA : I formerly known as BAKWU MALLAM UMAR. With DOB 01 January 1988 to 01 January 1995. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

ADDITION OF NAME: I, formerly known as HEZEKIAH GLADYS. Now wish to add AYAGWUNG to my name to be known as HEZEKIAH GLADYS AYAGWUNG. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, ONYEBU GRACE NWAOLU. That my name was wrongly written during the registration of my (BVN) as ONYEBU GRACE GRACE instead of ONYEBU GRACE NWAOLU. That my correct name is ONYEBU GRACE NWAOLU. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

INYANG: That I was formerly known called and addressed as DORATHY SUNDAY UMOH. Now wish to be known called and addressed as MRS. DORATHY UDUAK INYANG. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

ATIKA: I, formerly known as ATIKA UBALE now wish to be known and addressed as ATIKA ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

KAKA : I formerly known as GADO GONI BUKAR now wish to be known as KAKA GADO GONI. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

IBRAHIM : I formerly known as IBRAHIM SANI now wish to be known as IBRAHIM MUKTARI. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

MRS. OSUJI - I, formerly known as MISS. IWUNZE CHIAMAKA ROSEMARY. Now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. OSUJI CHIAMAKA ROSEMARY. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

CHIMENEN: That I was formerly known called and addressed as OWHONDA DAVID MAC. Now wish to be known called and addressed as OWHONDA CHIMENEM DAVID. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

IHUOMA: That I was formerly known called and addressed as NGUMAH THERESA IHUNANYACHI. Now wish to be known called and addressed as IHUOMA THERESA IHUNANYACHI. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

BALKISU: I, formerly known as BALKISU ABDULLAHI now wish to be known and addressed as BALKISU ABDULLAHI AUGIE. All former documents remain valid. First bank and general public should please take note.

AISHATU : I formerly known as MARYAM ADAM now wish to be known as AISHATU ADAMU. All former document remain valid. general public should take note.

OLOURNFEMI- I, formerly known as OLOURNFEMI BARNABAS JOSIAH. Now wish to be known and addressed as OLOURNFEMI BARNABAS JOSIAH. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, UEBARI GOODLUCK wish state that UEBARI GOODLUCK LEXIA as in my Bank details and UEBARI GOODLUCK as on my BVN and Driver's License refer to one and same person. That my correct date of Birth is 15TH FEBRUARY, 1984. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, GODBLESS, AYIBATARI EMMANUEL, That during the registration of my (BVN) with UBA Bank my name and date of birth was wrongly captured as TARI KENDRICK GODBLESS, 20th FEBRUARY 1998 instead of GODBLESS, AYIBATARI EMMANUEL, 20th FEBRUARY 1999. That my correct name and date of birth is GODBLESS, AYIBATARI EMMANUEL, 20th FEBRUARY 1999. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MASINJA: That I was formerly known called and addressed as MOHAMMED MUYASSIL SHEHU. Now wish to be known called and addressed as SHEHU MASINJA. All former documents bearing my former name remains valid. General public should please take note.

KULU: I, formerly known as HAUWA'U ADAMU now wish to be known and addressed as KULU AHAMAD. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original credentials bearing the name of HAFSAT RABI'U USMAN residing at No.255 Chiranchi Duhuwa Kumbotso L. G. A. Kano State, Nigeria. The Loss credentials are as follows; 1.Bayero University Kano, provisional offer of Admission into level 2 (two) 2019/2020 to read B.Nursing in the faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Department of Nursing. 2.WAEC & NECO Statement of results. 3.Primary School Certificate. 4.Primary & Secondary School testimonials. 5.IJMB result (Sule Lamido Kafin Hausa). 6.JAMB Admission letter. Kano Municipal Indegen Certificate. 7.Birth Certificate. 8.BUK Acknowledgment letter. 9.BUK acceptance fee paper. 10.Registration number's paper. 11.Passport Photograph etc. All efforts made to trace the said credentials (documents) proved abortive. The general Public to take note. If found, kindly return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS This is to inform the general public that the original LETTER OF GRANT NO 161 PLOT KSHC/EST/ZHE/N-161 situated at ZOO ROAD HOUSING ESTATE in MUNICIPAL LG KANO STATE Belongs to AL-MIFTAH TELECOMMS NIG LTD got missed. All efforts to traced the said Documents remain abortive, KANO STATE HOUSING CORPORATION, AUTHORITIES CONCERN and general public to note.

TUBONEMI OPUIYO, That on my pension account my name was, wrongly written as TUBONEMI OPUIIYO instead of TUBONEMI OPUIYO. That my correct name is TUBONEMI OPUIYO. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUKHTAR: I, formerly known as MUKHTARU LAWAL ABUBAKAR with D.O.B 20/09/1982 now wish to be known and addressed as MUKHTAR LAWAL ABUBAKAR with D.O.B 20/09/1983. All former documents remain valid. Diamond bank and general public should please take note.

NURA: I, formerly known as NURA IBRAHIM now wish to be known and addressed as NURA IBRAHIM TSOHO. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

HADIZA: I, formerly known as HADIZA GARBA with D.O.B 18/02/1991 now wish to be known and addressed as HADIZA GARBA BK with D.O.B 26/02/1994. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUSTAPHA: I, formerly known as WALIYU JEMILA now wish to be known and addressed as MUSTAPHA EYITAYO JEYLAT. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

ASSOCIATION OF FREIGHT FORWARDING PRACTITIONERS OF NIGERIA The General public is hereby notified that the above named 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. IBRAHIM SANI 2. MUFTAHU YA'U 3. SANI RABIU SIPIKIN AIMS AND OBJECTIVES 1. Promotion and advancement of freight forwarding profession in Nigeria in line with international best practice. Any objection to the above registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, plot 420 Tigris Crescent Off Aguiyi Street, Maitama P.M.B. 198, Abuja within 28 days-of this publication.

A KEY TO JANNAH FOUNDATION The General public is hereby notified that the above named has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for Registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990. BOARD OF TRUSTEE: 1. Muhammad Mustapha Sani 2. Abdullahi Kamaludeen 3. Hudu Muhammad Aliyu 4. Sa'adatu Abdulmuminu 5. Nafisah Yahaya 6. Ahmad Suleiman AIMS AND OBJECTS 1. Change the mindset of the orphans and the less privilege 2. To positively touch the lives of widows, youth, old people, orphans and the less privilege 3. support Orphans and less privilege children to access basic right to Education. 4. Empowering youth and women on small skill programmes. Any objection to the above registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, plot 420 Tigris Crescent Off Aguiyi Street, Maitama P.M.B. 198, Abuja within 28 days-of this publication.

KIDNEY CARE AFRICA FOUNDATION This is to inform the general public that the above named, Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), for registration under part "C" of Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990. NAMES OF TRUSTEES ARE: 1. Job Emmanuel Ulaka 2. Ikechukwu Henry 3. Osuegbu Osborne Ikechukwu AIMS AND OBJECTIVES: 1. To provide, educate, maintain and sustain suitable kidney care services for all individuals, children and patients and for other matters incidental therewith. 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. Chairman

LEGAL NOTICE: IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, JIGAWA STATE OF NIGERIA IN THE HIGH COURT PROBATE REGISTRY WHEREAS the persons whose names are set out in the first column hereunder died intestate in the date and at the specified place in the said column. AND WHEREAS the persons whose names and addresses appear below in the second column (herein after called the claimants) claim relationship to the deceased persons named opposite in the first column and have applied to High Court of Justice, Jigawa State for the grant of Letters of Administration of the personal properties of the said deceased. NOW THEREFORE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That letters of administration will be granted to the claimants, UNLESS A NOTICE TO PROHIBIT the grant is filed in the probate Registry, High Court of Justice, Jigawa State within TWENTY ONE (21) DAYS of the publication of this notice. DECEASED SHEHU USMAN ABDULLAHI OF LAND BASE ENGR. SERVICES LTD. DUTSE WHO DIED ON THE 26/11/2019 AT ABUJA APPLICANTS ALIYU AHMED MUHAMMAD OF NO.339 DZUNGURA QRTS KANO. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR KAMILU MUSA OF JAHUN L.G.A. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR BASIRU HASSAN OF RINGIM TOWN WHO DIED ON THE 15/11/19 AT KANO HABIBU HASSAN RINGIM OF RINGIM TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR DATED 2nd JANUARY, 2020 HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE JIGAWA (MUSA UBALE ESQ) PROBATE REGISTRAR

INUWAR MARAYU FOUNDATION The General public is hereby notified that the above named has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for Registration under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990. BOARD OF TRUSTEES: 1. ALHAJI YAHAY IBRAHIM ZIMIT 2. ALHAJI RABIU BARAU 3. MALAM AHMED BELLO DISO 4. IBRAHIM KAWU BELLO 5. LAWAN ADAMU ISMAIL AIMS AND OBJECTS To meet the educational needs of orphaned children by providing them with the highest level of education possible so that they can grow to be valued members society with a promising future and a memorable past. Any objection to the above registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, plot 420 Tigris Crescent Off Aguiyi Street, Maitama P.M.B. 198, Abuja within 28 days-of this publication.

PUBLIC NOTICE BETTER COMMUNITY INITIATIVE INTERNATIONAL This is to inform the general public that the above named, Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), for registration under part "C" of Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990. NAMES OF TRUSTEES ARE: 1. Rev Samuel Anokuru Echeonwu President/Chairman 2. Bishop(Dr) Bon Prince Emmanuel C Vice President/Chairman 3. HRH Eze Humphrey N. Woko Member 4. Comrade Nmecha Samuel Member 5. Benjamin Kingsley Nwagwe Esq. Secretary AIMS AND OBJECTIVES: 1. To enlighten people on their civic responsibilities and education. 2. To inculcate in young people the human values, and ethics. 3. To enlighten people about community Leadership, collective security and advocate for safe earth through workshops, Seminars, Conferences, Symposia, rallies and trainings. 4. To adopt the best interactive practices and principles among people. 5. To promote welfare and community service strategy 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. Secretary

BUSINESS

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NIGERIA STOCK EXCHANGE MARKET CAP. ▶ **13.316TR (0.90%)** ↑ ALL SHARE INDEX ▶ **27,586.93POINTS (0.90%)** ↑ MARKET TURNOVER ▶ **446.3MN SHARES**

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

OIL AND GAS	BANKING	CONSUMER GOODS	INSURANCE	INDUSTRIAL
246.77 -0.42%	386.23 1.85%	590.54 0.20%	130.34 1.20%	1,085.82 1.66%

NSE GENERAL INDEX

COMPANY NAME	MARKET(NM)	PRICE	CHANGE	TRADES	VOLUME
BANKING					
ACCESS BANK PLC	398,106.53	11.20	3.70	357	27,440,070
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	288,985.11	8.45	4.97	596	86,782,674
ZENITH BANK PLC	659,326.37	21.00	5.00	934	73,214,429
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
FBN HOLDINGS PLC	251,267.05	7.00	0.72	408	34,717,858
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES					
MTN NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS PLC	2,190,145.60	107.60	-0.37	155	3,413,141
BUILDING MATERIALS					
DANGOTE CEMENT PLC	2,556,076.11	150.00	2.74	268	4,686,140
LA FARGE AFRICA PLC	226,314.53	14.05	1.08	155	10,989,119
OIL AND GAS					
SEPLAT PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC	346,888.07	589.50	-	13	6,548
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS (REITS)					
SKYE SHELTER FUND PLC	1,710.00	85.50	-	0	0
UNION HOMES REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST (REIT)	10,175.81	40.70	-	0	0
UPDC REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST	11,873.80	4.45	3.49	17	1,596,498
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
NIGERIA ENERGY SECTOR FUND	411.91	552.20	-	0	0
VALUEALLIANCE VALUE FUND	3,312.39	103.20	-	0	0
AGRICULTURE					
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	440.00	0.20	-	0	0
OKDMU OIL PALM PLC	53,895.92	56.50	-	45	1,266,110
PRESCO PLC	48,150.00	48.15	1.37	39	2,469,630
FISHING/HUNTING/TRAPPING					
ELLAH LAKES PLC	8,500.00	4.25	-	0	0
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	1,380.00	0.46	-8.00	15	807,017
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES					
JOHN HOLT PLC	217.92	0.56	-	0	0
S C O A NIG. PLC	1,903.99	2.93	-	0	0
TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	41,867.43	1.03	-0.96	91	19,166,095
U A C N PLC	26,651.99	9.25	-	41	712,780
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION					
ARIBICO PLC	521.24	3.51	-	0	0
INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION					
JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC	26,268.00	19.90	-	43	563,382
ROADS NIG. PLC	165.00	6.60	-	0	0
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT					
UACN PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC	2,806.27	1.08	8.00	10	670,000
AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS					
DN TYRE & RUBBER PLC	954.53	0.20	-	0	0
BEVERAGES—BREWERS/DISTILLERS					
CHAMPION BREW. PLC	7,438.02	0.95	-	2	200
GOLDEN GUINEA BREW. PLC	242.22	0.89	-	0	0
GUINNESS NIG. PLC	65,821.00	30.05	-	46	384,006
INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC	79,081.93	9.20	-1.08	56	6,428,239
NIGERIAN BREW. PLC	448,226.36	56.05	-0.09	83	1,444,467
FOOD PRODUCTS					
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	180,600.00	15.05	-0.33	93	2,262,544
FLOUR MILLS NIG. PLC	88,158.16	21.50	2.38	157	6,641,379
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILLS PLC	8,009.50	1.01	-	17	209,702
LSULTI-TREX INTEGRATED FOODS PLC	1,340.10	0.36	-	0	0
N NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	766.26	4.30	-	4	97,872
NASCON ALLIED INDUSTRIES PLC	38,416.86	14.50	3.94	27	372,756
UNION DICON SALT PLC	3,321.07	12.15	-	0	0
FOOD PRODUCTS—DIVERSIFIED					
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	19,815.03	10.55	-	19	251,321
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	1,165,125.42	1,469.90	-	53	266,831
HOUSEHOLD DURABLES					
NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC	1,680.31	22.10	-	0	0
VITAFODAM NIG. PLC	5,866.46	4.69	-0.21	45	1,361,276
PERSONAL/HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS					
P Z CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	22,234.67	5.60	9.80	55	763,601
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	114,900.11	20.00	-	72	3,424,723
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL INCORPORATED	139,456.59	7.60	2.70	181	5,638,091
FIDELITY BANK PLC	63,454.81	2.19	-1.79	166	13,269,716
GUARANTY TRUST BANK PLC	897,650.97	30.50	-1.61	349	17,582,556
JAIZ BANK PLC	19,151.76	0.65	-4.41	37	3,051,009
STERLING BANK PLC	57,580.84	2.00	-1.96	32	1,938,298
UNION BANK NIG. PLC	168,900.37	5.80	1.75	67	1,938,379
UNITY BANK PLC	9,351.47	0.80	9.59	22	3,454,555
WEMA BANK PLC	30,088.08	0.78	5.41	66	10,242,159
INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES					
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	4,117.00	0.20	-	0	0
AICO INSURANCE PLC	5,197.65	0.75	2.74	39	19,738,336
AXAMANSARD INSURANCE PLC	21,000.00	2.00	-	2	12,450
CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSURANCE PLC	2,926.80	0.36	9.09	4	125,525
CONTINENTAL REINSURANCE PLC	22,820.04	2.20	-	0	0
CORNERSTONE INSURANCE PLC	9,279.59	0.63	8.62	6	399,645
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	909.99	0.20	-	0	0
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	1,228.00	0.20	-	1	100
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSURANCE PLC	487.95	0.38	-	0	0
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	1,904.09	0.26	-3.70	27	15,366,011
LAW UNION AND ROCK INS. PLC	2,191.13	0.51	-	0	0
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	3,840.00	0.48	-	1	38,300
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSURANCE PLC	2,234.55	0.20	-	3	1,100,000
NEM INSURANCE PLC	12,776.82	2.42	-	12	179,598
NIGER INSURANCE PLC	1,547.90	0.20	-	1	88,231
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	2,960.40	0.55	-	0	0
REGENCY ASSURANCE PLC	1,333.75	0.20	-	0	0
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSURANCE PLC	2,272.89	0.20	-	5	164,036
STACO INSURANCE PLC	4,483.72	0.48	-	0	0
STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	2,582.21	0.20	-	0	0
SUNU ASSURANCES NIGERIA PLC	2,800.00	0.20	-	3	50,000
UNIC DIVERSIFIED HOLDINGS PLC	516.46	0.20	-	0	0
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE PLC	3,200.00	0.20	-	1	100
VERITAS KAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	2,773.33	0.20	-	0	0
WAPIC INSURANCE PLC	4,683.96	0.35	-2.78	14	482,556
MICRO-FINANCE BANKS					
NPF MICROFINANCE BANK PLC	2,629.63	1.15	-	2	5,960
ABBKEY MORTGAGE BANK PLC	4,200.00	1.00	-	1	2,500
ASO SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	7,370.87	0.50	-	0	0
INFINITY TRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	5,796.93	1.39	-	0	0
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	2,265.95	0.20	-	0	0
UNION HOMES SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	2,949.22	3.02	-	0	0
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
AFRICA PRUDENTIAL PLC	9,200.00	4.60	2.22	45	763,430
CUSTODIAN INVESTMENT PLC	34,997.09	5.95	-0.83	6	262,073
DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	540.00	0.36	-	0	0
FCMB GROUP PLC	41,189.64	2.08	-0.48	195	23,710,407
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	1,697.97	0.33	-	1	6,251
STANBIC IBTC HOLDINGS PLC	420,198.69	40.00	-	12	286,461
UNITED CAPITAL PLC	15,000.00	2.50	-0.79	98	10,656,273
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS					
EKOICORP PLC	2,119.05	4.25	-	0	0
UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERVICES PLC	710.63	0.20	-	4	177,000
MEDICAL SUPPLIES					
MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC	494.58	0.50	-	0	0
PHARMACEUTICALS					
EVANS MEDICAL PLC	366.17	0.50	-	0	0
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	5,841.81	2.80	9.80	29	1,046,465
GLAXO SMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC	6,338.15	5.30	0.95	37	1,204,353
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	3,450.47	2.00	-	0	49,345
NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICALS PLC	1,063.53	0.56	-	8	300,584
NIGERIA-GERMAN CHEMICALS PLC	556.71	3.62	-	0	0
PHARMA-DEKO PLC	325.23	1.50	-	0	0
COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS					
COURTEVILLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PLC	852.48	0.24	-7.69	3	262,913

COMMODITIES PRICE	COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS					
\$71.76	OMATER VENTURES PLC	1,323.81	0.45	-	3	400
	CWG PLC	6,413.06	2.54	-	0	0
	NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	437.40	4.05	-10.00	1	100,000
	TRIPLE GEE AND COMPANY PLC	316.77	0.64	-	0	0
	IT SERVICES					
\$2.61	CHAMS PLC	1,596.66	0.34	-2.86	8	786,989
	E-TRANZACT INTERNATIONAL PLC	10,962.00	2.61	-	0	0
	TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES					
	AIRTEL AFRICA PLC	1,123,311.48	298.90	-	2	4,738
	BUILDING MATERIALS					
\$2.81	BERGER PAINTS PLC	1,956.31	6.75	-	6	11,754
	CAP PLC	16,765.00	23.95	-	25	141,394
	CEMENT CO. OF NORTH NIG. PLC	237,897.37	18.10	-	0	0
	MEYER PLC	286.87	0.54	-	0	0
	PORTLAND PAINTS & PRODUCTS NIGERIA PLC	1,769.32	2.23	-	0	0
PREMIER PAINTS PLC	1,156.20	9.40	-	0	0	
ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS						
\$1,284.1	AUSTIN LAZ & COMPANY PLC	2,256.91	2.09	-	0	0
	CUTIX PLC	2,518.69	1.43	7.52	20	812,551
	PACKAGING/CONTAINERS					
	BETA GLASS PLC	26,898.49	53.80	-	6	57,860
	GREIF NIGERIA PLC	388.02	9.10	-	0	0
AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS						
\$14.650	NOTORE CHEMICAL IND. PLC	100,754.14	62.50	-	1	30
	B.O.C. GASES PLC	2,289.35	5.50	-	4	3,470
	NATURAL RESOURCES					
	ALUMINIUM EXTRUSION IND. PLC	1,781.64	8.10	-	0	0
	MULTIVERSE MINING AND EXPLORATION PLC	852.39	0.20	-	0	0
THOMAS WHYATT NIG. PLC	83.60	0.38	-	4	2,500,000	
OIL AND GAS						
\$12.21	JAPPAUL OIL & MARITIME SERVICES PLC	1,315.17	0.21	-	6	210,073
	DANDO PLC	47,860.94	3.85	0.26	83	2,792,485
	PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTORS					
	11 PLC	53,332.04	147.90	-	10	16,896
	CONDIL PLC	13,185.09	19.00	-	21	27,256
\$2,314	ETERNA PLC	4,694.92	3.60	-	2	10,266
	FORTE OIL PLC	22,011.93	16.90	-6.11	16	202,388
	MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC	4,663.23	15.30	-	8	14,334
	TOTAL NIGERIA PLC	37,652.97	110.90	-	12	15,913
	ADVERTISING					
\$114.000	AFROMEDIA PLC	1,509.28	0.34	-	0	0
	AIRLINES					
	MEDVIEW AIRLINE PLC	15,796.05	1.62	-	0	0
	AUTOMOBILE/AUTO PART RETAILERS					
	R T BRISCOE PLC	235.27	0.20	-	0	0
COURIER/FREIGHT/DELIVERY						
\$75.46	RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	2,623.26	4.45	-	3	5,100
	TRANS-NATIONWIDE EXPRESS PLC	431.34	0.92	-	0	0
	HOSPITALITY					
	TANTALIZERS PLC	642.33	0.20	-	0	0
	HOTELS/LODGING					
\$12.21	CAPITAL HOTEL PLC	4,259.15	2.75	-	0	0
	IKEMIA HOTEL PLC	2,328.25	1.12	-	3	6,600
	TOURIST COMPANY OF NIGERIA PLC	7,862.53	3.50	-	1	500
	TRANSORP HOTELS PLC	37,241.98	4.90	-	0	0
	MEDIA/ENTERTAINMENT					
\$2,314	DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC	4,320.00	0.36	-	0	0
	PRINTING/PUBLISHING					
	ACADEMY PRESS PLC	223.78	0.37	-	0	0
	LEARN AFRICA PLC	871.74	1.13	-	1	1,200
	STUDIO PRESS (NIG) PLC	1,183.82	1.99	-	3	15,750
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC	565.15	1.31	0.77	7	836,301	
ROAD TRANSPORTATION						
\$12.21	ASSOCIATED BUS COMPANY PLC	745.97	0.45	-	1	16,000
	INTERLINKED TECHNOLOGIES PLC	688.80	2.91	-	0	0
	TRANSPORT-RELATED SERVICES					
	GLOBAL SPECTRUM ENERGY SERVICES PLC	3,720.00	4.65	-	0	0
	NIGERIAN AVIATION HANDLING COMPANY PLC	4,060.55	2.50	4.17	43	3,071,458
SKYWAY AVIATION HANDLING COMPANY PLC	5,617.36	4.15	-0.95	3	7,995,701	
SUPPORT AND LOGISTICS						
\$2,314	C & I LEASING PLC	2,486.15	6.15	-	2	20,624
	CAVERTON OFFSHORE SUPPORT GRP PLC	8,945.86	2.67	0.75	18	645,473
	DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES					
	CHELLEBARMS PLC	2,009.73	2.78	-	0	0
	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT					
\$12.21	SMART PRODUCTS NIGERIA PLC	13.05	0.29	-	0	0
	FOOD PRODUCTS					
	MUNICHOLS PLC	150.28	0.46	-	2	55,905
	MORTGAGE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES					
	OMOLUABI MORTGAGE BANK PLC	2,750.00	0.55	-	0	0
PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTORS						
\$12.21	ANNO INTERNATIONAL PLC	6.05	0.25	-	0	0
	CAPITAL OIL PLC	1,171.51	0.20	-	0	0
	RAK UNITY PET. COMP. PLC	16.99	0.30	-	0	0
	FOOD/DRUG RETAILERS AND WHOLESALERS					
	JULI PLC	301.86	1.51	-		



AROUND THE WORLD

CAMEROON

Nigeria-Cameroon border grenade blast kills nine

A grenade that a child picked up from a bin on the Nigeria-Cameroon border has exploded, killing him and eight others.

Twenty-six people were also wounded in the blast on the Nigerian side of the border, a Cameroonian official said.

The child, believed to be under 10, mistook the grenade for scrap metal which he intended to sell, witnesses said.

It is unclear who left the grenade in the bin, but the area has been hit by an Islamist insurgency.

Boko Haram and its splinter faction, the Islamic State West Africa Province, operate in the region.

The governor of Cameroon's Far North Region, Midjinyawa Bakary, told the BBC that the grenade exploded late on Monday on a busy bridge linking the Nigerian town of Gamborou to the Cameroonian town of Fotokol.

All the dead were Nigerians, while the wounded included nationals from both countries, he said.

SYRIA

Putin meets Assad in rare visit amid US-Iran tensions

Russian President Vladimir Putin has met his Syrian counterpart Bashar al-Assad during a rare visit to the Syrian capital as the prospect of war between Iran and the United States loomed over the region.

Tuesday's visit was Putin's first to Damascus and second to Syria, a key Iran ally, since the start of the nearly nine-year war that Russian troops joined in 2015 to support the Syrian government.

The two leaders listened to a military presentation by the commander of Russian forces in Syria, the Syrian presidency said in a statement along with

a picture of the two leaders shaking hands.

Putin extended his greetings to Russian forces for Orthodox Christmas which is celebrated on January 7. He also said enormous progress had been made in the Syrian conflict, Russian news agencies reported. "In his conversation with Assad, Putin noted that we can now say with confidence that a huge distance has been travelled towards restoring Syrian statehood and the country's territorial integrity," the agencies quoted Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov as saying.

VENEZUELA

Guaidó forces his way into assembly after stand-off

There have been chaotic scenes at Venezuela's National Assembly, with opposition leader Juan Guaidó gaining access to the legislative building after a tense stand-off with police.

National Guards in riot gear had formed a cordon around the building, but Mr Guaidó and another 100 opposition lawmakers broke through it.

The move comes two days after Mr Guaidó was prevented from attending a vote to re-elect him as Speaker.

He called it a "parliamentary coup".

On Tuesday Mr Guaidó arrived at the National Assembly building in a convoy of cars and busses carrying 100 lawmakers who back his re-election as Speaker.

They were let through a number of checkpoints but not through the cordon of riot police surrounding the building. A tense stand-off ensued.

About 30 minutes, amid shouts of "this is not a military barracks" and "the people rule, not the military", Mr Guaidó and his supporters pushed their way past the guards.

AUSTRALIA

Fires: Almost 2,000 homes destroyed in marathon crisis

Almost 2,000 houses have been destroyed in Australia's months-long bushfire crisis, officials say, as crews prepare frantically for worsening conditions.

After ferocious conditions last week, firefighters are using milder weather to boost containment lines around fires engulfing south-eastern Australia. Temperatures are likely to soar again on Friday, prompting fears that two fires could form a new "mega blaze".

At least 25 people and millions of animals have died since September.

Australia is fighting an unprecedented bushfire season, fuelled by record temperatures and widespread drought.

On Tuesday, New South Wales (NSW) officials said fires there had claimed 1,588 homes and damaged 653 more.

About 200 homes have been destroyed in neighbouring Victoria, adding to more than 100 lost in other states.

The Insurance Council of Australia estimated the damage bill had reached A\$700m (£370m; \$485m), but said it expected the cost to rise significantly.

IRAN

Stampede kills 50 at Soleimani burial

Fifty people have been killed and more than 200 injured in a stampede as Iranians gathered for the burial of a leading commander killed in a US drone strike.

The deaths in Qasem Soleimani's hometown of Kerman led to the ceremony being delayed.

The burial is the last in a

series of funeral events that have brought millions on to the streets in Iran.

The crush in the south-eastern Iranian city happened at the start of a funeral procession that had drawn vast numbers of people on Tuesday morning, ahead of the planned burial.

Eyewitnesses said the streets

were not wide enough to hold the number of people and, with other roads closed off, there was nowhere to escape to.

A coroner quoted on Iran's Isna news agency put the death toll at 50, with those injured numbering more than 200.

Video online showed people on the ground, their faces covered by clothing.



Iranian mourners gather around a vehicle carrying the coffin of slain top general Qasem Soleimani during the final stage of funeral processions, in his hometown Kerman in Iran yesterday. Soleimani was killed outside Baghdad airport Friday in a drone strike ordered by US President Trump, ratcheting up tensions with arch-enemy Iran which has vowed "severe revenge" Photo: Atta Kenare/ AFP

LESOTHO

Police chief links PM to wife's murder

Lesotho's police commissioner has accused Prime Minister Thomas Thabane of involvement in the murder of his estranged wife two years ago.

Lipolelo Thabane was shot dead while travelling home with a friend, two days before the inauguration of her husband.

Police chief Holomo Molibeli made the allegation in court documents challenging the prime minister's attempts to

remove him from office.

Amongst the court papers, seen by the AFP news agency, is a copy of a letter, dated 23 December 2019, that the police chief wrote to Mr Thabane saying: "The investigations reveal that there was a telephonic communication at the scene of the crime in question... with another cell phone. The cell phone number belongs to you." Mr Molibeli confirmed to South Africa's

Eyewitness News website the authenticity of the quoted letter. The prime minister's spokesman, Relebohile Moyeye, told AFP that Mr Thabane had not received the letter so could not comment on it.

During his inauguration speech, Mr Thabane described his wife's murder as a "senseless killing". The couple had been living separately since 2012 and were going through a prolonged divorce.

TOGO

President to seek another term

The governing party in Togo has chosen incumbent President Faure Gnassingbé as its candidate for elections next month making it likely that his family's decades-long rule will be extended.

He was voted into power in

a disputed election in 2005 - taking over from his late father Gnassingbé Eyadéma, who had been president for 38 years.

In recent years there has been growing anger over the family's complete domination of the political scene.

Eighteen months of mass protests hurt the economy and led to negotiations with the opposition in 2018.

However the government has failed to fulfil an agreement to re-introduce presidential term limits.

INDIA

Delhi bus rape: Indian court issues death warrants

An Indian court has set an execution date for four men convicted of the 2012 gang-rape and murder of a student in the capital, Delhi. Akshay Thakur, Vinay Sharma, Pawan Gupta and Mukesh Singh were sentenced to death by a fast-track court in 2013. Their 23-year-old victim died from her injuries 13 days after she was raped and assaulted on a moving bus. Lawyers for the men, who are due to be hanged on 22 January, plan to launch last-ditch legal challenges.

The men cannot be executed until the Supreme Court rejects their final challenge, and the Indian president also rejects their mercy petitions. They are yet to file either.

JAPAN

Prosecutors issue arrest warrant for Carlos Ghosn's wife

Tokyo prosecutors have issued an arrest warrant for the wife of fugitive ex-Nissan boss Carlos Ghosn.

Carole Ghosn is suspected of making false statements to a Tokyo court in April, investigators said.

Mr Ghosn skipped bail in December, joining his wife in Beirut.

A spokeswoman for the Ghosn family said the arrest warrant for Mrs Ghosn was "pathetic", and was linked to a news conference due to be given by Mr Ghosn on Wednesday.

Japan is seeking Mr Ghosn's extradition from Lebanon, although the country does not have a treaty with Japan.

PUERTO RICO

Country hit by 6.4-magnitude earthquake

Puerto Rico has been hit by a 6.4-magnitude earthquake, resulting in at least one death and causing island-wide power cuts, officials say. This most recent quake, which began early on Tuesday morning, was the strongest in a series of quakes that have damaged Puerto Rico this week. Authorities say the island's power plants suffered some damage and power was shut off as a protective measure. The US National Tsunami Warning Center said there is no tsunami threat. The initial earthquake struck at 04:24 local time, just south of the Caribbean island at a depth of 6 miles (10km), according to the US Geological Survey (USGS).



INSIDE POLITICS

PoliQuote

"My advice is that the lawmakers (in the National Assembly) should not look at issues from partisan point of view, rather from patriotism and national interest point of view. The nation is greater than anybody. So, we should strive to make laws for Nigeria not for ANPP, APC or for PDP or any other group" - **Sen. Bukar Abba Ibrahim**

Sacked LG chairmen: PDP asks Masari to implement Supreme Court judgement

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Restless politicians talking about 2023 – Tinubu



■ Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu

By Muideen Olaniyi

The National Leader of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC), Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, says only restless politicians will be talking about zoning and fresh ambitions in 2023 shortly after the 2019 general elections.

Tinubu, who said this yesterday at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, after closed-door meeting with President Buhari, is believed to be nursing presidential ambition in 2023.

The former governor of Lagos State, who was asked to comment on zoning in the ruling APC ahead of 2023 general elections, said, "That time is not now. We have just finished one election and Mr President is busy sorting out the Budget, working for the people of this country. Of course, restlessness of politics is going to be there, but any lover of this country will not talk about the succession plan yet. That's the truth. Concentrate on

working for the country; help the President to help the country, there's nothing more than that.

"We cannot use 365 days in a year and 360° to work on politics, it's not possible. Anybody talking about that now is just completely restless and not focused on the agenda of nation building and development of our country."

Tinubu, who said President Buhari is a man of character and courage who will never accept the offer of a third term in office, added that no reasonable politician who had worked with him would contemplate such idea.

"Any reasonable politician, who had worked with President Buhari will know that he will not tamper with the Constitution. Detractors are always suspicious and will make accusations, but I was in the trench, in the struggle for democracy.

"I was in the trench and in the opposition with Muhammadu Buhari, till the Third Term agenda of a former leader of this country

failed. I know he will never. He has the courage and the character to refuse such a temptation even if offered to him. I believe in him and I believe Nigerians should also believe in him.

"He doesn't need to say it to me, I'll argue it in the corner and everywhere they bring such a thing up. However, it's very good to hear it from him. I say congratulations to a man of character and integrity. The challenge of turning the ship of this nation around is a continuum and a continuous effort and that is what we should get ourselves concerned with.

"Yes, politics is intoxicating, it's flamboyant, it's interesting, but we cannot continue in perpetuity one after the other, we have to relax, show concern for the people of the country and see to the efforts of the President that will manifest in the new, united and prosperous country. We are still not there," he said when asked to comment on Mr President's plan to quit in 2023.

Buhari to INEC, police: Let Nigerians elect their choice

By Muideen Olaniyi

President Muhammadu Buhari has expressed his determination to give Nigeria an electoral system that meets with best practices anywhere in the world.

President Buhari spoke yesterday at State House, Abuja, while meeting with Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Professor Mahmood Yakubu, other top officials of the electoral body, and the Inspector General of Police, Mohammed Adamu.

The president said with a minimum of 28 rerun and by-elections this January alone, the commission should ensure that the game was played by the rules, without fear or favour.

He charged the electoral umpire to stick to the rules of fair play and adherence to justice in line with resolve to engender a free, fair and credible electoral process.

"Those that you declare as winners must be the candidates that the people have chosen. Democracy is about free will, and the will of the people must be allowed to

prevail. Get your acts right, and leave no room for underhand tricks or manipulation," he said in a statement issued by his media aide, Femi Adesina.

President Buhari said he expected nothing than a scrupulous securing of the electoral process, without bias or favouritism from the Nigerian Police Force.

"Our elections must be done in violence-free atmosphere. The process must be free, fair, decent, devoid of intimidation or malpractices. It is the duty of the police to accomplish that, and it is what I expect in the elections immediately ahead, and going forward," he said.

Both INEC and the police promised a fidelity to the rules and regulations, stating that they know President Buhari as someone passionately committed to fair play.

The INEC Chairman, who said they met President Buhari because of the coming re-run elections, expressed the commission's readiness.

Prof. Yakubu said the president reiterated his commitment to not only ensuring that the processes were free and fair but

also providing a secured environment.

While speaking, the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Mohammed Adamu, who also attended the meeting, promised that the force would provide the needed security during the coming re-run polls and the subsequent governorship elections in Edo and Ondo States.

Adamu said the security strategy put in place in the previous elections would be reviewed so as to have an election that would be devoid of violence and ballot snatching.

He said those planning to perpetrate violence would be used as scapegoats.

"This is the message that we are sending to Nigerians and this is the beginning of the process to make sure that this country from now onwards gets elections that is exemplary to the rest of the world.

"The security agencies have also assured that they will continue to secure the environment to ensure that we conduct a free and credible election," he said.

Court restrains suspended LG chairmen, councilors from taking over LGs

From Jude Aguguo Owuamanam, Owerri

An Owerri High Court yesterday restrained suspended local government chairmen and their councillors from invading local government headquarters with the intention of taking over the administration of the councils pending the hearing of the substantive suit.

The embattled chairmen, all members of the All Progressives Congress (APC), were elected on August 25, 2018 in an election conducted by the immediate past administration of Rochas Okorocha.

They were, however, suspended by the Emeka Ihedioha-led Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) led-government shortly on assumption of office.

On Monday, the suspended chairmen caused mayhem while attempting to take over the administration of the local councils. They said that they were acting on the strength of a Supreme Court judgment in the case between

local government chairmen in Ekiti state and the state government wherein the court ruled that governors lacked the powers to sack elected local government chairmen.

But they were resisted by members of the interim management committees appointed by Ihedioha, leading violent protest, destruction and loss of lives.

However, while ruling on an ex parte motion filed by the State Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Ndukwe Nnawuchi, on January 6, Justice Eze Ohiri Njemanj, gave an interim order restraining the suspended chairmen either by themselves, agents or privies from doing anything or taking any action that could disturb the administration of local government areas pending the determination of the suit filed by the chairmen against their suspension.

He asked them to maintain the status quo ante from June 17, 2019 when they were suspended.

The judge, therefore, fixed January 28 for the hearing of the substantive suit.

NEWS >>

Sacked LG chairmen: PDP asks Masari to implement Supreme Court judgement

From Habibu Umar Aminu, Katsina

The PDP in Katsina State says it is eagerly waiting for the state government to commence the implementation of the Supreme Court judgement on local government administration.

The state party chairman, Salisu Majigiri, while speaking at the end of close-door meeting with suspended council chairmen, vice chairmen and councillors over the Supreme Court

judgement, said the PDP was set to take over the 34 councils in the state.

Majigiri said the APC administration has no other option but to implement the ruling giving the fact that it was delivered in good faith by the Apex court.

According to him, it is the same court that upheld the governor's election which the PDP accepted in good faith. This ruling should be accepted and obeyed.

He said the APC administration

in the state should just direct former chairmen to return to their positions, adding that "we are optimistic being the state of Mr President. The ruling should be accepted to show example that it is a government of rule of law.

"We don't want what happened in other states like Imo when past chairmen stormed secretariat to take over. We want due process to be followed and things to be done accordingly," he said.



■ President Muhammadu Buhari (right) in a handshake with INEC's Chairman, Prof Mahmood Yakubu, who led a team of INEC national commissioners for a meeting at the State House in Abuja yesterday

Photo: State House

We'll engage N/Assembly on Diaspora voting – Abike Dabiri-Erewa

By Muideen Olaniyi

Abike Dabiri-Erewa, Chairman/CEO, Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NIDCOM), says the commission will be engaging the National Assembly in order to look into possibility of amending the relevant laws to enable people in the Diaspora to vote in the country.

Dabiri-Erewa, who fielded questions from State House Correspondents after a meeting with President Muhammadu Buhari, promised to ensure the issues concerning the people in the Diaspora were put on the front burner this

year.

"Nigerians in the Diaspora believe they should be able to vote. And by remitting so much to the country, contributing so much to the economy, we believe they should be able to vote. So, we hope we can work with the parliament to amend the relevant laws to make it possible for people in the Diaspora to vote," she added.

Dabiri-Erewa, who said her engagement was used to brief Mr President on the activities of the commission that was set up in May 2019, added that the Federal Executive Council (FEC) is expected to consider and

ratify Diaspora Policy this year having submitted the document last year.

She said with the ratification of Diaspora Policy, the commission would proceed with its engagements, adding that President Buhari had instructed them to look after the welfare of Nigerians wherever they are across the globe.

"So, the Commission will always engage with Nigerians wherever they are and follow the President's instruction to ensure that we do not take anyone for granted or neglect anyone.

"We are looking at our engagements in the new

year. I was able to brief on short term, medium term and long term goals of the Diaspora Commission," she also said.

She said the commission had been able to hit the ground running because of the staff, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr President, adding that the commission was poised to handle its "tough and challenging" task.

Dabiri-Erewa said in 2019, the commission was able to deal with the issues of xenophobic attacks in South Africa and the case of two young Nigerians stranded in Croatia who returned to the country safely.

Rep lauds FG on youth, women empowerment

By Zahradeen Yakubu Shuaibu

A member representing Otukpo-Ohimini federal constituency at the House of Representatives, Lady Blessing Onuh, has lauded the federal government for its empowerment projects initiatives.

The Vice Chairman of the House Committee on FCT, in a statement, said the projects had impacted positively on the lives of those in her constituency.

Lady Onuh also tasked the federal government to address the infrastructural challenges in Benue south senatorial district, particularly in

Otukpo-Ohimini.

The APGA Lawmaker, who is also the daughter of two-time Senate President, David Mark, gave a breakdown of some federal government's projects and programmes in her constituency.

According to her, the federal government through the NDLEA in conjunction with her office holds an advocacy and youth sensitization on drugs and narcotics in five villages of Otukpo.

Lady Onuh said under the NDE empowerment programme in Agadagba in Ohimini Local Government Area, over 350 sewing machines were distributed

to individuals for self-reliance.

She added that 350 villagers in Ojakpama village in Adoka also benefited.

She disclosed that her office in partnership with the National Productivity Centre also held an empowerment programme in Akpachi in Otukpo during which 250 motorcycles were distributed to the villagers for commercial purposes.

Lady Onuh, who was a two-time secretary for Social Development in the FCT, said with the empowerment many in her constituency are now receiving the dividends of democracy.

Zamfara APC chieftain denies defecting to PDP

From Shehu Umar, Gusau

A chieftain of the APC in Zamfara State and former commissioner for Higher Education, Professor Kabir Jabaka says he and his other political allies have not defected to the PDP contrary to the insinuation in some quarters.

Prof Jabaka said his statements were only meant to declare support for Governor Bello Matawalle in view of his exemplary leadership regardless of party affiliation.

He said they were supporting Governor Bello Matawalle's administration based on his ability to restore peace and turn things around in the state.

Edo lawmaker denies dumping PDP for APC

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

The member representing Oredo Federal Constituency in the House of Representatives, Ogbeide Ihama, has denied dumping the PDP for the ruling APC in Edo State.

The social media has been awash in the state with his alleged plan to dump the PDP for the APC over alleged plan of Governor Godwin Obaseki plans to join the PDP if pushed out of the APC.

Ihama spoke in Benin yesterday while fielding questions from journalists during a yearly stakeholders' meeting.

According to him, there is one PDP in the state and that he is an authentic member of the Edo State PDP serving as a House of Representatives member on the party platform.

He said the party did not envisage any political crisis during the forthcoming party's congress in the state.

Imo APC plans for Jan 25 rerun polls

From Jude Aguguo Owuamanam, Owerri

Leaders and chieftains of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Imo State are meeting ahead of the January 25 re-run for Isiala Mbano/Onuimo/Okigwe North federal constituency and vacant position created by the death of the senator representing Okigwe north senatorial zone.

The two offices became vacant, following the nullification of the election of Representative Obinna Onwubariri of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the demise of Senator Ben Uwajumogu of the APC.

In one of such meetings, the Chief Executive of New Partnership for African's Development (NEPAD), Princess Gloria Akobundu, said that the move was in line with President Muhammadu Buhari's directive to all APC leaders to begin the process of rebuilding the party from grassroots in their various localities.

Princess Akobundu urged Imo APC leaders to shun rancor and work together to rebuild the party.

She said the party's future rested on the ability of leaders to brace up for challenges and fight for a common goal without witch-hunting one another.



THE ORGANIZED LABOUR



IMO STATE

No 13 EDEDE STREET OWERRI, IMO STATE
Telegraphic Address "LEBOGRESS" IMO

Our Ref......

Your Ref......

Date.....

5th January, 2020.

REV. FR. EJIKE MBAKA AND HIS FALSE PROPHECIES: NEED TO CALL HIM TO ORDER

The entire workers of Imo State comprising those in the public and private sectors including all pensioners wish to react to Fr. Mbaka's numerous false prophecies that if not checked could cause disaffection in the state. It could be recalled that in the past, Fr. Mbaka publicly announced that a former Governor of the state flogged a Rev. Father. The same Mbaka after sometime went back to announce to the whole public that the former Governor never flogged the said priest. This was after he has made some of the Catholic faithfuls to hate this innocent Governor.

Father Mbaka has come up again with another false prophecy in the state which God has rejected and will never come to pass.

Imo workers and pensioners wish to remind Fr. Mbaka that workers and pensioners earn full salaries and pensions in Imo not only this, they earn it at the same time as that of

December 2019 was paid on the 15th of December. Imo workers secretariat now has light and there is due process in the Imo State public service system. Local Government system in Imo State now enjoys Autonomy while negotiations on the N30,000 minimum wage is ongoing between Labour and Government among others.

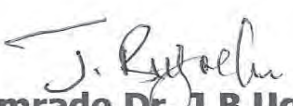
Imo workers are reminding Father Mbaka to concentrate on his work as a catholic priest and leave politics alone and not to commercialize his activities as every priest swore during his ordination to be poor. Imo workers and pensioners are happy with the government of Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha and therefore reject to its entirety his so called prophecies as God will put him and his cohorts to shame. Imo workers and pensioners will resist any attempt by anybody or group of persons who will try to trunket the prompt payment of salaries and pensions which workers and pensioners are enjoying now.

Signed:


1. Comrade Austin Chilakpu
Chairman NLC Imo State


2. Comrade Nkim Tangban
Chairman TUC Imo State


3. Comrade Aloy Iwuanyanwu
Chairman J.N.C Imo State


4. Comrade Dr. J.B Ugochukwu
Chairman NUP Imo State

For and on behalf of the workers and pensioners of Imo State.

IMO STATE LEADERS OF THOUGHT COMMUNIQUE

On Monday 16th December, 2019, HRM Eze Ohiri –Eze Imo convened a meeting the Leadership of Imo State comprising Religious Leaders, Christian Associations of Nigeria in order to once again reappraise the performance of His Excellency Emeka Ihedioha, the Governor of Imo State. After full and detailed deliberations, the Leaders of Imo State unanimously resolved as follows:

A. Eze Imo on behalf of Imo people should send a message of congratulation to His Excellency on his very excellent achievements especially in the following areas:

- 1. ANTI-CORRUPTION:** Imo State is today rated the least corrupt State in Nigeria. Of course, this is evident from the very open and transparent administration which Governor Ihedioha has put in place including the adoption of Treasury Single Account (TSA) for revenue collection.
2. Recent Credible Survey in the country has placed Imo among the three States in the country with least inflation. This no doubt is as a result of Governor Ihedioha's transformation activities in the areas of human capital development and food production etc etc.
- 3. ROADS:** A few months ago, virtually every road infrastructure in the State collapsed and business was brought to a standstill. Governor Ihedioha promised to change the situation. Today, a few days to Christmas, the situation has change, Governor Ihedioha has embarked on massive road reconstruction of which virtually the failed sections of roads have been remedied and people can travel without fear of losing their cars due to bad roads.
- 4. WATER SUPPLY:** The Ministry of Utilities and Water Corporation have shown positive effort in restoring Municipal water to the Urban Cities of Owerri, Orlu and Okigwe and also repairing some of the Rural Water supply that have been neglected and abandoned for decades.

5. EDUCATION: The SUBEB is addressing the poor infrastructural requirements in the schools. Also massive reconstruction works have been awarded in all Schools in the Local Government Areas in the States. SUBEB has also advertised for qualified teachers to restore Imo State to Number One (1) position in Education in Nigeria, which hitherto never happened in the recent past.

6. AGRICULTURE: Agriculture potentials of the State are enormous. These are potentials that are capable of generating foreign exchange for the State and increasing the GDP of the country. Governor Ihedioha from all indications is addressing seriously the issue of generating revenue from Rubber Plantation, Plantain, Cassava and maize plantations.

7. ENVIRONMENT: Environmental degradation is indeed a great danger. The Government of Imo State has set up ENTRACO which has been active in the disposal of domestic waste from many homes.

8. Finally, during the last meeting of Elders, the Elders requested all Imo people who went to Court to withdraw their cases and join Ihedioha in rebuilding Imo State. Some people went up to Supreme Court. The elders hereby once again appeal o them to withdraw their cases. For avoidance of doubt the Elders are convinced that the people voted their choice Emeka Ihedioha and his performance so far has convinced Imo people that they made a right choice. We therefore appeal to those who are still in Court to rethink and listen to the voice of the Elder's in the State.

Meanwhile, we congratulate Governor Emeka Ihedioha and all his commissioners and Staff. We also congratulate the Speaker and Members of the State House of Assembly on their achievements so far in the rebuild Imo Project. We wish everybody happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Signed:

S/N	NAME			
1	Chief (Engr.) Emmanuel Iwuanyanwu		15	Rt. Hon. Maxwell I. Duru
2	H.E Air Core (Chief) Dr. L.C. Ochuliri (Rtd)		16	Chief (Mrs.) E.U. Akuruka
3	Prof. F.C. Dike (SAN)		17	H.E Lady (Dr.) Ada Okwuonu
4	Chief (Barr) M.I Ogwuegbu		18	Chief (Barr.) P.C. Mgbenwelu Dum Dum
5	Rt. Hon. Stanford Onyirimba		19	Sir. Ambrose Ejiogu
6	Barr. Cyril I. Anyanwu		20	HRH Eze Samuel Ohiri
7	H.E. (Engr.) E. Udeagu		21	HRH (Barr.) C.J. Okwara
8	Chief Osita Nwaneri		22	HRH Geoffrey Ejimogu
9	Chief (Sir.) Ejike Uche		23	HRH Ceasar Duruegbusuo
10	H.E (Dr.) Douglas Acholonu		24	HRH Emmanuel Assor
11	Chief Analyn Nwaneri		25	HRH V.N.C. Ugbara
12	Eze Durulheoma SAN		26	CAN Chairman, Imo state
13	HRH George Ekeh		27	HRH Eze Goddy Okeke
14	Chief I.D. Nwoga		28	HRH Eze Emmanuel U.N. Assor
			29	Chief (Dr.) Chris Esiobu
			30	Chief Chime Nzeribe
			31	Chief John Agbasi
			32	Ichie (Hon.) Chima Ekwem
			33	Rev. (Dr.) Austin Uchegbu
			34	Apostle Bethel Onumajuru ETB, Jp
			35	Ven. Stephen Ozioma Nwaogazi
			36	Rev. Dr. Eches Divine Eches
			37	Bishop Titus Akarabu
			38	Ben Osuagwu (Sec Gen, Owerri People Assembly)
			39	Prof. Israel C. Ndukwe
			40	Prince Marshal Okaforanyanwu
			41	Prof. Jude Njoku

PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY, IMO STATE.

98 OKIGWE RD, OWERRI

January 7, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

The attention of People Democratic Party (PDP) Elders Committee Imo State has been drawn to a statement credited to Rev. Father Mbaka of Adoration Ministries Enugu on the litigation of the gubernatorial election in Imo State 2019. We were shocked to observe that Rev. Father Mbaka pronounced judgment at his Adoration ground in favour of APC candidate. This proclamation is very sadly, contempt of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

The Elders of PDP will therefore like to make the following statements:

1. The 2019 election was duly and diligently conducted by INEC. The people of Imo State who for so many reasons desperately wanted a change voted PDP into power.

2. INEC in honesty and transparency in pursuit of its duty as the electoral Arbiter declared Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha of PDP the Winner. Emeka Ihedioha scored the highest number of vote's and fulfilled all the other constitutional requirements. This decision was received with very loud ovation by Imo people who desperately needed to have a new beginning. Since then, Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha has assumed office and very noticeable transformation has taken place in all aspects of life of Imo people. The activities of His Excellency Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha has been appraised on regularly basis and endorsed by a Council of Elders comprising the following:

- i. The Traditional Rulers
- ii. The Christian Association of Nigeria
- iii. The Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria
- iv. Association of Religious Leaders including Christians and Muslims
- v. Political Leaders — PDP, APC and all other parties
- vi. Women Organizations and Youths
- vii. Town Union Presidents and Market Associations.

These leaders were impressed with the achievements of Emeka Ihedioha's Administration in the areas of road maintenance, water supply, security, restoration of 100% payment of salaries and pension to retirees, rural electrification, and ongoing reconstruction of over 30 major

road projects. They equally noted with satisfaction that groups outside Imo State have rated the government very high especially in:

- (a) Corruption: Imo State has been rated as the least corrupt State in Nigeria.
- (b) Inflation: Imo State has also been rated as the least with inflationary pressure.
- (c) The fastest growing economy in the country.

3. Some candidates who lost at the last election approached Governorship Election Petition Tribunal for redress and after due consideration of facts before it the Tribunal after due consideration, proclaimed Rt. Hon. Emeka Ihedioha the winner. Some of them who appealed the landmark judgment at the Court of Appeal were disappointed as the Appellate Court ratified the judgment of the lower Court. Three Candidates went to Supreme Court, one has lost and two are still in Court.

4. We of PDP believe in the Rule of Law and we believe that it is the legitimate right of every citizen to seek redress in the Court of Law at any level. We will not as citizens who believe in the rule of law prejudice the verdict of Supreme Court of Nigeria. We have absolute confidence in the Supreme Court to uphold justice. We will therefore not take the lawless part of declaring any party as the winner rather as law abiding citizens; we will abide by the verdict of Supreme Court of Nigeria.

5. We appeal to our millions of Imo people and supporters outside Imo State who worked very hard to effect the change in Imo State that brought Emeka Ihedioha to power to be calm and wait on the God Almighty and the verdict of the Supreme Court. We must however congratulate the President of Nigeria Gen. Muhammadu Buhari for maintaining absolute neutrality and resisting the temptation to succumb to the pressure of some politicians to use his position to influence the result of the election. We of the PDP were not in power at both the State and National level. We therefore did not have the resources both materials and otherwise to rig election against a party that was in power at both State and Federal level. The truth is that God Almighty has been our hope and our strength.

Signed:

CHIEF(DR.) E.C. IWUANYANWU, CFR, OFR,MFR,FNICE,FNSE,FNIST,KSC
Chairman

CHIEF PETER MGBENWELU
Secretary

ORLU ZONE

H.E CHIEF ACHIKE UDENWA
Former Governor, Imo State

H.E DR. DOUGLAS ACHOLONU
Former Deputy Governor, Imo State

OWERRI ZONE:

H.E COMMODORE LUKE OCHULOR
Former Military Governor of Delta State

H.E AMB. (DR.) MRS. KEMA CHIKWE
Former Ambassador and Member, Board of Trustees PDP

OKIGWE ZONE:

H.E (ENGR.) EBERE UDEAGU
Former Deputy Governor, Imo State

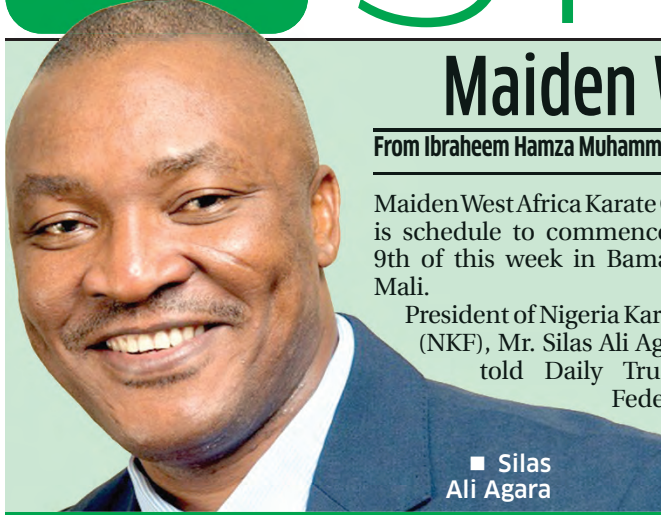
ENGR. CHARLES UGWU
Former, Honorable Minister of Commerce and Industry



SPORT

Oshoala crowned African Women's Player of the Year

→ P. 47



Maiden West Africa Karate c'ship commence in Mali

From Ibraheem Hamza Muhammad, Lafia

Maiden West Africa Karate Championship is scheduled to commence on Thursday 9th of this week in Bamako, Capital of Mali.

President of Nigeria Karate Federation, (NKF), Mr. Silas Ali Agara exclusively told Daily Trust that, "The Federation of African Karate (UFAK) has

programmed a regional championship, Nigeria falls under the West African region.

According to him, Nigerian Karate Federation, (NKF) has a contingent of 28 people including twenty athletes and eight officials comprising of coaches and officials.

The President who is the immediate pass deputy governor of Nasarawa State said, "We are hopeful of making the country proud with a contingent comprising of cadets, juniors and senior

categories".

He called on the contingent to be good sporting ambassadors of Nigeria while abroad and to avoid any act that is inimical to the laws of Mali and that rules governing Karate sportsmen and women.

Mr. Silas Ali Agara said that participating in championships is good for the growth of any sports especially Karate which is a developing sport in Nigeria and beyond.

He said that potential winners would always be considered for future international competitions.

By Olusola 'Jide @jide_olusola

Rangers International FC has sent eight first team players to the 'B' team of the club following strings of unimpressive results while searching for quality replacements to effectively challenge for honors in the remaining part of the season.

In a statement from the club, the decision was made after an emergency meeting was held in Enugu on Monday stressing that it was part of the 'Performance Based' agreement signed by both parties.

In the same vein, all attackers in the team have been placed on forty percent less of their monthly salary until they improve on their scoring ability.

Speaking, the G.M of the side, Prince Davidson Owumi, stated that the situation in the team currently led to the measure so as to bring out the best from the players stressing, "I must say that this measure of sending some of you to the 'B' team is for you to catch up with the form we saw in you and engaged you in the first place. We need to start winning games and move out from where we currently occupy to where we rightly belong."

Recall that the seven-time Nigeria league champions started the season on a slow pace that has seen it win one league game, drawn three and lost five of the nine matches played in the NPFL 2019/2020 season to be placed on the rear of the twenty teams log.

Enugu Rangers demotes eight players to 'B' team ...places strikers on 60% salary package



■ NPFL league action between Enugu Rangers and Heartland FC last Sunday. Rangers lost 2-1

A highly charged Rangers will mid-week trade tackles with neighbors, FC

Ifeanyiubah in a match day 13, NPFL 2019/2020 fixture inside the main bowl of Nnamdi

Azikiwe stadium, Enugu, with victory the sole target for the coach Salisu Yusuf wards

after painfully losing 2-1 to Heartland FC of Owerri in Okigwe at the weekend.

Liverpool Sign lucrative multi-year kit deal with Nike

Liverpool on Tuesday announced they had struck a huge new kit deal with Nike to replace New Balance from the 2020-21 season, underlining the Premier League club's growing strength on and off the pitch.

The US sportswear giant will supply playing, training and travel wear for

Liverpool's men's, women's and academy teams and the coaching and Liverpool FC Foundation staff from June 1.

The club did not give a figure for the "multi-year partnership" but The Athletic reported in October that it would earn Liverpool up to £70 million (\$92 million, 82.2 million euros) a year.

It was made possible after the European champions and runaway Premier League leaders won a court battle with New Balance in October.

"Our iconic kit is a key part of our history and identity," said Liverpool managing director and chief commercial officer Billy Hogan.

"We welcome Nike into the LFC family as our new official kit supplier and expect them to be an incredible partner for the club, both at home and globally as we continue to expand our fanbase."

Bert Hoyt, vice-president and general manager of Nike Europe, Middle East and Africa, said: "Liverpool

Football Club has such a proud heritage and strong identity.

"The partnership with Liverpool FC underscores our leadership in global football and with the club's passionate worldwide fanbase and strong legacy of success - they have a very bright future ahead."



Oshoala crowned African Women's Player of the Year

...Mane named Africa Men's best player
...Osimhen, Chukwueze lose out

By Olusola 'Jide @jjide_olusola

Super Falcons forward, Asisat Oshoala has been crowned the 2019 African Women's Player of the Year ahead of Ajara Nchout from Cameroon and South Africa's Thembi Kgatlang, who was crowned in Dakar,

Senegal 12 months ago.

The Nigerian superstar had been crowned winner in 2014, 2016 and 2017 and has now equaled the record of her mentor and compatriot Perpetua Nkwocha who had been decorated four times - 2004, 2005, 2010, and 2011 at the annual awards ceremony staged

in Hurghada on Tuesday.

Since 2014, Oshoala has always made it to the top three in the running for the Women's Player of the Year award and her ability in 2019 has seen her win the award for the fourth time.

In the same vein, Senegalese forward Sadio Mane was named the 2019 CAF African Player of the Year beating Liverpool's teammate Mohammed Salah and Manchester City's Riyad Mahrez.

Mane has been a finalist in the previous three editions of the CAF Player of the Year, but in all those instances, he never went back home with the coveted piece of silverware.

Mane was Senegal's main man at the 2019 AFCON where he netted three goals on the Teranga Lions' path to the final where they lost by a solitary goal to Algeria. He netted a brace in the 3-0 group phase victory over Kenya and added one more in the round of 16 1-0 win over Uganda.

Meanwhile, Super Eagles duo, Samuel Chukwueze and Victor Osimhen failed to win the African Youth Player of the Year, losing to Morocco and Dortmund star Achraf Hakimi.

The 21-year-old has been in scintillating form for the Signal Iduna Park outfit since teaming up with the side and last season he played a significant role as BVB finished as runners-up in the Bundesliga.

Paul Pogba undergoes ankle surgery

Paul Pogba underwent surgery on his ankle injury on Tuesday, reporting that "everything went well" during the operation in a social media post.

The Manchester United midfielder initially posted

a video on Instagram in which he looked groggy and admitted: "I don't even know if I'm OK or if I'm high or if I'm sober, just don't ask me if it went well, I don't know."

He later deleted that

post and replaced it with a shorter video.

"Everything went well," Pogba said. "We have to keep the positive energy."

Pogba, 26, is expected to be out for another four weeks after suffering his

second ankle injury of the season.

The France international, who has been linked with a move away from Old Trafford, has made only eight appearances this season in a campaign blighted by injury.

Osaka opens year with tough win over Sakkari

Japanese star Naomi Osaka came from a break down in the third set to overcome Greece's Maria Sakkari in the first round of the WTA Brisbane International on Tuesday.

Sakkari sniffed an upset when she won the second set in a tiebreak then broke Osaka's opening service game of the third set, but the former world No 1 dug deep and won 6-2, 6-7 (4/7), 6-3 in a two-hour opening-round clash.

Osaka, the tournament's third seed, said she was pleased with her first match of the year, after she was forced out of the WTA Finals in October with a shoulder injury.

"I'm really happy with how I served - I had to retire from my last match because of my shoulder thing, so I wasn't really sure how I was going to serve today," she said.

"But I was told I hit 16 aces, so that's

pretty good for me."

Sixth-seeded Dutchwoman Kiki Bertens also progressed in three sets, beating Ukraine's Dayana Yastremska 6-4, 1-6, 6-3.

Eighth seed Madison Keys served brilliantly in her impressive 6-3, 6-2 win over Czech qualifier Marie Bouzkova.

Russian qualifier Liudmila Samsonova caused an upset when she beat former US Open champion Sloane Stephens.

Samsonova, playing only her seventh main draw WTA tournament, recorded her first victory over a top-30 player with her 6-4, 2-6, 6-3 win.

In other matches, Yulia Putinseva of Kazakhstan beat Croatia's Donna Vekic 6-3, 3-6, 7-5 and Estonian Anett Kontaveit overpowered Taiwan's Hsieh Su-Wei 6-4, 6-1.



■ Naomi Osaka

Sacking Conte cost Chelsea £26.6m

Sacking Italian manager Antonio Conte in July 2018 cost Chelsea £26.6 million in compensation and legal fees, according to the Premier League club's accounts for the 2018-19 season.

Conte joined the West Londoners in 2016, and won the league in 2017, but was dismissed with 12 months to run on his contract.

Fellow-Italian Maurizio Sarri, his replacement, lasted a season before moving to Juventus.

The accounts, published on the Companies House website, said exceptional items of £26.6 million related to "changes in respect of the men's team management and coaching staff, together with associated legal costs."

Former Italy midfielder Conte is now coaching Serie A side Inter Milan.

Exceptional items in the previous year of six million related entirely to the buyback of retail, licensing and sponsorship rights.

The accounts also showed Chelsea received £247 million of increased funding from Russian billionaire owner Roman Abramovich in the year covered.

"The company has received confirmation from its parent undertaking that sufficient funds will be provided to finance the business for the foreseeable future," the accounts added.

Plateau United unveils replica jerseys for fans

From Dickson S. Adama, Jos

Plateau United football club of Jos has unveiled the team's replica jerseys for their teeming fans who have been desirous of wearing them.

Over 10,000 of the jerseys were received from the manufacturers, Kayspor of Istanbul in Turkey, thus providing opportunity for the fans to own the club jerseys and wear to wherever they please.

The consignment which arrived Jos over the weekend as the team was preparing to host reigning champions Enyimba International of Aba was received with joy from the club supporters.

A statement to this effect by the club's Media Officer, Albert Dakup, said the General manager of the club, Pius Henwan, who was elated with the development noted that the arrival of the kit will help boost the financial base of the club.

Henwan, according to the statement, said the jerseys which will now be available at the club house can be obtained from official working hours of 8:00am to 4pm.

The General Manager, it added, stressed that the club is willing to partner with business organizations who are interested in marketing the jerseys, which according to him is arguably one of the best presently in the NPFL this season.

Drinkwater joins Aston Villa on loan

Former England international Danny Drinkwater has joined relegation-threatened Aston Villa on loan from Chelsea until the end of the season, the Premier League club said on Tuesday.

The 29-year-old midfielder, who won the league with outsiders Leicester City in 2016 and moved to Chelsea in 2017, spent the first half of the season on loan to Burnley after becoming surplus to requirements at Stamford Bridge.

"Danny was a key member of Leicester City's title winning team and has represented England so he is a vastly experienced player," said Villa manager Dean Smith. "He will strengthen our squad significantly."

Villa are 17th in the league and one point above the relegation zone, with an injury-hit squad.

Former Chelsea captain John Terry is Smith's assistant and the West Londoners loaned their current top scorer Tammy Abraham to Villa last season.

Drinkwater has played three times for England, most recently in 2016. He made only two appearances for Burnley this season after damaging ankle ligaments in an altercation outside a nightclub.

The player was also charged with drink driving in April last year while at Chelsea and the club's then manager Maurizio Sarri said the midfielder had no future at the club as he was not suited to their style of play.

THE WEDNESDAY COLUMN

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No end yet to the killings

At the height of the bloody clash between the peripatetic cattle herdsman and farmers in 2018, I wrote in my column of June 27 of that year and said that "Nigerians have simply become inured to these horrific killings, they seem to have been robbed of their sense of feeling and their nation tragically transformed into one that is truly beyond shock."

That was after I had done a survey of the land and the country called Nigeria and had spotlighted the various killing fields, a sprawling theatre of madness from Jos Plateau to Zamfara plain land, from the valley of Benue River to the uplands of Taraba, all of them with the common denominator of an ominous descent into unimaginable bestiality, hopelessness of the people arising from the seeming helplessness of the security outfits and the remorseless audacity of the aggressors whose impunity was matched only by the depth of their bloodthirstiness.

It was the shocking level of anarchy that the country had descended to but which has continuously failed to shock the nation into action that gave cause for concern. Unfortunately, after some two years of official assurance and security deployment in the codename of various traditional dances, it has not stopped being a sore point because it has not failed to be worrisome.

In one chilly word: the gruesome killings have not stopped. As it was in 2018, so it is even now with an increasing propensity to become a national catastrophe.

In all the flashpoints and in all the recorded cases, the story as told from time to time, was that cattle herdsman who were in search of grazing land for their cattle trespassed the farmlands of native settlers and damaged their unharvested farm produce, ate them up and destroyed whatever was left. This resulted in the inevitable clash between them and the farmers who naturally would do everything to ward off the invading cattle and their stick-wielding herdsman.

The herdsman, on the other hand, driven out by desert encroachment and scanty availability of grazing land now had their back to the scaly mud wall in their desert environment.

From this sorry situation, according to the existential legend, they were forced by inexorable economic imperatives to go out in search of grass anywhere, by any means possible. If they didn't do so, says the narrative, their means of livelihood would be in jeopardy. Armed this time with AK 47, the herdsman, who hitherto were well known for their austere life-style and meek disposition, were

now transformed by the fortune of patronage and protection from stick-wielding into a band of modern day aggressors drawing strength from sophisticated armory.

The result, clearly, is the heightened insecurity across the nation. Various efforts to bring the situation under control have not yielded productive results. Appeal by President Muhammadu Buhari that herdsman and the natives should learn to live happily and peacefully together seems to have fallen on unhearing ears, or the ears that were determined not to hear for the obvious reason that the presidential appeal, made in the wake of the massacres in Benue State, did not address the real issue and did not carry the desired empathy that such occasion required.

And so from Benue to Taraba and to Zamfara, Kaduna and Katsina state, the crises have continued unabated. With the added dimension of soulless kidnapping for ransom, cattle rustling and banditry, the war has spread to the nooks and crannies of the country. The army was brought in and for some time, just for a few months of reprieve, when people thought they could now sleep in the night with their two eyes closed or travel by day, with the hope to get to their destination in peace and not in pieces, then there is a sudden eruption.

The new year is just one week old, but these marauders have begun to wreak havoc. Last Friday, some gunmen suspected to be of Fulani extraction invaded Tawari, a sleepy village community in Kogi Local Government Area of Kogi State while the people were sleeping. According to the reports, which were confirmed by police, not less than 23 persons were killed in cold blood. The killers were selective in the choice of victims and in the choice of the properties to be torched which included churches and mosques. Even the ward chairman of the governing All Progressives Congress, APC, in the community was killed as well as four children of the community Imam who came home for the New Year celebrations.

The story, as told by a spokesman of the community, was that a few days to the incident, gallant police operatives had killed four suspected kidnappers terrorizing travelers on the Abuja-Lokoja road and the community celebrated it. A few days later speculations were rife that members of the community blew the whistle against the kidnappers. In apparent retaliation, the community was made to pay dearly for vigilance and civic duties.

I had surmised in the column under reference that what would solve this problem was for the president to take

a bold step, the kind that only he can take, to stop these senseless killings and bring the killers to book to teach the lesson that crime does not pay and that there is no reward for criminality. I had said then that the president was not being challenged to bring a stop to this lunacy because any one in his right mind had thought he was complicit in the perennial herdsman-farmers clashes, the perfidy that predated his second coming. Today, there is need to revisit that admonition. Let the impression not be created that some criminal elements are being treated with kid gloves.

Unfortunately, some criminals are walking freely on the streets today because they appear to have protectors in high places. Police high command routinely mops up arms and even revoke firearm permits as part of measures to curb crime. But, ironically, it is the criminals who retain their arms and ammunition. And some of them wield these lethal weapons in broad day light and the policemen are powerless to bring them to book.

To show more seriousness, our gallant police officers should go beyond the mere rituals of parading the so-called criminals with weapons allegedly seized from them. Nigerians are more interested in their prosecution.

During the election in Bayelsa and Kogi states, the Inspector-General of Police, Mohammed Adamu, admitted that fake policemen apparently more suitably kitted and well-armed, overpowered his own men. In the circumstance, the public would normally be delighted to know what police have done since that incident to bring the fake policemen to book because if they are allowed to roam the streets unchecked, they can overpower unarmed innocent people on the roads or at home.

President Buhari, in his New Year letter to citizens last week, highlighted security as one of the cornerstones of his administration. The other two are the on-going diversification of the economy and "taking on the curse of corruption." No matter his good intentions, the president can only do so much and not more because he possibly cannot be everywhere, all at once, policing everybody and keeping them in line, even if he is a superlative Sheriff.

That is why the administration runs on a system or ought to run on system with strong institutions. And that is why the president must continue to rely on capable men and women with strong commitment to good governance. Governance is not anchored on the whims and caprices of one man or a few men with incurable prejudices that are antithetical to nation building and national development.

Needless to repeat therefore that those who are privileged to serve the public must be diligent enough to give reasonable account of their stewardship. That is the least they can offer.

SPORT REPORT >>

Enugu Rangers demotes eight players to 'B' team → P. 46

Verstappen extends Red Bull deal until 2023



■ Max Verstappen

Max Verstappen has extended his deal with Red Bull until the end of the 2023 season.

The 22-year-old Dutchman has been with the team since being promoted from Toro Rosso part-way through the 2016 season.

"Red Bull believed in me and gave me the opportunity to start in Formula 1 which I have always been very grateful for," said Verstappen.

"I want to win with Red Bull and our goal is of course to fight for a World Championship together."

Verstappen became the youngest winner in F1 history when he won the Spanish Grand Prix as an 18-year-old in 2016.

He finished third in the title race behind champion Lewis Hamilton and Valtteri Bottas last season and the new deal appears to end speculation about the possibility of Verstappen moving to Mercedes or Ferrari.

Medvedev ends run of giant-killer Ruud



■ Daniil Medvedev

World No 5 Daniil Medvedev ended Casper Ruud's giant-killing spree with a 6-3, 7-6 (8/6) victory on Tuesday to seal Russia's place in the quarterfinals of the ATP Cup.

The US Open finalist continued his ominous form ahead of the Australian Open, hitting 34 winners and 13 aces in the one hour 33-minute contest.

Medvedev wrapped up the tie for unbeaten Russia ahead of the doubles after world number 17 Karen Khachanov easily beat Viktor Durasovic 6-2, 6-1.

"Maybe the score doesn't say everything about the match because it was really close and both of us could have won," Medvedev said of his first-ever clash against Ruud.

The towering Russian was particularly impressive at the net, winning 14 of 19 points.