

STILL IN CAPTIVITY

11 SCHOOLGIRLS OF FGC, BIRNIN YAURI

570
DAYS

1 STUDENT OF BETHEL BAPTIST HIGH SCHOOL, KUJAMA

542
DAYS

OPEC's oil output rises as Nigeria rebounds

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Bauchi emir replaces Bello Kirfi with Ahmed Kari as new Waziri

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18 Borno passengers burnt to death in Bauchi auto crash

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Cash withdrawals from govt accounts to end March 1 – NFIU

- Officials to receive estacode, allowances through accounts
- FG, states, LGs withdrew over N1tr since 2015
- Implementation requires political will – Expert
- 'Programme ought to have started alongside TSA'

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Patients lie in the emergency department of a hospital, amid the coronavirus disease outbreak in Shanghai, China

Photo: REUTERS/Staff

INEC devolves PVCs collection to wards, registration areas

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5-day-old boy risks amputation over doctor's 'negligence' in Kano

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LG autonomy bill hindering constitution amendment – Omo-Agege

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APC govts not in secret deal with Atiku – Nasarawa gov

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Insulting others is never a way of correcting them. Instead it causes more damage and proves that we need help ourselves

- Mufti Ismail Menk



AFRICAN SAYINGS

"Copying everyone else all the time, the monkey one day cut his throat"

(African Proverbs)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

WEATHER

Compiled by JAMIL H. SALIM

| ABUJA | KADUNA | KANO | MAIDUGURI | Jos | SOKOTO | IBADAN | ENUGU | P/HARCOURT | LAGOS |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| MOSTLY SUNNY | MOSTLY SUNNY | MOSTLY SUNNY | PARTIALLY CLOUD | MOSTLY SUNNY | MOSTLY SUNNY | PARTIALLY CLOUD | PARTIALLY CLOUD | RAIN | RAIN SHOWER |
| 35 22 | 33 18 | 34 19 | 36 19 | 29 17 | 36 21 | 33 23 | 34 23 | 25 18 | 31 24 |
| MAX MIN | MAX MIN | MAX MIN | MAX MIN | MAX MIN | MAX MIN | MAX MIN | MAX MIN | MAX MIN | MAX MIN |

(Temperature in centigrade)

PRAYERS TIMES

JUMADA AL AKHIR 13, 1444 AH

| PRAYERS | ABUJA | ENUGU | KADUNA | KANO | KATSINA | LAGOS | MAIDUGURI | P/HARCOURT | SOKOTO |
|---------|-------|-------|--------|-------|---------|-------|-----------|------------|--------|
| FAJR | 5:32 | 5:32 | 5:35 | 5:34 | 5:39 | 5:49 | 5:17 | 5:32 | 5:48 |
| DHUHR | 12:40 | 12:41 | 12:41 | 12:36 | 12:40 | 12:58 | 12:19 | 12:44 | 12:48 |
| ASR | 3:54 | 3:55 | 3:55 | 3:50 | 3:54 | 4:12 | 3:33 | 3:58 | 4:02 |
| MAGHRIB | 6:24 | 6:25 | 6:22 | 6:15 | 6:18 | 6:43 | 5:58 | 6:29 | 6:29 |
| ISHA | 7:29 | 7:30 | 7:27 | 7:20 | 7:23 | 7:48 | 7:03 | 7:34 | 7:34 |

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna



PHOTO OF THE DAY

■ Simal, Senegal
A prawn fisher walks into the Sine Saloum Delta ahead of a night of fishing

Photo: John Wessels/ AFP/Getty Images

STOCK INDEX

| GAINERS | JOHNHOLT | HONYFLOUR | CWG | UACN | NB | LOSERS | PRESTIGE | AIRTELAFRI | UPL | NPFMCRFBK | ROYALEX |
|---------|----------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|--------|----------|------------|--------|-----------|---------|
| OPEN | N0.88 | N2.43 | N1.01 | N10.75 | N47.00 | OPEN | N0.42 | N1500.00 | N1.76 | N1.57 | N1.03 |
| CLOSE | 0.08 | 0.22 | 0.09 | 0.50 | 1.90 | CLOSE | -0.04 | -135.00 | -0.14 | -0.12 | -0.07 |
| CHANGE | 10.00% | 9.95% | 9.78% | 4.88% | 4.21% | CHANGE | -8.70% | -8.26% | -7.37% | -7.10% | -6.36% |

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IN-DEPTH

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

New dawn in Bauchi as more women come into governance

Women's participation in governance recently received a boost in Bauchi State with the appointment of two new commissioners into the cabinet. Although one of them recently resigned, the executive council has six female members, the highest recorded since the state was created.

Governor Bala Mohammed last week swore-in two female commissioners bringing the total number of female commissioners to seven out of 21 commissioners. Those sworn-in were Hajiya Amina Muhammad Katagum, who was appointed Commissioner for Rural Development and Special Duties, and Dr Jamila Muhammad Dahiru, Commissioner for Education.

Other female commissioners in the cabinet are Dr Asma'u Ahmed Giade, Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Hon. Maryam Garba Bagel, Commissioner for Science and Technology, Hajiya Zainab Baban Takko, Commissioner for Commerce and Industry, and Hon. Hajara Jibrin Gidado, Commissioner for Women Affairs.

Hon. Sa'adatu Bello Kirfi, Commissioner Cooperative, Small Scale and Medium Enterprises, resigned her position on Wednesday after the removal of her father as Wazirin Bauchi allegedly on the directives of the governor.

Bauchi State has largely been viewed as a conservative state that observes cultural norms and tradition which abhors delegating leadership responsibility to women. Despite its considerable literacy level that produced hundreds of educated women in Bauchi, the state government in the past usually engaged few of them in positions of authority.

Observers say that successive administrations, including the military regimes, assigned few women in the cabinet in Bauchi, especially the position of Commissioner for Women Affairs, which is seen to represent the women folk.

The immediate past administration of Governor Muhammed Abdullahi Abubakar had appointed three female commissioners towards the end of his tenure in 2018.

Daily Trust findings revealed that very few women contested and won election in the history of the state due to the cultural norms and tradition in Bauchi State, a situation that discouraged women from participating in the electioneering process, thereby placing them at the background in leadership positions.

Checks also revealed only Hon. Maryam Garba Bagel had contested and won election as Member of the Bauchi State



■ Hajiya Zainab Baban Takko



■ Hon Amina Muhammad Katagum, Commissioner for Rural Development and Special Duties

House of Assembly (Dass Constituency) from 2015 to 2019. Bagel was also appointed as Director General of Bauchi State Sustainable Development Goals from 2019 to 2020.

However, things have since changed for the better for them. Currently, the state Chief Judge is Justice Rabi Talatu Umar. One third of the State Executive Council are women, three permanent secretaries are women as well as some heads of agencies and other political appointees in the state.

Bagel was subsequently appointed by the governor as Commissioner, Ministry of Commerce and Industries from 2020 to 2022. She resigned in 2022 to contest for the House of Representatives.

Aminu Katagum was first appointed as Special Adviser on Women Affairs and NGOs to Governor Malam Isa Yuguda from 2011 to 2012 and elevated by the governor to Commissioner, Ministry of Commerce and Industry from 2012 to 2014.

Hajiya Zainab Baban Takko, Commissioner for Commerce and Industry, was until her appointment, the Chairperson of the Bauchi State Meat Production Company.

This development was greeted with commendation to the governor by gender advocates and other activists within the state.

A public analyst and State Coordinator of Journalists for Public Health and Development Initiative (J4PD) Elizabeth Kah described the appointments of more women in positions of authority as a welcome

development. She said it was a step towards affirmative action.

Kah said the decision will serve as motivation for girl child enrollment, retention, transition and completion in schools.

"The expectation is for these women to impact positivity on leadership and decision-making in governance. They should be role models to women and should bring up more women-oriented programmes and policies.

"They should see themselves as women who were appointed to contribute to the development of the state and not an opportunity for them to rub shoulders with the men. They should be modest in their dressing and conduct considering the culture and religion of the state," she said.

On her part, a chief magistrate with Bauchi State Judiciary, Magistrate Amina Garuba Ahmed, said the development is portraying positive change in Bauchi.

She said: "We are looking at competency now not the traditional way of appointment that we followed before. I think irrespective of gender, the appointment was based on competence and track records of their antecedents."

Commenting on the implications of more women in positions of authority, Amina said: "More women means that decision-making will be well grounded in the sense that it will have a gender lens. All decisions and the process will have participation of all genders, which means things are going to improve more.

"I expect the female commissioners to deliver

because they are placed in those positions not because they are women, but rather competent; their track record has shown that they can deliver. They should represent women well and make sure they deliver their oaths of office and they should not allow themselves to get involved in any issue of corruption or get derailed from their objectives of occupying that position.

"They should also encourage more women and mentor them because they must have some qualities to portray to be able to reach that level. They should not let it get lost; they should groom more women and mentor them so that those qualities they have, these other younger women too will start developing them."

She said this might be the beginning of a new dawn 'if we do not allow a vacuum to be created, after this set of women that have been appointed leave the office. If we want continuity, we have to continue the grooming process and mentoring process so that other women will be empowered then we will not have a vacuum when this set is retiring. We will grow from there and have more gender equality in all appointments and all places of administration in the state."

The new Commissioner of Rural Development and Special Duties, Dr Amina Muhammad Katagum, said: "All thanks be to Allah for the opportunity and we are much grateful to the governor because we have now attained the 30 per cent of women in the cabinet of the state. We pray for wisdom and we pray that we deliver as expected of us."

"I feel okay because this is not

the first time I have held public office. We feel that we are going to deliver. We women always uphold the trust that is bestowed on us. We women don't betray, we always make sure we deliver when given the opportunity and I believe that is what His Excellency saw. The people should continue to support us; they should be cooperative and In sha Allahu we will deliver."

The Bauchi State Women Leader of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Hafsat Adamu, said the appointment of seven commissioners in the state cabinet was a turning point for the revival and emancipation of women. "This is what we lacked in the past because women are the majority in casting votes but they were not entitled to leadership positions.

"By the Grace of God, this is the beginning of a new era for empowerment and liberation of women in Bauchi. Very soon we will have a female deputy governor, elected senators, members of the House of Representatives and State Assembly as well as other political positions in the state. We are also confident that in the future we will have a female governor in Bauchi.

"Women have been yearning for a leader that will change the narrative of women being left at the background of leadership but God has brought the messiah to address the gender parity and empowerment of women to attain their potential in life.

"We are extremely happy because in the past, the state cabinet was dominated by men but having more women in the cabinet will bring about sanity in the system and based on our cultural traditions, women hardly confront men in positions of authority, but when we have women in such positions, we approach them with our problems and issues that bother on women challenges with ease. Women collectively are going to vote for Governor Mohammed to consolidate the giant stride he has so far achieved.

"Let me tell you, these women were appointed based on competence and their track records because almost all of them held different government positions and performed credibly well before being appointed as commissioners. They are women that were tested and had proved their competence. The issue of cabinet is not the only one because the governor has empowered women leaders in all 20 LGAs with vehicles to carry out their duties," Hafsat added.

Cash withdrawals from govt accounts to end March 1-NFIU

By Sunday Michael Ogwu

The Nigeria Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) says cash withdrawals from all government accounts at federal, state and local councils will end on March 1, 2023.

The NFIU also announced the prohibition of the payment of estacode and overseas allowances to civil and public servants in cash.

The director and chief executive officer of NFIU, Modibbo Tukur, announced this in Abuja yesterday. The new measures are coming amid a recent announcement by the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), which places cash withdrawal limits for individuals and corporate bodies.

Speaking on the new measures, Modibbo said the directive was in compliance with its statutory responsibility under Section 3(1) a - s and Section 23 (2) a of the NFIU Act, 2018, and other provisions under the Money Laundering (Prevention and Prohibition) Act, 2022 (MLPPA, 2022).

Daily Trust reports that for various reasons, government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) at all levels withdraw cash from banks to transact official business instead of doing the same via seamless bank transfers that could easily be traced.

While some officials, especially at the local government level, claim they don't have banking facilities, experts and anti-corruption agencies believe conducting monetary transactions using cash gives room to corrupt tendencies.

Why cash withdrawals must end

Addressing journalists, Modibbo said: "From the 1st of March, if there is cash withdrawal from a government account of even N1, we are going to trigger a money laundering and corruption investigation in the Economic and Financial Crime Commission (EFCC), the Independent Corrupt Practices Commission (ICPC), or the Nigeria Police.

"This guideline is not reversible because we are going by the provisions of the law. If the National Assembly deems it fit to accompany it with an act of the parliament to outlaw cash withdrawals from the public accounts, then we are happy."

Section 2 of the MLPPA 2022, restricts cash payments of a sum exceeding N5 million (or its

equivalent) for individuals, and N10 million or its equivalent for a body corporate.

Section 19 of the MLPPA 2022 imposes a fine of at least N10 million or imprisonment or a term of at least three years (or both), in the case of individuals; and a fine of N25 million in the case of a body corporate.

With these guidelines, Modibbo said the local government's N500,000 cash withdrawal limit with regard to public accounts and instituted funds is hereby discontinued.

He said these guidelines supersede and repeal the N500,000 cash withdrawal limit of local government funds and also, since it is for criminal purposes, supersede the CBN's Regulation on cash withdrawal limits with regard to public accounts and instituted funds.

He said most cash withdrawals from public accounts were in excess of N5 million and N10 million respectively, which is prohibited and liable to imprisonment upon conviction.

He explained that the breach of this particular provision became so rampant because there were heavy withdrawals of cash from public accounts necessitated by inflation and changes in the economy, and also due to payment for overseas travels in terms of estacode and other overseas allowances.

Modibbo said all government transactions would be carried out on the basis of electronic transfer if the amount exceeded the approved daily withdrawals by the CBN under the new monetary policy.

The NFIU boss said under the guidelines, only the president could give a waiver for any cash above the approved daily threshold to be withdrawn for urgent or emergency reasons.

Modibbo disclosed that despite the introduction of the cash withdrawal limits in the country, state governments withdrew a total of N701 billion cash above the N225 billion withdrawn by the federal government and N156 billion withdrawn by local governments from 2015 to date.

The CEO argued that the practise of withdrawing above the threshold was becoming very frequent, adding that, "If we are to apply the law here, all the public servants involved in these withdrawals are entitled to three



■ CEO NFIU, Modibbo Tukur

years in prison."

"Section 26 of the Proceeds of Crime Act says wherever that cash is, it should be seized. Having looked at the principles of the law, it became necessary to direct and order the financial institutions to stop completely the withdrawal of cash from the public account at the federal, state and local government levels henceforth.

"This is for the protection of the system, the public servants, the chief accounting officers and for the protection of elected public officials who are running the finances.

"We have issued an advisory to all the governors, all the local government chairmen and all the MDSs of the federal government and we are giving them between now and March 1, 2023, to put all facilities in place to operationalize the guideline," he said.

Guideline will reduce cash in circulation by N1trn

Modibbo also stated that the NFIU is developing an advisory for commercial banks.

"With this guideline, we expect that cash withdrawals from the system will go down by N1 trillion out of the N3 trillion that is in circulation.

"With the implementation of this guideline, Nigeria has been taken into a non-cash economy with effect from March 1, 2023."

Politicians not targeted

He further argued that politicians are not targeted by

the new policy. "We cannot flow with the politicians and we cannot join political issues by any rate of imagination.

"We see how people try to speculate on virtually every action. If politics is been complicated, it has to do perhaps with people that are having the complications of politics."

Guidelines include all foreign missions operating in Nigeria

Modibbo said the application of the guidelines includes all foreign missions operating in Nigeria; accounts of all development partner institutions, and the accounts of all instituted funds in the form of independent funds to be operated as mutual funds such as insurance funds, cooperative funds, brokerage funds, political party funds, or pressure group/union funds, once the funds are designated to exist as funds or to operate independently for management and/or investment.

On state and local government autonomy

Speaking on how the state government would react to the directive given the current tussle over a similar directive on the local government joint account, Modibbo said the financial memorandum and the financial guidelines of the federation state that, money has to go to the local government.

"In the majority, they restricted themselves to the N500,000 cash withdrawal we allow the local

government to do. We only had three issues to contend with from the joint account.

"Money has to go to the local government. They have to sit on that money with a council extract. Which means every councillor is supposed to look at that money and decide on his own whether to vote for the funds to return to the joint account or not."

Recall that the 36 state governors, in challenging the NFIU, had argued that local government councils are a creation of the constitution and are not financial institutions.

The policy will spark operational issues - Experts

Forensic accountant and Principal Partner of Matthew Ogagaworia & Company, Matthew Ogagaworia, in his reaction to the new measures, said it is doable if the government has the will and determination.

He said: "There will be operational issues because there can be no petty cash. Staff cannot undertake any purchase, no matter how little unless the amount is transferred.

"We may also see government service to its citizens suffer because they will tell you they cannot access cash.

"Those within the army will argue that they need to pay the foot soldiers on the war front in cash. These are worries, but we can do it and I hope subsequent administrations will build on this."

The Economic and Development Coordination Officer with the United Nations, Nonso Obikili, in his short remark on Twitter said: "Playing the devil's advocate but what authority does the NFIU have to place such a ban?"

The president, National Association of Nigerian Traders (NANTS), Barr Ken Ukaoha, in his reaction said the decision should have accompanied the single treasury account implementation at the onset of this administration.

He said: "The TSA was to check leakages, but we saw the custodian, the Accountant General of the Federation, draw over N100bn from it. So I hope this will be done in an all-round manner with no exceptions."

He wondered why the government waited until the end of this administration to introduce these reforms.

Police arrest 61 for political thuggery in Kano

The Kano State Police Command on Thursday said 61 suspected political thugs had been arrested in its efforts to rid the state of all forms of crimes and criminality, especially during political campaigns.

The Commissioner of Police in the state, Mr Mamman Dauda, made the disclosure in a statement issued to newsmen by the command's spokesperson,

SP Abdullahi Haruna-Kiyawa, in Kano.

He said the arrest was made in line with the directives of the Inspector General of Police, Usman Alkali-Baba, to ensure a peaceful election process and tackle the menace of political thugs.

"The suspects were arrested on January 4, during political campaign clearance operations

conducted during a political activity at Sani Abacha Stadium Kano," he said

He said items recovered from the suspects included 33 Knives, eight Cutlasses, four Scissors, a parcel and 117 wraps of suspected Indian hemp.

The CP added that prior to the clearance operation, a meeting of the Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Election Security

and a Peace Summit involving all critical stakeholders were held.

"Election stakeholders meetings were also held at area commands and divisional police offices level.

"Political party leaders and candidates promised to cooperate with the Police and other security agencies in the state for a safer and more secure election process," he said. Dauda commended

people of the state, other security agencies, the media, vigilante groups and Community Policing Stakeholders for their prayers, support, encouragement and cooperation.

"Currently, with a low crime rate and peaceful atmosphere in the state, the command will continue to remain steadfast in safeguarding lives and property in the state," he assured.

Live broadcast on
Trust TV

20TH Daily Trust DIALOGUE

Theme:
Interrogating the 2023 Presidential Agenda

..... Panelists



Mrs. Ibukun Awosika
Former Chairman,
First Bank of Nigeria (FBN).



Prof. Jibrin Ibrahim
Professor of Political Science and
member of the Board of the Centre
for Democracy and Development (CDD).



Dr. Yetunde Anibaba
Lecturer, Analysis of Business Problems,
Lagos Business School



Dr. Eugene Enahoro
Human Capacity Development Specialist
and CEO, Heltoni Services Limited.

Date: Thursday, January, 26, 2023
Time: 10:00 am
Venue: NAF Conference Centre and Suites,
Gwarinpa Express Way, near NEXT
Shopping Mall, Kado, Abuja

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18 Borno passengers burnt to death in Bauchi auto crash

From Hassan Ibrahim (Bauchi)

No fewer than 18 people were burnt beyond recognition in a head-on collision involving a Hiace bus and a trailer at Nabardo village along the busy Bauchi-Jos Road.

Among the victims were two female soldiers travelling for condolences over the loss of their father in Askira Uba town in Borno State and a medical doctor.

Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in Bauchi

State, Yusuf Abdullahi, told *Daily Trust* that the accident, which occurred on Wednesday around 4:40pm, involved a Toyota Hiace bus with registration number FKJ 668 YC and a trailer with registration number FKE 688 YC.

He explained that 21 people, comprising 18 adults and three children, were involved in the accident.

"Unfortunately, the driver and all 17 passengers of the bus were burnt to ashes," he said.

"The accident happened in a bush where there were no people around to

render assistance to the victims. The moment the accident occurred, the bus went into flames and the entire occupants burnt to ashes, as you can't identify anyone of them."

Abdullahi further disclosed that the mass burial of the victims' ashes was carried out by the Nigeria Police Force Social Welfare officers.

The sector commander, however, advised road users to always be conscious of traffic rules and regulations while plying the roads.

He urged vehicle owners and drivers to ensure

having good tyres, driving at average speed, routine vehicle maintenance and sound state of mind.

Investigation revealed that the bus belonged to a transport company, Chinanda Nigeria Limited.

When contacted via phone, a director of the transport company in Lagos, Emmanuel Elijah, told *Daily Trust* that the bus left Lagos Tuesday for Askira Uba.

He said the company had contacted the families of the victims except those of the two soldiers.

"Majority of the passengers were our

relatives from Askira Uba, and we have reached out to families, and many of them are on their way to the scene of the accident to see for themselves.

"The female soldiers are travelling for condolences over the death of their father in Askira Uba. They were the only passengers that I am yet to contact their families because the bus picked them up at a military barracks in Akure, Ondo State.

"I am also affected as the owner of the vehicle because my family members too were among the passengers.

"As I am talking to you, I am on my way to the Bauchi village where the accident happened. Although before I left Lagos I learnt that a mass burial was carried out on the victims by the security agents because they said that the entire passengers were burnt beyond recognition.

"Despite the mass burial, I want to go and see for myself because the families of those passengers that we were able to speak with have agreed with the decision of the mass burial. We are now in deep mourning," he said.



Emir of Zazzau, Nuhu Bamalli (M); Director of Interfaith, Dahir Umar (2nd L) and other dignitaries, during the inauguration of the 2023 Emirate Council Contribution of Hajj Saving Scheme in Kaduna yesterday PHOTO: NAN

7 die in auto crash after attending APC rally in Kano

From Zahraddeen Y. Shuaibu, Kano

Seven people from Kwanar Dangora town in Kiru LGA have died in a motor accident along Kano-Zaria road. They were returning from the All Progressives Congress (APC) presidential candidate's campaign rally in Kano on Wednesday.

Witnesses said the accident occurred around 6pm when their Golf car collided with an oil tanker.

Ten people were said to be aboard when the accident occurred.

Speaking to *Daily Trust*, a resident of the town, Tukur Lawan, said five people died on the spot while two others were declared dead at the Murtala Muhammed Hospital.

"We all attended the rally, and on our way back, the tragic incident occurred. We woke up today full of sorrow.

"After they collided, the tanker detached from

the vehicle and crushed the Golf car against the barricade on the road," he said.

He listed the deceased to include Bala Kariya, Barau Kariya, Hamza Huntu, Danladi Gidan Algaita, Musbahu Gidan Diraman, Yakubu Gidan Diraman and Lawan Gidan Diraman.

Another resident, Mahmud Abubakar Kiru, said the whole town was shocked, including the political leaders who attended the funeral

prayers held at different villages.

He said members of the national and state assemblies, among them, the senator representing Kano South, Kabiru Gaya, attended the funeral prayers, as well as other political office holders.

However, when contacted, the spokesman for the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Abdullahi A. Labaran, said they had yet to receive information about the accident.

NUEE seeks power sector reform despite FG's N3tr intervention

By Balarabe Alkassim

Organised Labour in the electricity sector has lamented that despite the over N3 trillion injected by the federal government into the privatised electricity companies, there has been no commensurate increase in power generation over the past 10 years.

Secretary General of the National Union of Electricity Employees (NUEE), Joe Ajaero, stated this during the public hearing on a bill to amend Electric Power Sector Reform Act, 2005 held on Thursday.

The bill is to provide the legal and institutional

framework for the implementation and coordination of rural electrification projects, establishment of the National Power Training Institute and Regulatory provisions to strengthen the sector for efficient services delivery and for related matters.

"There has not been meaningful improvement or contribution by the current investors 9 years after privatization and 17 years after the Electric Power Sector Reform Act, 2005 was signed into law," Ajaero said.

He said the privatisation of the power sector had further compounded the economic woes adding that

the privatisation policy was designed to fail from the onset.

He stressed the need for a review of the entire privatization exercise to reposition the power sector for efficiency and better service delivery to transform the country's economy.

"This Act, are we really obeying it? If there is provision for review after five years, and Nigerians are groaning, consistently Nigerians are complaining and we say privatization was based on the fact that government doesn't have any business in it and government is pumping in money to an individual's

business," he said.

On his part, the Minister of State for Power, Mr Goddy Jedy-Agba, who spoke during a media chat with journalists, denied knowledge of the indiscriminate electricity tariff imposed by the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) on consumers as presented by the NUEE Secretary General.

In his earlier remarks, the chairman of the house committee on Power, Magaji Da'u Aliyu (APC, Jigawa), said the public hearing addressed the concerns raised by the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF).

FG releases N13.89bn for retirees' pension payment

By Philip Shimnom Clement

The federal government has released the sum of N13.89 billion for the payment of accrued pension rights under the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS) for retirees from the year 2022.

The National Pension Commission announced this in a statement, saying the accrued pension rights represent an employee's benefits for the past years of service up to June 2004.

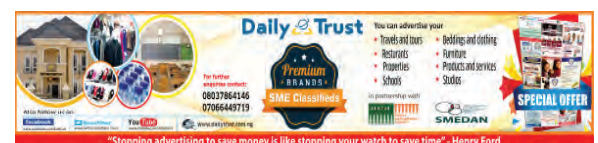
PenCom added that it was processing payments into the various retirement savings accounts of the affected retirees, and their pension fund administrators,

noting that the recipients would be notified in due course.

"The accrued pension rights represent an employee's benefits for the past years of service up to June 2004, when the CPS came into effect.

"Accordingly, PenCom is processing remittances into the various Retirement Savings Accounts of the affected retirees, and their Pension Fund Administrators will notify them in due course."

PenCom commended President Muhammadu Buhari for his commitment to the implementation of the CPS and ensuring the welfare of retirees.



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Passing LG autonomy bill, biggest challenge to constitution amendment – Omo-Agege

By Muideen Olaniyi

The Deputy President of the Senate, Ovie Omo-Agege, has said the passage of the local government autonomy bills remains the biggest challenge to the ongoing review of the 1999 Constitution.

He stated this Thursday while speaking to State House reporters after a closed-door meeting with President Muhammadu Buhari at the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

He dismissed criticisms about the constitutional review process being “an exercise on futility”, stating that state houses of assembly had failed to vote on

the amendment bills on local government autonomy passed and transmitted to them for concurrence.

He said the National Assembly was optimistic the bills would be passed despite the challenge of the governors and their state houses of assembly holding back.

“I can tell you that at the National Assembly, we have fulfilled our part of that bargain, what is now left is to get the concurrence of 24 Houses of Assemblies of the states. That is also a Section 9 obligation, but this time, imposed on the State Houses of Assembly.”

Omo-Agege added, “I

would have expected that the state Houses will show some independence in making some of the decisions, but it does appear that... I can't fault them for working with their state governors in taking these positions, but we believe that we'll be able to resolve this with time.

“The president of the senate has reached out to some of the governors, most especially through my friend, the governor of Kaduna State, to reach out to his fellow governors. Kaduna for instance has already voted. Kaduna has voted and has transmitted. Of course, we won

one, we lost one”, he said.

The National Assembly on March 29, 2022, transmitted 44 Constitution alteration bills to the 36 state Houses of Assembly for concurrence.

Asked what Nigerians should expect from the National Assembly over President Buhari's appeal to the legislature on his quest to sort out the Central Bank of Nigeria's (CBN) Ways and Means proposal, Omo-Agege said the president would have his support as usual.

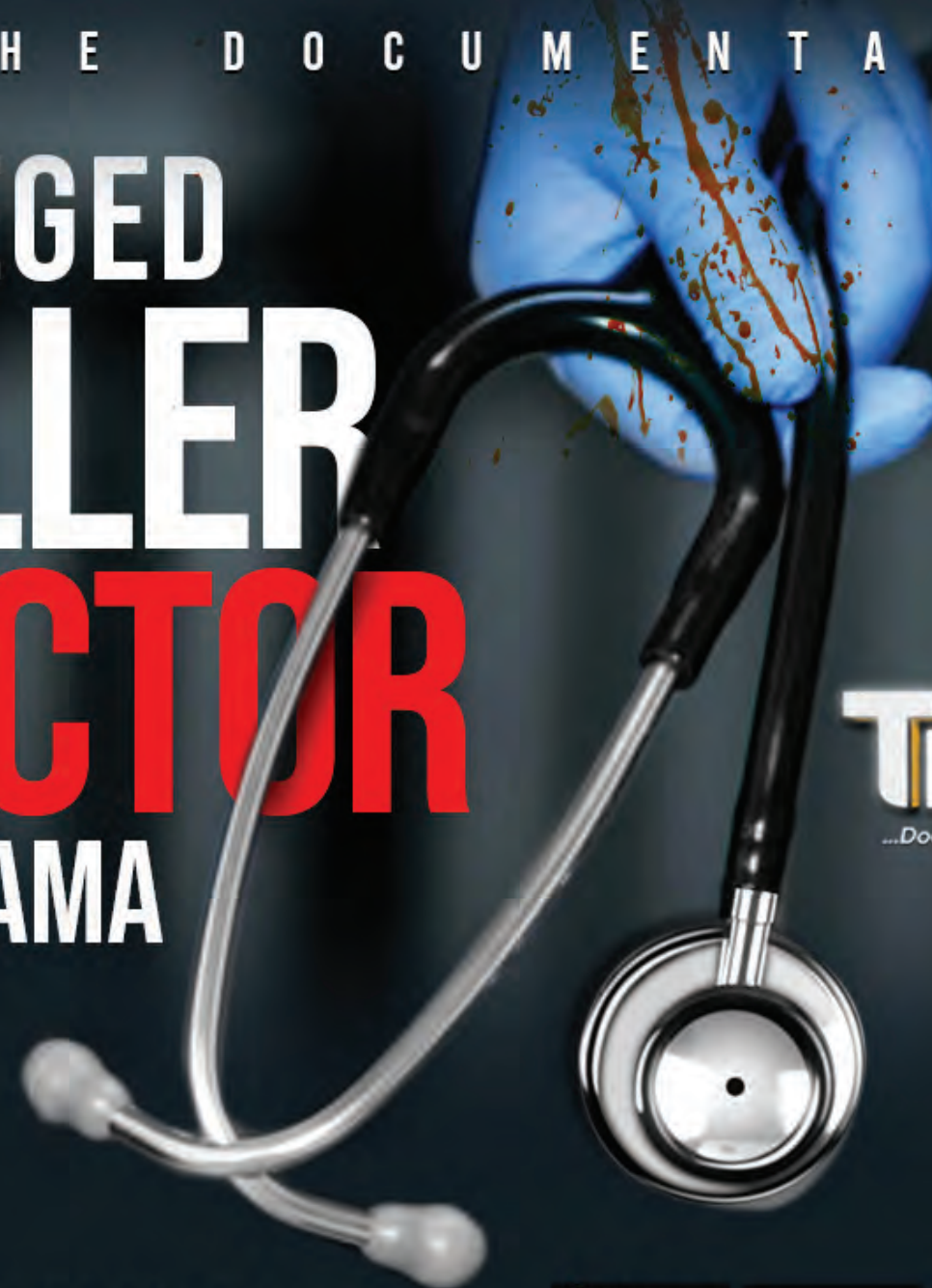
“Speaking as a senator, who represents Delta State and speaking as the Deputy Senate President, I have an obligation, as

most of you know, to support Mr. President and this time will not be an exception. It's a decision that was taken; basically, all they're asking for is ratification. These are monies that have been expended through legitimate means, using the Ways and Means device. There is no allegation of any wrongdoing.

“So Mr. President has my support, always has my support and he has my support on this one and I believe that majority of my colleagues, I do not speak for all of my colleagues, of course, but I believe that majority of my colleagues will support Mr. President”, he said

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
This documentary highlights the story of Dr Abbas Adeyemi, the Chief Medical Director of Kaiama General Hospital, and the murder mysteries linked to him. Trust TV also brings to you the stories of the relatives of the victims and their fight for justice.


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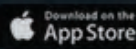
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His Excellency
Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR
*President and Commander-in-Chief,
Federal Republic Of Nigeria*

On behalf of the good people of Adamawa State – *the Land of Beauty and Sunshine* – I heartily welcome you, your Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Yola for the Flag-off ceremony of my Campaign for the Governorship of Adamawa State under the auspices of our great Party – the APC.

Your Excellency Mr. President, Adamawa State is your second home; Your Excellency, All Nigerian Women appreciate you for this honour done to us by personally attending the Flag-off ceremony for my Campaign to elect the **ONLY** woman Governor of the ruling party in the history of democratic governance in Nigeria, whom you graciously described as the “Governor – in – waiting”, insha Allah.

Your Excellency Mr. President Sir, your tenure is playing another first in this regard. May Almighty Allah guard, guide and bring you to Yola safely on the 9th January, 2023 and return you back to Abuja, insha Allah.

The entire Adamawa people and Nigerian women will forever remain grateful for this singular honour. This honour done to us will forever remain indelible in our hearts.

Allah Wadde Jam.

Signed:



Distinguished Senator
Aishatu Dahiru Ahmed (Binani)
Adamawa State APC Governorship Candidate

Buhari to security agencies: Eradicate oil theft before I exit office

From Victor Edozie,
Port Harcourt

President Muhammadu Buhari has charged security agencies in the Niger Delta to re-double their efforts and ensure total eradication of oil theft before he exits office on May 29, 2023.

The president spoke on Thursday through the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Chief Timipre Sylva, while addressing security agencies that comprised navy, air force and army at both the Nigerian Navy, NNS Pathfinder and 115 Special

Operations Squad of the Nigeria Air force in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

Buhari, who said a lot needed to be done to ensure total elimination of oil theft in the region, charged the security agencies to block all loopholes.

"A few months ago, I led a high-powered team to charge you to ensure there is no more stealing of our crude oil. This is a national asset. Mr President has vowed that there is no tolerance for stealing of national assets.

"I am happy to announce that I am back again with commendation from the



■ President Buhari

president. He has acknowledged the efforts you have made. There is significant improvement in the

crude oil production, Nigerians have noticed, the international community have noticed.

"Since then, we have seen significant improvement which means you took the charge seriously. Today, he sent us a commendation that you are doing well for the nation.

"You have not eradicated it 100%, but it has reduced drastically. Double your efforts so that before the exit of Mr President, we have completely eradicated that," the minister said.

He charged security agencies not to rest in their oars but ensure that stealing of oil is 100%

eradicated in Nigeria and the Niger Delta.

"We urge you to redouble efforts in completing the job of ending oil theft. This should be a morale booster. I leave you at the moment, but we will be coming from time to time. We are happy that we have made significant improvement in the fight," he added.

Chief Sylva was accompanied during the visit by the Chief of Defence Staff, General Leo Irabor, Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Awwal Gambo, and the Group Managing Director of NNPC, Mele Kyari.

Marriage dissolution: Ganduje's in-law challenges court's jurisdiction

From Lubabatu I. Garba,
Kano

Asiya Balaraba Ganduje has filed a case before an upper shari'a court sitting in Filing Hockey in Kano State seeking to dissolve her 16-year-old marriage with her husband, Inuwa Uba.

Asiya presented her claim through Islamic Khuli principles, due to her being "fed up with the marriage."

She also claimed that she is ready to return his N50,000 dowry to him as it is prescribed by Islamic jurisprudence that a woman had to pay the husband his dowry before the marriage is dissolved.

In contrast, Mr Uba insisted that he still loves his wife and pleaded for the court's mercy for more time to settle the misunderstanding between them amicably.

The judge, Khadi Abdullahi Halliru, permitted the husband an ultimatum of two weeks to resolve the differences between him and his wife.

When the matter came up yesterday, the counsel to Uba, led by Barrister Umar I. Umar, challenged the court's jurisdiction to hear the case. But the counsel to the plaintiff led by Barrister Ibrahim Aliyu Nassarawa asked the court to adjourn the case to another time for them to counter the motion.

The judge adjourned the case until January 12th, 2023 to rule on the matter.

Asiya-Balaraba Ganduje is the daughter of the governor of Kano State Abdullahi Ganduje.

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Police kill scores of bandits, recover 2 rifles in Bauchi

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

A joint security task force operation led by Bauchi State Police Command has killed scores of bandits and recovered two AK-47 rifles in Alkaleri LGA of the state.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, SP Ahmed Wakil, who disclosed this in a statement in Bauchi, said the taskforce on the eve of New Year, struck bandits' hideouts at Dajin

Madam and Yankari forest.

"During the daring operation, several bandits were neutralised and dislodged from their enclaves, while the remaining sprinted in disarray into the deep forest with possible bullet wounds.

"In the same vein, the troops sustained patrol and clearance operations around the thick forests to arrest the fleeing suspects. Consequently, two AK-47 rifles were recovered during the operation," Wakil said.

The PPRO said the police, in another operation, arrested two suspects, Adamu Mohammed, 33 and Datti Alh. Bulama (aka Dattuwa), 35, for kidnapping.

Wakil explained that investigation revealed that Mohammed confessed to having participated in kidnapping activities in Kaltanga village where they kidnapped four people and camped them at Yankari forest for about five days until the sum of N20 million was paid as ransom.

...arrest 6 for robbery, recover arms, vehicles in Anambra

From Titus Eleweke, Awka

The Anambra State Police Command says it arrested six men for robbery along Ogidi/Eke-Nkpor Road on Wednesday.

The command's spokesman, DSP Toochukwu Ikenga, who revealed the arrest, said the men were about to

flee the scene after a car snatching when they were confronted by security operatives.

He gave the suspects' names as Innocent Ifeanyi, 29, Nweze Chiderah, 33, Igwe Emmanuel, 20, Kelechi Ani, 35, Chidera Nwaobodo, 23, and Emeka Onuoha, 30.

He said the suspects had confessed to their

involvement in several operations, and various arms and vehicles were recovered from them.

"The operatives engaged the armed robbers in a gun duel, and due to superior gun power and a serious chase by the police operatives, the assailants were later arrested with gunshot injuries."

Recruitment: Beware of scammers, NSCDC warns applicants

By Joshua Odeyemi

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) has warned applicants in the ongoing recruitment exercise to be wary of scammers trying to take advantage of the exercise to extort people.

The spokesman of the corps, Olusola Odumosu, in a statement on Thursday in Abuja, said scammers had been circulating messages on social media directing applicants to attend a computer-based aptitude test (CBAT) on January 8 in the 36 states and FCT.

Odumosu said the message was fake, misleading, and a calculated attempt by fraudsters and cyber criminals to take advantage of the recruitment process to extort unsuspecting applicants of their money.

"Members of the public and desperate job seekers are hereby warned not to fall victim to extortions and job scams through a grandiose attempt by job racketeers to misinform and confuse them into parting with different sums of money in the name of helping to shortlist them for

the aptitude test and getting placement in NSCDC.

"We enjoin the public to remain calm and patient for the authentic update and information on the recruitment process.

"All updates with regards to the 2022 recruitment exercise would be published officially and made available to the public by the board in due course," he said.

The NSCDC spokesman said the corps' cyber experts had been directed by the Commandant General, Dr Ahmed Abubakar Audi, to go after the masterminds of the fake information.

Illegal detention: Businessmen demand N100m damages from police, others

By John Chuks Azu

Two businessmen arrested and detained by the Nigeria Police have filed a suit before a Federal High Court in Lafia against the Inspector General of Police, Baba Alkali Usman, and others.

Yusuf Isiaka and Rilwanu Idris were arrested and detained by the police from December 28, 2022 to January 3 in Doma, Nasarawa State over allegations of tearing the campaign poster of the deputy governor of the

state, Dr Emmanuel Agbado Akabe.

They alleged that the police picked them up at the deputy governor's residence after they were invited there.

The businessmen also asked the court to restrain the IGP and the Nigeria Police Force, including their privies, agents, and servants from further arresting and detaining them in connection with the subject matter of the application and an award of N100 million in damages.

In the fundamental rights enforcement application brought on January 3 by their counsel, Mohammed Danjuma, they contended that their detention for six days was a violation of section 41(1) of the Nigerian Constitution, 1999.

They also sought, among other reliefs, a declaration that the FIR pending before the magistrate is a fabrication of executive lawlessness, null and void.

No date has been fixed for a hearing.





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|--|--|--|--|
| 1. South West - Chief Pius Akinyelure | 1.6 National Organizing Secretary North East. (Hon. Ayuba Balami) | 2.1 Zonal Co-ordinator (North West) - Kastina State Governor | 1 Director of Administration - North East (Hon. Suleiman Yola) |
| 2. North East - Kassim Imam | 1.7 National Deputy Organizing South West. (Comr. Ayo Orimolade) | 2.2 Zonal Deputy Co-ordinator - (Kano State) | 2 Deputy Director of Administration - (South) |
| 3. North West - Senator Abu Ibrahim | 1.8 National Treasurer South West, (Prince Ademola Dada) | 2.3 Zonal Co-ordinator - (North East) Gombe State Governor | 3 Director of Transport and Logistics - North West (Peter Manchu) |
| 4. South West - Sen Oluremi Tinubu | 1.9 National Deputy Treasurer (North) | 2.4 Zonal Co-ordinator - (Yobe State) | 4 Deputy Director of Transport and Logistics - South East (Uche Nwoju) |
| 5. South South - Michael Olomu | 1.10 National Media and Publicity Secretary North Central, (Comr. Tar Ukoh) | 2.5 Zonal Co-ordinator - (North Central) Nasarawa State Governor | 5 Director of Special Duty North Central - (Dr. Yakubu Ogunlawo) |
| 6. South East Uche Nnaji | 1.11 National Deputy Publicity Secretary South West, (Princess Bukola Balogun) | 2.6 Zonal Deputy Co-ordinator - (Niger State) | 6 Deputy Director of Special Duty - South West - (Kadirat Balogun) |
| 7. North Central - Umaru Tanko Al-Makura | 1.12 National Women Leader North East, (Hajija Nana Shettima) | 2.7 Zonal Co-ordinator - (South East) Ebonyi State Governor | 7 Director of Welfare - North Central - (Ramatu Adamu Ajiva) |
| | 1.13 National Deputy Women Leader (South West) | 2.8 Zonal Deputy Co-ordinator - (Imo) Sen. Osita Izunaso | 8 Deputy Director of Welfare - South West - (Olarenwaju Ahmed Sule) |
| | 1.14 National Legal Adviser South East, (Barrister Malachy C. Nwaepke) | 2.9 Zonal Co-ordinator - (South West) Lagos State Governor | 9 Director of People Living with Disabilities - South |
| | 1.15 National Deputy Legal Adviser (North West) | 2.10 Zonal Deputy Co-ordinator - (Ogun) - Sen. A. Odunsi | 10 Deputy Director of People Living with Disabilities (North) |
| | 1.16 National Security and intelligence North Central, Maj Gen. Smart Ojo Rtd | 2.11 Zonal Co-ordinator - (South South) Cross River Governor | 11 ICT/Documentation Secretary - South West - (Tokunbo Olayemi Yusuf) |
| | 1.17 National Deputy Security and intelligence (south west) | 2.12 Zonal Deputy Co-ordinator - (Delta State) | 12 ICT/Documentation Deputy Secretary - (North) |
| | 1.18 National youth Leader South East. (Comrade Jude Uzoma) | 2.13 Zonal Women Leader - (South) | |
| | 1.19 National Deputy Youth Leader North West, (Aisha Dorcas Gokkuk) | 2.14 Zonal Deputy Women Leader (North) | |
| | | 2.15 Zonal Youth Leader (North) | |
| | | 2.16 Zonal Deputy Youth Leader (South) | |
| | | 2.17 Zonal Student Affairs (South South) - Igbator Isaac | |
| | | 2.18 Zonal Deputy Student Affairs - (North) | |

NB: Any member of this Group since 2018 who couldn't find his/her name in this list should kindly contact the address above.

Dr. Bola Abdulwahab Yusuf
Deputy National Coordinator,
"Door-to-Door / Neighbour to Neighbour"
Contact and Mobilization of the Electorates at the Grassroot
National Director, Diaspora Affairs, TS PSC.
(Integrity Group)



INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Plot 436, Zambezi Crescent, Maitama, Abuja

GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE ACCREDITATION OF THE MEDIA AND JOURNALISTS FOR 2023 GENERAL ELECTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

To ensure orderliness and safety of all participants in the electoral process, every person in the polling environment on election day will be properly accredited by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). These persons include: Party Agents, Observers, Media Organisations and Journalists.

In the light of this, the following are the guidelines for accreditation of Journalists and media organisations wishing to cover the 2023 General Election.

2.0 APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION:

Media organisations intending to deploy Journalists to cover the 2023 General Election shall apply online to the Commission via; . Each organisation shall attach and upload onto the accreditation portal the list of all staff it wishes to deploy in their various states.

The Portal will open on Thursday, 5th January, 2023 and close on Sunday, 5th February, 2023.

3.0 LIAISON PERSONNEL:

To ensure a seamless accreditation exercise, each media organisation is required to assign a nominee as well as liaise with the Department of Voter Education and Publicity in the states for processing of applications.

4.0 DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR ACCREDITATION:

(a) The contact person of the organisation is required to upload current passport photographs (required size) and work I.D of every staff that will be involved in the coverage of the elections.

(b) The contact person is also required to upload a covering letter from his/her organisation containing the names and duties of officers his/her organisation wishes to deploy (e.g. Reporter, Camera Operator, Translator, Driver, etc).

(c) Online Media organisations will be required to provide their website addresses with evidence of recent posts (i.e regular posts in the last 30 days preceding the date of the application).

(d) Print Journalists may be required to scan and upload at least three recent editions of their publications.

5.0 SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS:

All documents shall be submitted in soft copies through the dedicated online portal as provided above. No hard copy submission will be accepted.

6.0 DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS:

Submission of all applications and documents for accreditation for the 2023 General Election will end at 5:00pm on Sunday, 5th January, 2023.

NB: No late submission shall be entertained as the portal will automatically shut down at the expiration of the submission period and there will be no room for manual accreditation.

7.0 COLLECTION OF KITS:

Journalists/Media organisations whose applications are successful will collect accreditation kits from Monday, 13th to Friday, 17th February at designated centres in the states while collection in the FCT will be at the INEC Headquarters (Annex), No. 10 Blantyre Street, Wuse 2, Abuja. Collection of kits will be from 10.00am to 4.00 pm daily.

8.0 ACCESS TO COLLATION CENTRES:

INEC will allow only one accredited representative per radio station and two per television station (reporter and cameraman) as well as two per newspaper (reporter and photographer) to each collation centre.

9.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF ACCREDITED JOURNALISTS:

Accredited Journalists and allied staff have the right to cover all election procedures within the respective jurisdictions for which they have been accredited. They are expected to strictly abide by relevant laws, INEC Regulations and Guidelines, Rules and Codes from relevant Regulatory Bodies as well as the ethics of Journalism.

10.0 JOURNALISTS ARE TO:

a. Display their photo identification Tags issued by the Commission at all times.

b. Be at the Polling Unit from the opening of poll on Election Day to observe all stages of the polling process – from voter accreditation, through the voting period, to the counting of ballot papers and pasting of results – provided they do not interfere with polling processes or compromise the voters statutory right to secrecy of his/her vote.

c. Move around the Polling Units as long as their movements do not obstruct the voting process or the work of poll officials, interview voters, observers or other persons within the polling environment without interfering with the polling process

d. Observe the deployment of sensitive materials and the retrieval of used and unused sensitive materials after the polling processes.

11.0 JOURNALISTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO:

(a) Film or take photographs of any individual within the polling zone without his/her consent.

(b) Film or photograph any voter marking a ballot paper.

(c) Photograph, acquire pictures, film footage or audio commentary that reveals personal details of the voter.

(d) Film, photograph or copy the Register of Voters, Voter Cards or any other document(s) as would infringe on the privacy of any voter;

(e) Handle any polling material.

12.0 LINE OF AUTHORITY/OBEDIENCE TO LAWFUL DIRECTIONS:

Accredited Journalists, like everyone else in the polling environment shall be subject to the directives and control of the Presiding Officer.

INEC reserves the right to withdraw or revoke at anytime the accreditation of any Journalist who defies the directives of any Presiding Officer or authorized INEC Official or who violates the provisions of any law, regulation, code or professional codes of Journalism practice.

Note:

a. INEC reserves the right to withhold accreditation for any organisation or Journalist whose professional identity could not be verified.

b. There shall no manual accreditation.

c. Only accredited media representatives will be allowed free movement or access to Polling Units, Collation Centres, or any INEC office facility.

d. Accreditation tags will stand as pass for both the Presidential/Senatorial/House of Representatives election of Saturday, 25th February, 2023 and Governorship/State Houses of Assembly election of Saturday, 11th March, 2023.

e. Media organisations are expected to liaise with the HoD, VEP in their respective states for processing of the applications.

f. Applications once filled and submitted cannot be reversed.

For further enquiries, please contact the Director, Voter Education and Publicity, Ayodele Aluko (07034610761) or the Deputy Director, Chinwe Ogbuka (08033141836).

Signed:

Secretary, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC)

INEC: Making your vote count...Consolidating our Democracy

INSIDE POLITICS

“Unless a new Constitution similar to those of 1960 and 1963 Constitutions, with necessary amendments is put in place, none of the candidates, and indeed no angel can save Nigeria from total collapse — Afe Babalola (SAN)

INEC devolves PVCs collection to wards, registration areas

● Inaugurates collation centre, situation room c'ttees

By Abbas Jimoh

Ahead of the 2023 general elections, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has devolved the Permanent Voters Cards (PVCs) collection to registration areas and wards across 774 local government offices of the commission throughout the federation.

INEC national commissioner and chairman Information and Voter Education Committee, Festus Okoye, said this on Thursday.

According to him, all validly registered voters who are yet to collect their PVCs are encouraged to use the opportunity of the devolution to the wards to do so.

Okoye also said that after 15th of January 2023, the exercise will revert to the local government offices of

the commission until 22nd January 2023.

Daily Trust reports that the commission had fixed 22 January 2023 as the last day of PVCs collection.

“All eligible and valid registrants can collect their PVCs from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm daily, including Saturdays and Sundays,” he said.

He also said that all those that applied for the replacement of lost, damaged or defaced PVCs can collect their PVCs at the registration areas/wards during this period and the same thing applies to those that registered prior to the 2019 general election and are yet to collect their cards.

“The PVCs of those that applied for transfer are available for collection in the local governments and registration areas where they

intend to vote and not in the state or local government where they carried out the transfer.

“The commission appreciates the patience and understanding of Nigerians who trooped to our various local government offices to collect their PVCs.

“In making the cards available for collection, the commission is also working to ensure that the process is simple and hitch-free for Nigerians,” he said.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the commission, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, has inaugurated the Situation Room and Collation Centre committees, charging them to commence work in earnest and to discharge its responsibilities diligently.

This is contained in a statement Thursday night by Festus Okoye.



■ Prof. Yakubu

G-5 govts in Oyo for Makinde's re-election campaign flag-off

● PDP inaugurates campaign council in Kano

By Baba Martins (Abuja) & Salim Umar Ibrahim (Kano)

The G-5 governors of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) yesterday stormed Ibadan, the Oyo State capital, for the flag-off of the re-election campaign of Seyi Makinde, the state governor.

Makinde is a member of the G-5 governors who have vowed not to campaign for the presidential candidate of the party, Atiku Abubakar, until the national chairman of the party, Dr Iyorchia Ayu, vacates his seat.

Other members of the group include Rivers State Governor Nyesom Wike, Samuel Ortom (Benue), Okezie Ikpeazu (Abia) and Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi (Enugu).

Addressing supporters at the rally, Governor Wike asked other governorship candidates

in the state to withdraw from the race for Makinde, saying he is the only credible candidate in the state.

He said, “I do not want to market a weak product. You already know Seyi Makinde has done well since you gave him the mandate in 2019. And therefore, the only way you can benefit more is for you to allow him to continue the good work.

“Let me use this opportunity to tell all of you if anybody is contesting in other parties, today, 5th January 2023, please, I'm giving you the final notice, withdraw now.”

On his part, Governor Makinde said he would take the people out of poverty to prosperity under accelerated development, among others.

Meanwhile, PDP has inaugurated the Kano State Campaign Council, management team, and

leadership of zonal caretaker committees to spearhead the campaign activities of the party in the state.

The party's national chairman, Dr Iyorchia Ayu, represented by the National Vice Chairman, North West, Bello Hayatu Gwarzo, who officially inaugurated the executives, said they were carefully selected courtesy of their immense contribution and unreserved loyalty to the progress of the party.

Speaking at the event, former Kano State governor, Ibrahim Shekarau, said, “This council, you are our ambassadors, our eyes and ears, you will oversee our activities in your various locations, you are the ones to represent us down to the polling stations.

“This council is the same and goes in line with the council leadership from the national level.”

Tinubu: Obasanjo's endorsement of Obi poison for Nigeria

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

The candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC), Bola Ahmed Tinubu, has described former President Olusegun Obasanjo's endorsement of the candidate of the Labour Party, Peter Obi, as poison for Nigeria.

The former governor of Lagos State, who stated this yesterday in Benin during his presidential campaign rally, said he became the enemy of Obasanjo when he created additional local government

areas and brought a power generation company from the USA to generate electricity in the state.

“Obasanjo spent N16 billion on electricity. They broke the power company into generation, transmission and distribution, but they could not even generate electricity to power popcorn. They sold the company to themselves.

“Can a man who spent N16bn without electricity endorse anybody for Nigeria? If Obasanjo endorses anybody, is that not a poison for you?”

“If he recommends a leader to you in Nigeria, is he not sending an agent to pick your pocket? And it is like a blind, leading the blind. It will end up in the ditch. Someone who does not know the way cannot show the way,” he said.

He assured that he will turn the country into an economic hub if elected president.

On his part, former governor of Edo State and former national chairman of the APC, Comrade Adams Oshiomhole, said Tinubu stood for multi-party democracy.

I'll unite Nigeria, end hunger, poverty – Obi

● Ogun LP factions resolve crisis

From Raphael Ogbonnaiye (Ado-Ekiti) & Peter Moses (Abeokuta)

The presidential candidate of Labour Party (LP), Peter Obi, has promised to unite the country, end poverty and hunger if given the mandate come February 25.

Obi gave the assurance during his mega campaign rally in Ado-Ekiti, the Ekiti State capital, yesterday.

Obi, a former governor of Anambra State, urged residents and indigenes of Ekiti State to vote for his party and enjoy better jobs for the unemployed youths.

“I want to assure you that if you vote for me as the next president of Nigeria, I will unite and secure this country. I will end hunger, poverty and provide good jobs for numerous unemployed graduates in the country.

“My administration will move this country from consumption to production and bring the dividends of good governance to their doorsteps.”

“I will not only stop corruption, I will eradicate poverty in every state of the federation because our youths will be properly taken care of and they will no

longer be travelling out of the country for greener pastures.”

Meanwhile, the Ogun State chapter of Labour Party (LP) yesterday said it has resolved the crisis that recently tore it into factions, and promised to work for the victory of Obi, and other candidates on the party's platform in the forthcoming general elections.

The LP's National Publicity Secretary, Abayomi Arabambi, disclosed this to newsmen yesterday in Abeokuta, the Ogun State capital, after a stakeholders' meeting.

He assured that none of the party's candidates in the state would step down for any candidate of any other political party but work hard to win the polls.

Arabambi, who was flanked by Michael Ashade and Michael Fehintola, the chairman and secretary, respectively, and other officers of the party, said there were no longer factions in the state chapter of the party.

He said, “Both the PDP and APC are pained because Baba Obasanjo endorsed Obi for president. They said he has no electoral value, that his action is meaningless. Why did they all visit him at different times?”

“If his endorsement does not matter, why are they reacting to it. The will all be shocked when election result is released.

“If you look at the figures released by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), the figures of those who registered after the emergence of Peter Obi, shored up because Obi has renewed hope of Nigerians. Obasanjo must have seen something unique about Peter Obi and his endorsement was not for fun.”



■ Obi

APC govs not in secret deal with Atiku – Nasarawa gov

From Umar Muhammed, Lafia

Governor Abdullahi Sule of Nasarawa State has refuted claims in some quarters that 11 of the 22 governors who are members of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) were having secret meetings with the presidential candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Atiku Abubakar.

He spoke yesterday during a meeting with party officials, members of his campaign council, as well as elected and appointed government officials at the government house Lafia, the state capital.

There are hints that some governors and National Working Committee (NWC) members of the APC were working for Atiku instead of the ruling



■ Gov. Sule

party's candidate, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, ahead of the February 25 poll.

He said the claim was untrue and the handiwork of the opposition and those looking for favour from Tinubu and bent on painting the APC

governors black.

Governor Sule said there was no reason for any APC governor from the North to want to meet with Atiku, particularly considering that it was the same Northern APC governors that stood firm

for the party's presidential ticket to go to the South.

He said nobody was presently under pressure to ensure that Tinubu won the presidential election more than the APC northern governors.

He used the occasion to call on the presidential candidate of the APC, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, to be wary of such falsehoods and those circulating it.

He said, "When the APC governors from the North realised that we were trying to retain the position in the North, the APC governors rose to the occasion and said no, this position has to go to the South in order for us to be respected as people who believe in Nigeria."

"After Baba held this office for eight years, with the help of the South, if today we say we still want to hold on to the position, the world will not respect Northerners."

INEC warns against manipulation of BVAS

From Ado Abubakar Musa

As this year's general elections draw nearer, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has warned its ICT personnel against manipulation of the Bimodal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS).

The Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) in Plateau State, Dr Oliver Tersoo, gave the warning yesterday during a demonstration session on the configuration of the BVAS, to the REC and ICT personnel, at the headquarters of the commission in Jos.

Addressing the staff of the commission during the exercise, Dr

Tersoo called on the ICT personnel saddled with the responsibility of the configuration of the machines to maintain a high level of trust, loyalty and commitment to their job.

He said any attempt to exploit the machines would tarnish the image of the commission, emphasising that they shouldn't betray the trust bestowed upon them.

Malam Salisu, an INEC staff from Abuja who anchored the demonstration session, also told the ICT personnel to be diligent in their work as everyone would be paid for their job.

Recall that INEC took delivery of its last consignment of the BVAS machines on Wednesday.

Appeal court to decide on Zamfara PDP gov'ship candidacy today

By John Chuks Azu

The Court of Appeal in Sokoto will today deliver judgment in the appeal challenging the governorship candidate of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Zamfara State, Dr Dauda Lawal.

Lawal defeated his two opponents, Ibrahim Shehu and Hafiz Nahuche, with 422 votes against their one vote each.

Dissatisfied, Shehu

approached the Federal High Court, Gusau, which nullified the primary and ordered PDP to conduct a rerun within 14 days.

The party complied and conducted the rerun and Dauda Lawal re-emerged, but Shehu again approached the same High Court saying that there was no election.

The court ruled in his favour, saying that the PDP has no governorship candidate for this year's election.

Campaigns: Rivers PDP pays N95m for use of state facilities

From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

The Rivers State chapter of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has said it has complied with the necessary laws by paying the sum of N95 million for the use of public facilities for its open-door campaigns in the state.

The party said the payment was in compliance with the precautionary requirement of N5 million per venue stipulated by Executive Order 21 issued

last year by the Rivers State government.

A statement yesterday by the chairman of the Publicity and Communications Committee of the Consolidation of the New Rivers Vision Campaign Council, Chief Ogbonna Nwuke, disclosed that PDP was merely living by example and wished other political parties to follow suit.

He said the party had received official approval from the office

of the Commissioner for Education, Professor Prince Chinedum Mbom, entitling it to use facilities owned by the state government.

Recall that Executive Order 21 prescribes the payment of N5 million by political parties as precautionary fees for the use of facilities such as schools, among others.

Part of the letter conveyed to the PDP in the state reads, "I hereby acknowledge receipt of your deposit of the total

sum of N95,000,000 only into the state government account, being the required precautionary deposit for the use of your indicated public school facilities in Rivers State.

"Sir, Sequel to your compliance with the directive as contained in our letter dated 6th December 2022, I hereby convey to you, my approval of your request for the use of state-owned schools' facilities as indicated in the annexure to your application."

Kogi ex-speaker, others dump APC for PDP

By Tijani Labaran, Lokoja

A former speaker of the Kogi State House of Assembly, Hon. Alfa Imam, has defected from the All Progressives Congress (APC) alongside his supporters to the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

The former speaker, who led thousands of APC

members from Lokoja LGA in the state to the PDP in a ceremony in Lokoja yesterday, claimed that the ruling party had failed the country.

Imam said he was overwhelmed with the warm reception given to him by the PDP, stressing that his defection to the party was not to seek an alternative to the APC, but

rather, a move to work with the party that has a structure and organised leadership.

He promised to work for the PDP's victory in the forthcoming general elections, adding that "his journey to PDP is a privilege and not a right."

Earlier, Senator Tunde Ogbeha who received the former speaker on behalf of

the PDP, assured the party members that the factor of the former speaker would change the political narrative in the state.

"Alfa Imam is welcome to PDP. I must thank him for his foresight, empathy and courage. I call on all lovers of peace and progress to come out of their hiding places and join PDP," he said.

NNPP vows to sack APC in Katsina, end insecurity

From Tijani Ibrahim, Katsina

The New Nigerian Peoples Party (NNPP) has inaugurated its gubernatorial campaign in Katsina State, ahead of the March 11, governorship and state assembly elections.

The party's governorship

candidate in the state, Engineer Nura Khalil, was accompanied to the venue of the event by his Kano State counterpart, Abba Kabir Yusuf, popularly known as Abba Gida-Gida. The event was held in Mashi, the headquarters of Mashi LGA.

In his address, Khalil said

he and his party were out to salvage the state from insecurity and economic hardship caused by the present administration of APC at both the state and the federal levels.

He said if elected, he would utilise the solar energy in Mashi and other parts of the state to generate

power that could earn up to N100bn revenue annually for the state.

Earlier in his address, Yusuf said they were in Katsina to inaugurate the governorship campaign on behalf of the party's leader and presidential candidate, Engr Rabi Musa Kwankwaso.

We're confident Atiku will deliver on campaign promises – Theodore Orji

By Linus Effiong Umuahia

A former governor of Abia State and the South East Coordinator for the Atiku/Okowa Presidential Campaign, Senator Theodore Orji, has said the Igbo have confidence in the ability of the PDP presidential candidate, Atiku Abubakar, to fulfil his campaign promises to the people of the region if given the mandate in the February 25 poll.

Inaugurating the PDP campaign in the state yesterday, Orji said Atiku is the best and most qualified candidate to succeed President Muhammadu Buhari on May 29.

"He (Atiku) does not play with Igbo; he has promised what he would do for Igbo when he leaves office. Ala Igbo has

confidence in Atiku just as he has confidence in us," Orji said.

He charged the members selected from the 17 LGAs of the state to show commitment, loyalty, and hard work in order to deliver PDP candidates in the elections.



■ Orji



PRINCE ABUBAKAR AUDU UNIVERSITY, ANYIGBA

P.M.B. 1008 ANYIGBA, KOGI STATE, NIGERIA

SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

ADVERTISEMENT OF POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR 2022/2023 ACADEMIC SESSION

The School of Postgraduate Studies, Prince Abubakar Audu University (formerly Kogi State University, Anyigba) hereby invites applications from qualified candidates for admission into Postgraduate Programmes of the University, leading to the award of Postgraduate Diplomas, Masters Degrees as well as Doctor of Philosophy Degrees for the 2022/2023 Academic session

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE:

1. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS & EXTENSION

- (i) PhD Agricultural Economics
- (ii) PhD Agricultural Extension
- (iii) M.Sc. Agricultural Economics
- (iv) M.Sc. Agricultural Extension
- (v) PGD Agricultural Economics and Extension

2. DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION

- (i) M.Sc. Animal Production
- (ii) PGD Animal Production

3. DEPARTMENT OF CROP PRODUCTION

- (i) PhD Agronomy
- (ii) M.Phil/PhD
- (iii) M.Sc. Agronomy (Crop Production)
- (iii) PGD Crop Production

4. DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, NUTRITION & HOME SCIENCES

- (i) PGD (Food Science and Technology)

5. DEPARTMENT OF SOIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

- (i) PhD
- (ii) M.Sc.
- (iii) PGD Soil and Environmental Management

FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES:

1. DEPARTMENT OF ARABIC & ISLAMIC STUDIES

- (i) PhD Arabic Language & Literature
- (ii) MPhil/PhD Arabic Language & Literature
- (iii) M.A Arabic Language & Literature.
- (iv) PGD Arabic Language & Literature.
- (v) MPhil/PhD Islamic Studies
- (vi) M.A Islamic Studies.
- (vii) PGD Islamic Studies.

2. DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & LITERARY STUDIES

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- (ii) M.A (Literature in English)
- (iii) PGD (English and Literary Studies)

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- (i) PhD Theatre Arts
- (ii) M.A Theatre Arts
- (iii) PGD Theatre Arts

4. DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

- (i) PhD Religious Studies
- (ii) M.A Religious Studies

5. DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

- (i) PhD History
- (ii) M.A. History

6. DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

- (i) PhD Philosophy
- (ii) M.A. Philosophy

FACULTY OF EDUCATION:

Department of Arts Education
M.A (Ed). English Education
Department of Social Science Education
M.Ed. Social Studies
PGD in Civic Human Right Education
PGD in Security and Crime Management Education
PGD in Social Studies
Department of Science Education
M.Sc. Ed Biology
M.Sc. Ed Chemistry
M.Sc. Ed Mathematics
M.Sc. Ed Physics
PGD in Science Education

FACULTY OF LAW:

- PhD Law
LLM
(iii) Master of Arts, Law and Diplomacy (MALD)

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES:

1. DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

- (i) M.Phil/PhD
- (ii) M.Sc. Accounting
- (iii) M.Sc. Taxation
- (iv) PGD Accounting

2. DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

- (i) M.Phil/PhD
- (ii) M.Sc. Management
- (iii) Master of Business Administration (MBA) Management
- (iv) PGD Management

3. DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND FINANCE

- (i) M.Sc. Banking and Finance
- (ii) PGD Banking and Finance

4. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- (i) M.Sc. Public Administration
- (ii) Master of Public Administration (MPA)
- (ii) PGD Public Administration

FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES:

1. DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY

- (i) PhD Biochemistry
- (ii) M.Sc. Biochemistry
- (iii) PGD Biochemistry

2. DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

- (i) M.Sc. Animal and Environmental Biology (Fisheries and Hydrobiology)
- (ii) PGD Animal and Environmental Biology
- (iii) PGD Plant Science and Biotechnology

3. DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

- (i) PhD Organic Chemistry
- (ii) M.Sc. Chemistry
- (iii) PGD Chemistry

4. DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES

- (i) M.Sc. Geology
- (ii) PGD Geology

5. DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

- (i) M.Sc. Mathematics
- (ii) PGD Mathematics
- (iii) PGD Statistics

6. DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

- (i) PGD Computer Sciences

7. DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

- (i) PhD Microbiology
- (ii) M.Sc. Microbiology

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES:

1. DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

- (i) PhD Geography (Environmental Resource Management)
- (ii) M.Sc. Geography (Environmental Resource Management)
- (iii) M.Sc. Geography (Biogeography)
- (iv) Masters in Environmental Management (MEM)
- (v) PGD Environmental Management

2. DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION

- (i) M.Sc. Mass Communication
- (ii) PGD Mass Communication

3. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

- (i) M.Sc. Economics
- (ii) PGD Economics

4. DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

- (i) M.Sc. Political Science
- (ii) PGD Political Science

5. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

- (i) PhD Sociology
- (ii) M.Phil/PhD Sociology
- (iii) M.Sc. Sociology
- (iv) PGD Sociology

ELIGIBILITY FOR DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD) PROGRAMMES

An applicant for admission into PhD programmes shall:

Be a graduate of Prince Abubakar Audu University or any other approved University who has obtained the degree of Master of Arts or Science (M.A/M.Sc.).

Possess a minimum of 3.5 Cumulative Grade point Average on a 5 point scale or equivalent letter grade B in previous postgraduate core courses.

For programmes in Natural Sciences a candidate must possess a minimum of 4.0 Cumulative Grade point Average on a 5 point scale or equivalent letter grade B in previous postgraduate core courses.

Candidates who do not meet the criteria in (b) & (c) above can apply for M.Phil/PhD in their respective Programmes where available.

Be a holder of a Bachelor's degree (B.Sc., B.A, LLM) of Kogi State University or any approved University.

HND holders without a Bachelor's degree need not apply

ELIGIBILITY FOR MASTER OF ARTS/MASTER OF SCIENCE (ACADEMIC)

For Master's Degree Programmes (M.A/M.Sc.), a candidate is required to:

Possess a Bachelor's degree of Prince Abubakar Audu University or any other recognized University in the relevant programme.

Possess a CGPA of not less than 3.00 for programmes in the Faculties of Natural Sciences and Social Sciences.

Possess relevant 'O' Level credit.

HND holders without a Bachelor's degree need not apply.

ELIGIBILITY FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA (PGD)

To qualify for admission into Postgraduate Diploma Programmes, a candidate is required to:

Hold a minimum of Third Class degree of Prince Abubakar Audu University or any other recognized University.

Have a Higher National Diploma (HND) at credit level in related fields.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY/ REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

All applicants for Postgraduate admission must satisfy the 'O' Level first degree requirement of Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba as follows:

Possess five 'O' Level credit passes (Matriculation requirement for each discipline) at not more than two sittings in the relevant subjects, including English Language for ALL disciplines and Mathematics for ALL Science-based disciplines, Geography, Management Sciences and Social Sciences.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

The application fee for ALL Postgraduate programmes is **N25,000.00** (Twenty-five thousand naira only).

Note that all payments are Remita driven.

The access and filling of the PG application form can be done on the University PG Portal. The following are the requirements for the online application:

1. O' Level result
2. B.Sc./B.A/LLB/M.Sc./M.A/LLM results (All graduates of PAAU should apply with certificates)
3. Highest Degree CGPA
4. NYSC certificate
5. Referees' E-mail addresses
6. The completed online application form should be printed and submitted to the Secretary, school of Postgraduate Studies.

NOTE:

Candidates are required to request their former institutions to forward their transcripts of academic records to the Secretary, School of Postgraduate Studies, Prince Abubakar Audu University, Anyigba, before the closing date of this advertisement.

Sales of application forms will commence from 11th January 2023 to 31st March, 2023 (12 weeks from the date of this advertisement).

Completed application forms should be submitted to:

The Secretary,
School of Postgraduate Studies,
Prince Abubakar Audu University
P.M.B. 1008,
Anyigba, Kogi State.

SIGNED:
Alh. Nuhu Ahmadu Ahmed
Registrar



NIGERIAN MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AND SAFETY AGENCY (NIMASA)

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Maritime House: 4 Burma Road, Apapa, P.M.B. 12861, Lagos.

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MN 01/23/SN01

MARINE NOTICE

TO: All Ship Owners, Operators, Managers, Oil Companies, Masters and Officers of Merchant Ships, Agents, Charterers, Offshore Installations & Platforms Operators and the Public.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENT FOR ALL SHIPS TO WHICH THE CLC/IOPC FUND 92 REGIME APPLIES TO COMPLETE THE CONTRIBUTING OIL REPORTING 1 (COR-1) FORM

Pursuant to the Agency's statutory mandate to regulate, promote, control and prevent marine pollution, as contained in section 1 (ii) & 22 (1) (i) of the NIMASA Act 2007 and its powers to implement International Maritime Instruments ratified and domesticated by Nigeria under the Merchant Shipping Act 2007 and its Regulations;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

1. That all ships carrying 2,000 gross tonnage (GT) and above of Oil in bulk as cargo, to which the 1992 Civil Liability Convention (1992 CLC) and the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage (IOPC), 1992 Fund apply shall fill and submit the contributing oil report form (COR-1) as a landing document requirement.
2. That the following information shall be included in the COR-1 Form:
 - a) details of the Contributing Oil Receiving company/entity (NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER ETC.)
 - b) details of the invoicing company/entity (Contributing Oil Supplier)
 - c) quantity of contributing Oil received
 - d) type of Contributing Oil received
 - e) location of Receiving Facility
3. All contributing oil receivers in Nigeria are mandated to complete a Contributing Oil Report Form (COR-1) for every consignment of contributing oil received within Nigerian territory, including the Territorial Sea and the Exclusive Economic Zone.
4. Contributing Oil Report Form can be obtained free at the MEM Department office located on the Third Floor, NMRDC Complex, Kirikiri, Lagos or can be downloaded from www.nimasa.gov.ng.
5. The completed form (COR-1) shall be signed by an authorized official of the Contributing Oil receiving company/entity and endorsed by an authorized official of the Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA).
6. Contributing Oil Receiving companies/entities shall submit the completed Contributing Oil Report form (COR-1) every quarter to the National Standing Committee (NSC) Secretariat located at NIMASA on the implementation of the IOPC Funds at the address provided below.

The public is invited to note that the above requirements are in line with international standards.

The Agency will commence necessary measures to enforce and ensure compliance.
Please be guided.

For further information and guidance, please contact:

The Director,
Marine Environment Management Department Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency
3rd Floor Administrative Building, Nigerian Maritime Resource Development Centre (NMRDC),
Kirikiri Town, Lagos.
Telephone: +2347055792968
Email: mem@nimasa.gov.ng, onaiviheaky@yahoo.com.
Or visit our website: [www.nimasa.gov.ng/marine environment management](http://www.nimasa.gov.ng/marine%20environment%20management)

SIGNED: MANAGEMENT

OPINION

Email: opinion@dailytrust.com
Text: 08131800030

The Apo-Karshi Road

By Nick Dazang

By the 1970s, our major cities, including the then Federal Capital, Lagos, were hardly scrupulously planned. Even where they were, such masterplans were distorted and recklessly abused. Consequently, most had assumed the unedifying statuses of sprawling slums and eyesores. Their poor drainage and our equally poor waste management made our cities liable to flooding. Lagos, particularly, with its sundry lagoons and limited landmass constrained expansion.

In an attempt to correct these anomalies, the planners of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja, borrowed copiously from other custom-made and custom-designed cities such as Washington, Brasilia and Canberra. They discarded the designs foisted by the colonialists where flats came with Boys Quarters for domestic helps who were at their beck and call. They also envisioned that the city would accommodate one million people.

As it has turned out, and thanks to the relocation of the seat of government from Lagos to Abuja, by fiat in 1991, Abuja metropolis alone has grown exponentially into a city accommodating 3,652,000 people, an increase of 5.43% from 2021. Since in our clime government facilitates, in fact, drives other activities, including business, Nigerians have moved to Abuja in droves. Apart from its allure and misperception as some El Dorado by provincial folks, many communities fleeing the menace of terrorists or ethno-religious crises have found succour in Abuja's relative peace.

The notion of keeping domestic helps at bay, and in the outskirts, has proved dysfunctional and has rendered Abuja a monstrosity. In addition to the menial workers who reside in the outskirts of Kubwa, Gwagwalada and the Nyanya-Masaka axis, nearly all the civil servants reside in the outskirts and satellite towns.

The high cost of rent, occasioned by the inundation of Abuja by Nigerians of all hues, has made the cost of accommodation so prohibitive that even Directing Staff of the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) can hardly afford.

As a consequence of the mass exodus to the outskirts, vehicular traffic on the Airport, Kubwa and Abuja-Keffi expressways is heavy. Thanks to the creation of extra lanes over the past 30 years, the traffic gridlocks appear to ease on the Airport and Kubwa expressways.

Unfortunately, and in spite of the dualisation of the Abuja-Keffi Road under the watch of President Olusegun Obasanjo and the recently concluded expansion of the Mogadishu Barracks to Nyanya, traffic snarl on the Abuja-Keffi Road is a daily occurrence.

The gridlock worsens when there is an accident, which is frequent, especially involving trucks and articulated vehicles. When these accidents occur, commuters are stranded for hours on end or they even sleep in the traffic. Others find recourse in trekking.

At other occasions when accidents occur during working hours, commuters

hardly make it to their offices or when they report at all, they do so late and exhausted.

The adverse consequences of this gridlock to man-hours, appointments, productivity, health and wear and tear on the vehicles are better left to the imagination.

Thankfully, the Apo-Karshi Road, which has been under construction since 2011 promises to offer a huge relief to this daily gridlock and grind. As at March last year, this critically important alternative to the Abuja-Keffi Road was touted by the authorities to being at the verge of completion and commissioning.

In fact, on an inspection visit of this road, which contract was awarded in parts to Messrs SCC Nigeria and Messrs Kakatar CE Ltd, the Minister of State for the FCT, Dr. Ramatu Tijani Aliyu, was informed in early March last year that the road was nearing completion and that it would "soon" be ready for inauguration and use. A delighted Dr. Aliyu was said by the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) to have remarked, correctly, that the road would offer a huge relief to commuters if completed.

Regrettably, eight months after this visit, the road is yet to be completed, commissioned and put into use.

While this writer makes a strong and urgent case for the completion of the Apo-Karshi Road, he must also observe that the said road will bring even greater relief and that it will further ease vehicular congestion if it is linked with the road that takes off from Orozo (adjoining Karshi) to Kodape/Auta Balefi (on the Abuja-Keffi Road).

This linkage will seamlessly allow those who are commuting to Keffi from Abuja to by-pass AYA, Nyanya, Mararaba, One-Man-Village, New Karu, New Nyanya and Masaka.

Also, to ease vehicular traffic ingressing the FCT through Abaji, the government should rehabilitate and secure the Abaji-Nasarawa Toto-Nasarawa-Keffi Road. By so doing, commuters who are traveling to Benue, Plateau and the North East States from Lokoja can by-pass the Abaji-Gwagwalada-Airport Road-City Centre-AYA Road.

If the will and commitment are summoned by the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Muhammad Musa Bello, the Apo-Karshi Road should be completed and put to use in a matter of two months. After all, we are in the dry season, which favours construction. Besides, the contractors, had in March last year admitted that funds had been released to them.

Additionally, the FCT Minister has been a stickler for restoring Abuja's Masterplan. He has also been acclaimed for his frugality, integrity and decency. But what are the worth of these uplifting virtues if they cannot be deployed to complete the Apo-Karshi Road, thereby ending the suffering and misery of millions of Nigerians put in his care?

He should please rise to the occasion and bequeath a legacy of compassion and bringing development to our beloved Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

Nick Dazang is a former Director at the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

OPINION

A reform initiative for achieving good governance

By Emeka Ejikonye

I have always argued that the bane of good governance in Nigeria is the lack of public-accountability in our governance, caused by the absence of an operation-control-device for monitoring and evaluating the administrative performance of our civil servants in the budgetary-process. This denies our elected officials critical information on strategies for policy coordination and feedback, which, in turn, breeds a perpetual lack of information for guiding coherent and systematic dialogue between elected officials and civil servants regarding problems and successes encountered in the public-service-delivery arena. This condemns our governance to a mere symbol rather than rational activity founded on explicitly organised knowledge which, in turn, breeds the characteristic resort of our governments to speculative and provisional fiscal-forecasting; spontaneous and sporadic administrative decision-making; and inability to track public-expenditures and assess policy impacts in the light of their set objectives.

The existing scenario is one of poor-programme-coordination and inadequate information-flow issuing from our restriction of budgetary-information-management to post-hoc inspection of purely financial records. There is a total lack of specialists in institutional resource management for aggregating administrative performance information among officials charged with the budgeting responsibility. This denies our elected officials the critical analytical-database for reflecting the numerous decisions made by different officials at different times along with the multiple objectives of most public-policy statements. There is also the lack of a visibly credible means of setting budgetary objectives in terms of measurable-social benefits and controlled implementation. This breeds tunnel-vision wherein the experiences, life-style preferences and values of elected officials becloud the forecasting of public needs. Thus, denied a holistic-social perspective, narrow-view of public-needs guides our governance. Herein lies the bane of successive-governments' efforts at poverty eradication; they fail to define 'poverty from the viewpoint of the citizenry before articulating the 'eradication' antidote.

Good governance requires elected officials to ride on the operation-control-device of public budgeting to achieve constant and consistent monitoring and evaluation of the civil service down to the field-level-units to serve as the building-blocks of the budgetary-structure. The activity-process thrives on an institutional-structure that originates from the Office of the President and Legislature, and spreads out to integrate all the sectorial-fields of civil-service-responsibility down the agency-hierarchy to the field-level of interaction with the citizenry. This breeds a coordinated-approach for conceiving and implementing all budgetary-objectives through a single but far-flung public-service-delivery-procedure that connects the government to the citizenry through effective control and deployment of the civil service. From herein will emerge Public-Accountability as Administrative-Performance-Auditing for accessing: accurate, up-to-date and timely-information from the civil service; rapid aggregation of activity-level-data to and from the field levels of interaction with the citizenry; and a policy-review-procedure that is flexible and present-oriented whilst focused on future decision-issues.

To achieve this feat, the Executive MUST work very closely with the Legislature to

initiate five administrative processes for driving government-budgeting.

1) Central coordination of the budgetary-practice from the office of the elected chief executive officer of governance (i.e. President/Governor).

2) Clarification of agency-funding-requests in terms of not only programme-categories but also efficiency and effectiveness of the administrative-performance of the specific agency.

3) Constant and consistent monitoring and evaluation of all government-spending for easy identification of their sources and uses through a coherent decision-making-process.

4) Decentralisation and opening-up of legislative-appropriation-practice through structural and procedural-innovations for asserting the initiative of the legislators vis-à-vis the president/governor in budgetary matters.

5) Executive-submission of three-budgetary-documents to the Legislature within the course of each year, namely; Regular-Budget-Proposal, Mid-Year-Performance-Evaluation-Report and Year-End-Performance-Evaluation-Report (a.k.a., "State-of-the-Nation-Address").

These innovations require the elected-officials to identify and isolate policy-coordination as a distinct activity from fiscal policy-making within government budgeting. On the one hand, they must establish economic-advisory-units in the Office of the President/Governor and Legislature to focus on the public-financial-management-task of regulating aggregate-government-demand for revenue and expenditure. On the other hand, they must establish administrative-performance-auditing units in the offices of the president/governor and minister/commissioner, and legislature as the operation-control-arms of the government. The latter will provide the coordinated-approach to the sectorial-fields of civil-service-responsibility to inject institutional-resource-management into our governance as the primary means of improving the quality of our social livelihood and rescuing our elected officials from the confusion of government-budgeting as merely public-financial-management.

Overall, this reform initiative calls for total overhaul of the existing institutional-structure of governance to usher in a new public-service-delivery-process that is founded on the rule of good-governance. Herein, "rule of good-governance", simply means "constant and consistent supply, coordination, aggregation and feedback of administrative-performance-information for guiding continuous and holistic decision-making interaction between elected officials and civil servants regarding problems and successes encountered throughout the public-service-delivery-arena". This will birth a new approach to governance that is founded on: a deliberately-designed and properly-applied public-accountability-apparatus; and effectively-tamed and properly-deployed civil service. Thenceforth, that large complex organisation called, "Federal Government of Nigeria", which must measure success in terms of improvement in the quality of our social-livelihood, would have acquired the requisite tool for doing a first-class job of public-service-delivery. Ultimately, the endemic public cynicism and perception of governance in Nigeria as morbidly-chaotic and uncontrollable, corruptive and unresponsive would begin to fade away and gradually disappear into the horizon.

Ejikonye, Ph.D is a specialist in public budgeting and can be reached via emekaejikonye@gmail.com

EDITORIAL

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

Professor George Obiozor (1942–2022)

Professor George Obiozor, one of Nigeria's finest and most renowned academics, diplomats, statesmen, patriots, and foremost Igbo leader, died on December 26, 2022.

At the time of his death, Obiozor was the President-General of Ohanaeze Ndigbo Worldwide, the apex Igbo socio-cultural organisation.

A citizen of the world in the true sense of it, he served at the highest levels of Nigeria's foreign policy establishment, rising to the top as Director-General of the Nigerian Institute for International Affairs (NIIA) and Nigeria's Ambassador to the United States, Washington, DC.

His death was felt across the country. President Muhammadu Buhari said he was "deeply saddened" by his passing, and extended his heartfelt condolences to Obiozor's family, the government and people of Imo State, as well as Ndigbo, at home and in the Diaspora.

The president believes that "the contributions of the unique leader and strong proponent of peace and a stable polity," will never be forgotten.

Former president, Dr Goodluck Jonathan, described his death as a huge loss to the nation, stressing that "Professor Obiozor left enduring legacies and would be missed not only by his family and friends but by the diplomatic, academic and cultural communities across the world."

Born on August 15, 1942, in Awo-Omamma, Oru East LGA of Imo State, Obiozor had his education at Awo-Omamma Comprehensive Secondary School from 1959 to 1963.

For his higher education, he attended the Institute of African Studies, Geneva, Switzerland, in 1967 for a diploma programme. He went on to the University of South Tacoma, Washington, USA, where he obtained a B.A. (Hons) in Political Science in 1968.

He obtained a master's degree from Columbia University, New York, in International Law and Organisation; an M. Phil in International Affairs in 1974, and finally, a doctorate in International Affairs in 1976.

Prof. Obiozor was a lecturer at the Pratt Institute, New York City, from 1971 to 1975. He went on to become an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the City University of New York (CUNY) Medgar Evers College, between 1975 and 1979 and a Ralph Bunche Research Fellow in the United Nations City University of New York Graduate Center from 1977 to 1978.

He was the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the State of Israel and High Commissioner to the Republic of Cyprus between 1993 and 2003.

Obiozor was also the Nigerian Ambassador to the United States from 2004 to 2008.

He participated in dozens of conferences, delegations, and missions for Nigeria and the United Nations, and authored tons of seminal works, including highly regarded journal articles and numerous books on foreign policy and international relations.

Some of them include *Uneasy Friendships: Nigeria-United States Relations*, *The Politics of Precarious Balancing: An Analysis of Contending Issues in Nigerian Domestic and Foreign Policy* and *Nigeria and the World: Managing the Politics of Diplomatic Ambivalence in a Changing World*.

Obiozor holds the traditional title of Ugwumba 1 of Orlu conferred on him in 1991.

He was a grantee of the Albert Schweitzer fellowship and Alice Stetten fellowship, Columbia University School of International Affairs.

He was also the Special Adviser, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Special Assistant to the President on International Affairs in 1990.

On Sunday, January 9, 2021, Obiozor was elected as the President-General of the Ohanaeze Ndigbo, a socio-cultural group that was formed to cater for the welfare of the Igbo nation.

As the leader of Ohanaeze, Obiozor faced personal losses and attacks. On 19 March 2022, his country home was set ablaze. The gunmen used an improvised explosive device (IED) to destroy the building, causing him to lose his personal library, property and mementos. He was deeply pained by the attack.

Obiozor was a towering intellectual. In his death, Nigeria lost a foreign policy expert. He was not just a Professor of International Relations, he had also practised what he taught. He had a deep knowledge of international affairs and practised it.

His loss is not just to his family but to Nigeria, as he knew his onions. As a well-known intellectual giant and leader, he will be missed. May God accept his exemplary service to Nigeria and the world.

MOUNIR GWARZO: Group Chief Executive Officer
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NAZIRU MIKAILU: Group ED, Digital and Editorial
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GLOBAL CONNECTION

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Saving the Central Bank (I)

In determining the future prices of shares and therefore the prices of options (financial instruments) written on such shares, commodities or other instruments, we were taught the Ito's Lemma at master's level. It all sounded so strange in the beginning and indeed the Professor did not explain what a 'lemma' was, or who Ito was.

I was to later find out that there was a Professor Kiyoshi Ito, who had arrived at a formula named 'Ito's Lemma', so called because he actually could not prove or remember how he arrived at that conclusion. Lemma. You know, we all have dilemmas from time to time. That is two lemmas. As Professor Ito could not determine how he arrived at his formula, so also are we often nonplussed between taking a decision or not, especially where our choice will have consequences.

In mathematics, a lemma is a minor, proven proposition which derives its importance from the theorem it aims to prove. The word derives from Ancient Greek, meaning 'gift' or 'bribe'.

Anyway, to continue the story, I remember that Ito's Lemma (that formula), was combined with the formula for dispersal of heat or pollen (from physics), and through some mathematical abracadabra (algebra no doubt), what is known as the Black-Scholes Formula was derived. This formula was used in the pricing of those 'options' and was indeed (perhaps remains so because the academia hardly changes course even in the face of cataclysms), an almighty formula. Almighty, because the trio of Fischer Black, Myron Scholes and Robert Merton would in 1997 be jointly awarded a Nobel Prize for deriving this same formula (off the back of a lemma – an inexplicable mathematical theory).

Suffice to say that just a year after this Nobel Prize, the super Hedge Fund owned by these gurus, called Long Term Capital Management, collapsed, losing \$4.6 billion, after receiving a Federal Reserve Bank-brokered \$3.6 billion bailout from 14 top American banks.

I believe strongly that most people have not bothered to understudy the business of central banks and their challenges. People think it is easy work. Anyone from the comfort of their sitting rooms or beer parlours could do a jolly great work of being a central bank governor, but I don't think it's that easy. Indeed, I think it's a curse. Well, in university (first degree level), we were introduced to the 'unholy trinity', also known as the 'impossible trilemma'. We were told that this is a constant problem that all central banks – and indeed economies – must grapple with. This triumvirate include:

1. A fixed foreign exchange rate
2. Free capital movement (absence of capital controls)
3. Independent monetary policy

What this means is that if a country wishes to fix its exchange rate or defend it, it must have to dispense with one of the other two. Only two policy positions can be taken while the third must be let go. A country like Nigeria is currently straddling between managing her foreign exchange rate and keeping control of monetary policy. We do not have free capital movement for now. This is the agony of many believers in market-

determined exchange rate – and indeed everything else in-between.

Whereas there was never a point at which a consensus was reached that the principal duty of central banks is to achieve price stability, this has been generally agreed around the world. I believe this is also a product of the heady days when we thought we had conquered booms and busts, pre-the Great Recession of 2008-10.

In those days we felt the financial markets had arrived and the upward trajectory was unstoppable. The same infusion of pure science into financial markets which were run by human beings with all the emotions and behavioural issues, led to the crash. But human memory is fleeting, and no sooner than taxpayers' monies were pumped to stabilize banks, carmakers

I remember this was called 'the privatization of profits and socialization of losses' back in the day. So, whereas it is good to target price stability, I see no reason why a central bank cannot contextualize its priorities or pursue other goals within its ambit – in addition to price stability.

and others who had professed crass capitalism, we all went back to the same delusional ideologies.

I remember this was called 'the privatization of profits and socialization of losses' back in the day. So, whereas it is good to target price stability, I see no reason why a central bank cannot contextualize its priorities or pursue other goals within its ambit – in addition to price stability.

Milton Friedman, a famous monetarist and believer in perfect markets was the one who popularized the idea of central banks setting out to target only inflation when he said that 'inflation is always and everywhere a monetary phenomenon', and that "There is one and only one basic cause of inflation: too high a rate of growth in the quantity of money'.

These famous statements however blindsided us from other causes of inflation and indeed indoctrinated – almost hypnotized – our minds from roaming freely, seeking solutions. It sounds very much like what Margaret Thatcher used to say 'TINA – There is no alternative'. In economics though, there are always alternatives, different ways of doing things. And indeed, different ways of thinking. As Maynard Keynes' ideas made a lot of sense and difference post-World War II, only to be flawed later, so also does Milton Friedman's ideas make sense in an era, but must now be critiqued.

The stranglehold of neo-liberal economists on economic thought and academic pedagogy is what is still giving these otherwise dead ideas free reign. Many are fighting on the other side though, but their voices are drowned by the power of money.

Continued on www.dailytrust.com

LETTERS to the Editor

CARTOON by Kehinde O. Omotosho



Re: Buhari's pay rise

This is a follow up to your previous week's piece on Slave salaries and related issues. The pay crisis facing employees in both public and private sectors is systemic; you leave it low, it is overwhelmed by our free rising inflation. Whenever the pay is raised, it is rapidly diminished or cancelled by our uncontrolled hyperinflation.

To me, as a non-economic expert, the delicate balancing act is how to pay the workers the so-called 'living wage' while maintaining prices of essential services within reasonable limits. Also some form of welfarism which subsidises basic needs is imperative.

Another dimension to the issue is the ability of the national economy and its revenue bases to grow consistently to afford and sustain these pay rises. This is a country where several state governments pretend to be paying even the paltry minimum wage of N30,000 either due to inability or unwillingness to pay. To resolve the workers' wage crisis in a nutshell therefore, there is the need for a combination of responsive and responsible leadership, a sustainably growing economy and a robust inflation control mechanism among others.

Garba Isa resides in Abuja

Dearth of town planning in Nigerian cities

As a young Nigerian fascinated about travelling nooks and corners of the country, I have been privileged to explore North and South of the country coupled with appreciations of diverse cultures and beauties confirming the country as the largest black nation on earth.

Unfortunately, the country has been trapped in a problem which is bigger than corruption and that is disorderliness. Traversing old Nigerian cities, one will appreciate the vision of past heroes but very slow and poor urban development leading us to greater "slum/shanty civilisation" making the urban lifestyle of Nigerians less progressive compared to other developing countries.

Pioneering cities such as Lagos, Ibadan, Kano, Sokoto, Abeokuta, Onitsha, Port Harcourt, Calabar, Enugu and Kaduna have lost touches of deserving urban modernity coupled with town planning policy making infrastructure less efficient and life less abundant.

Kaduna under the leadership of Mallam Nasir Elrufai has reawakened befitting urban planning fairly and Abuja losing its grip of organised urban renewal making it so difficult to differentiate between cities and townships.

Nigerian governors have the largest share of blame for these decadence and there is need for Nigeria to commence its "model city project" prioritising some cities in the country for urban transformation.

Mujib Dada-Qadri, Esq wrote viaadamujeeb1@gmail.com

Need for drug use prevention programmes in schools, workplaces

The target demographic for drug prevention campaigns has traditionally been young adults. They are going through a variety of events and situations that make them vulnerable to using drugs, and they are also in the process of learning how to make healthy decisions and behaviours. At this point in their lives, drug usage is either a coping strategy or a social experiment. In terms of an experiment, this is primarily a result of peer pressure and the mounting need to blend in and seem "cool." They might seek it out as a way to deal with the pressures of school, standardised tests like those conducted by JAMB and WAEC.

However, the increased demand and use of drugs in adulthood is becoming glaring. According to a 2018 UNODC research, 1 in 7 Nigerians between the ages of 15 and 64 had taken illicit drugs at some point, with 14.3 million people in this age group identified as drug users. In addition, people between the ages of 25 and 39 comprise the majority of drug users. It may not be the case that drug prevention initiatives in

schools are ineffective, but rather that adult settings and dialogues need to be included in the fight against drug demand.

Drug prevention cannot be given more importance in one age group than another because there is no distinct section that allows for this. Theories of health persuasion are frequently used to persuade young adults throughout their formative years to build the resilience and willpower to withstand particular cravings even in the face of difficulties that could otherwise lead them to explore drug escapism. Adults are not exempted from these issues; in fact, they are even more vulnerable since they no longer have access to the safety nets that help them overcome obstacles. Adults have obstacles at work and even social expectations regarding income, responsibilities, and ongoing performance and achievement pressure.

Teenagers and young people are developing into responsible adults and leaving the communities that these admirable drug prevention initiatives are meant to reach.

Sadly, experimenting is not beyond a certain age group due to pressure, temptation, and curiosity. It may appear that drug prevention initiatives can merely postpone drug usage in teens and young adults till they reach adulthood rather than completely stopping it. In fact, a lot of young people don't start using heroin until they are 22. Because they have the added disadvantage of having access to money to support the habit, adults also have a higher risk of being dependent on drugs.

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency launched the War Against Drug Abuse (WADA) initiative in June 2021, led by Chairman/Chief Executive, Brig. Gen. Mohamed Buba Marwa (rtd). This was done in line with the agency's goals to fight the drug war in three areas: reduce supply, reduce demand, and recover proceeds from illicit drug trafficking. The NDLEA is winning the battle against drug supply. Thanks to its commendable arrests of up to 23, 907 drug traffickers including 29 drug barons between 2021 and 2022 and seizures of up to 5.5 million kg of illicit drugs. However, the general public is

urged to support the agency's initiatives to lower drug demand.

The NDLEA also awards WADA ambassadorships to public figures, public officials, both state and non-state actors, leaders in organisations, including the entertainment industry, to indulge them in the fight against substance use in their respective communities, recognising that the demography of drug use is not restricted to youth and young adults. Demand must be decreased greatly in order to lower supply, and engaging the public in the struggle is the only way to do this.

The pressure to use drugs for the rest of their life can only be resisted by those who possess strong self-control and the capacity to exert willpower. Currently, this discipline necessitates a sustained, intentional effort well into adulthood. To reduce the rising demand for drugs among adults, organisations are encouraged to incorporate drug use policies and drug prevention programmes into their operational procedures, while schools are equally expected to make drug education part of their curriculum.

Tarfa wrote from Kuje area of Abuja, FCT



LEGAL PRACTITIONERS' PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE SUPREME COURT OF NIGERIA

THREE ARMS ZONE, SUPREME COURT COMPLEX, P.M.B, 308, ABUJA – NIGERIA

2023 AWARD OF THE RANK OF SENIOR ADVOCATE OF NIGERIA CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

1. By the combined provisions of Section 5 (2) of the Legal Practitioners Act, Cap L11 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 and Regulation 10 (1)-(4) of the Guidelines for the Conferment of the Rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria 2022 ("the Guidelines"), the Legal Practitioners' Privileges Committee ("the LPPC" or "the Committee") hereby makes a formal call for applications preparatory to the award of the rank for the year 2023. Commencing with this year's exercise, applications shall only be made online and prospective applicants are directed to visit www.lppconline.com to make their applications.

2. DIRECTIVES TO PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS ON SUBMISSION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE APPLICATIONS

2.1 The application portal, www.lppconline.com will be open to the general public at **12:00 am** on **January 1st 2023**.

2.2 An applicant must pay a non-refundable processing fee of One Million Naira (N1,000,000.00) only to any of the following accounts held in the name of the "Legal Practitioners' Privileges Committee (SAN)":
Account Number: 1014103141,
at **Zenith Bank PLC,**
Account No. 0213662834
at **GTBank PLC**

2.3 Upon conclusion of payment, an applicant should upload a copy of the evidence of payment on the application portal. The applicant will receive an email notification from the LPPC Secretariat confirming the applicant's payment and clearing the applicant to proceed with the application process online.

2.4 All applicants (whether Advocates or Academics) must upload **clear** and **legible** copies of all mandatory or supporting documents that are

required by the Guidelines for the purpose of their application on the application portal. Only clear copies of materials presented shall be considered/acceptable by the Secretariat in compliance with Regulation 9(2) of the Guidelines. In the case of Academic applicants who may wish to submit publications that are too voluminous to be conveniently scanned and uploaded, it shall be sufficient to scan and upload the title page of such publications, whilst submitting the hard copies along with the flash drives referred to in clause 2.5 below.

2.5 After uploading copies of all mandatory or supporting documents online, applicants shall also submit five flash drives containing a copy of their completed application form (*to be downloaded from the online portal*) as well as copies of all the mandatory and supporting documents uploaded on the online platform to the LPPC Secretariat.

2.6 Any application together with supporting documents submitted in a manner contrary to the directives of the LPPC as enumerated above will be rejected by the Secretariat.

2.7 All applications together with their mandatory or supporting documents must be submitted online at www.lppconline.com before **12:00 noon** on the **31st March, 2023** whilst the flash drives referred to in clause 2.5 above must be delivered to the LPPC Secretariat before 4:00pm on the **3rd April, 2023**.

2.8 Any submission made after the deadlines stipulated in clause 2.7 above shall be treated as a **non-submission**.

For any enquires /information, applicants should send an electronic mail to The Secretary, Legal Practitioners' Privileges Committee via:
enquirieslppcsecretariat.ng@gmail.com

HAJO SARKI BELLO, ESQ.

CHIEF REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT /
SECRETARY LEGAL PRACTITIONERS' PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE

08116759756

CITY & CRIME

5-day-old boy risks amputation over doctor's 'negligence' in Kano

From **Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano**

A 5-day-old baby boy may have his right arm amputated after a doctor forgot to remove a tourniquet from his hand for over 18 hours after taking his blood sample.

The incident, which happened a few hours after the baby was born at the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital (AKTH) Kano, left the baby with a rotting hand, with physiotherapy doctors saying the hand was not functioning and might have to be amputated.

The father of the boy, Malam Umaru Shamsu, told Daily Trust that the tragic incident started after his wife underwent an operation and the doctors discovered that the boy had a problem with his breath, which led

them to admit him to the paediatric clinic of the hospital.

"The doctor took his blood, but he forgot to remove the tourniquet, which prevented blood from circulating in his hand for 18 hours. According to the doctors, the device should not have been left for more than two minutes on the newborn's hand.

"I left the hospital a few hours after he was born. His mother was also admitted. When I came back the following day, I didn't see the baby. The nurses refused to tell me what happened. Later, they briefed me and urged us to take heart and pray."

When physiotherapy doctors at the hospital examined the hand, they discovered that it was not working.

"The doctors said we should keep on praying and that they had put him on treatment, but that if it fails, we have to accept our destiny as the hand



The baby will be amputated," he said.

He added that the chief medical director of the hospital had directed that the boy be treated free of charge but that later, they brought a bill to him to buy medicine.

"To my surprise, they brought a bill for us to buy medicine. This means we still have to take care of the

monetary aspect, after what they have done to us. We are now left to think of what will happen to the boy. Whether the hand will recover or he has to be amputated," he said.

Reacting to the tragic incident, the public relations officer of the hospital, Hajjiya Hauwa Muhd Abdullahi, said in a statement that the management was shocked and condemned the alleged negligence by the doctor.

She said the matter had been forwarded to the Committee on Negligence on Duty for investigation and appropriate action.

She added that while the hospital regretted the tragic incident, which has never happened in the past 33 years of its existence, the chief medical director, Professor Abdurrahman Abba Sheshe, called on patients and relatives with any complaints to report them to the hospital's Servicom desk officers.

Harmattan: Jos residents worry as freezing weather persists

From **Ado Abubakar Musa, Jos**

Residents of Jos, the Plateau State capital, are groaning over the persistent freezing weather in the area.

They said the sudden drop in temperature began in December ending, adding that it was forcing them to remain indoors in the mornings, as the freezing cold being experienced within and outside the state capital was alarming.

Almost everyone you see in the house or outside is wearing a heavy cardigan that will hold body heat.

Meanwhile, as the freezing temperature is biting harder, sellers of warm second-hand clothes such as jackets, sweaters, and socks, among others, are enjoying brisk business.

Muhammed Shittu, a resident of Jos, while sharing his experience, said, "Actually, it is not easy for me today because everywhere is cold. It is chilly, and that is why I can't go out now. I will remain indoors until later in the day."

Another Jos resident, Joshua Odidi, said, "The sudden change in the weather condition is worrisome. It is not easy to wake up in the morning and do house chores, especially where it requires that you touch water. Seeing me in my cardigan now will prove to you that it is very cold."

Nojoja Desmond Sunday, head of the Water Resources Unit of the National Centre for Remote Sensing in Jos, said certain reasons have contributed to the sudden change in temperature in the state.

He said, "The Northwest trade wind, which is the harbinger of the harmattan, has peculiarities such as a cold, dusty, dry and hazy wind from the north."

"Its source is from the tropical air mass temperature of the Pacific and a result of strong pressure which flows across the Sahara Desert."

"Plateau being the corridor of this trade wind, experiences the wind at this period of the year. As the wind ascends the elevation before getting to the Plateau at a higher altitude, which is even more than 1000 meters above sea level, the cold air mass of the North West trade wind suddenly drops further in temperature because of the lapse rate (drop in temperature with height).

"As soon as the wind gets to the plateau, it becomes colder and colder because of the mixture of the wind with the already existing micro cold climate on the Plateau. This gives rise to the temperature that was recorded in recent times as low as 8 degrees Celsius," he added.

Robbery suspect killed in gun duel with police

The Lagos State Police Command has said one robbery suspect was gunned down around Oshodi area when his gang was exchanging gunfire with its operatives.

The command's public relations officer, SP Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed the incident to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Thursday.

He said the incident happened on December 24, 2022, at 3am on Akinpelu-Oshodi road.

He said the anti-robbery operatives of the Akinpelu police division encountered the robbery gang while on a stop-and-search operation.

The spokesman said the suspected armed robbers, on sighting the police, opened fire on them, which was promptly returned by the officers, who were well-positioned for the operation.

Hundeyin said one of the suspects was gunned down in the process, while two others sustained bullet injuries but managed to escape.

He said efforts are on to arrest the fleeing suspects, and appealed to members of the public and health workers to report to the police anyone found with bullet wounds.

The police image-maker said one locally-made pistol, one Elepaq generator, and 15 computer UPS were recovered from the suspect. (NAN)

Ban on okada, tricycle beyond 6pm stands in Kwara - Police

From **Mumini Abdulkareem, Ilorin**

The Kwara State Police command has reiterated its ban on operators of motorcycles and tricycles beyond between 9pm - 6am in the state.

The command said the reminder became imperative in light of the wrong assumption by some political party supporters that the enforcement of the order is targeted at operators loyal to certain political parties.

There have been disquiets in the state over the issue with opposition parties alleging the decision was targeted at them.

But according to police spokesperson, Okasanmi Ajayi, the assumption is false and without basis adding that no arrest has been made.

"No union leader was arrested by the police for supporting any political party. If there was any arrest, the arrestee definitely must have committed an offence."

"The police command is apolitical and non-partisan and has been discharging its duties conscientiously without fear or favour," he said.

He said the state commissioner of police, Paul Odama, advised supporters of political parties to eschew heating the polity and stand by the truth at all times.

Ogun couple, 6 others 'kill' woman, sell heart, legs for N80,000

From **Peter Moses, Abeokuta**

Operatives of the Ogun Police Command have arrested a couple and six other suspects for allegedly killing and dismembering a 26-year-old mother of two, Oyindamola Adeyemi.

The suspects - Taiwo Olotufese Ajalorun and Salawa Oyenusi Ajalorun, Lukman Oladele, Kayode Ibrahim, Bello Akeem, Alebiosu Adebayo, Fatai Rasheed and Fatai Jimoh.

The police spokesman, Abimbola Oyeyemi, told newsmen in Abeokuta on Thursday that the suspects were arrested on Wednesday for alleged kidnapping, killing and dismembering the woman.

He said the suspects were apprehended following a report lodged at Obalende divisional headquarters in Ijebu-Ode by one Ojo Omolara.

He said the complainant reported that her neighbour, Oyindamola Adeyemi who left home in the morning of Wednesday, December 28, 2022, didn't return home and her phone was switched off.

Oyeyemi said the police advised the complainant to come back, "Since it was not up to 24 hours yet."

He said the next day, a patrol team from Obalende division saw a dismembered body of a woman by the roadside and the body was taken to a mortuary.

Oyeyemi said "Fortunately, the mortuary is a stone's throw away from the house of the deceased and one of the mortuary workers, who knew about the missing person, called the attention of the family to come and have a look at the body brought by the police."

"On getting there, the friend of the deceased, Ojo Omolara, was able to identify her through the bra and underwear she put on since her head was already chopped off."

"Having recognized the body, the DPO, Obalende Division, SP Murphy Salami, mobilised his crack detectives and embarked on a technical and intelligence-based investigation which led them to Taiwo Olotufese Ajalorun, a herbalist in whose possession the Itel phone of the deceased was recovered."

"He was promptly arrested, and a search warrant was duly executed in his house, where a container full of human blood later discovered to be that of the deceased was recovered."

"His arrest led to the apprehension of his friend, Lukman Oladele, from whose house the legs of the deceased were recovered."

"They both made confessional statements which led to the arrest of other suspects who were buyers of different parts of the deceased body."

The police spokesman said during interrogation, Taiwo Olotufese Ajalorun and Lukman Oladele confessed that the deceased was lured to the house of Taiwo who happened to be her lover.

Quoting the suspects, he said as soon as the victim entered, "she was pinned down by both Taiwo Olotufese and Lukman Oladele and they subsequently strangled."

"After killing her, they cut off the head, legs and hands which they sold to their standby buyers to be used for money-making rituals," he quoted the suspects as saying.



The suspects

Abductors of couple at late Jere emir's residence demand N30m

By **Abubakar Sadiq Isah**

The abductors of a couple at the private residence of the late Emir of Jere, in Kagarko LGA of Kaduna State, have demanded N30 million ransom.

City & Crime had reported that the bandits, in their large numbers, raided the private residence of the late emir, Dr Sa'ad Usman, and abducted the couple and

five other neighbours in the area on Sunday.

A relative of one of the abducted victims, Ya'u Suleiman, who made the disclosure to our reporter over the phone on Thursday, said the leader of the bandits called through the phone of one of the people in their captivity and made the demand.

He said the bandits' leader placed a ransom on each of the victims, amounting to N30 million, but said negotiations to bring down the sum was on.

"Actually, the leader of the bandits later called on Tuesday evening and demanded N30 million in ransom for the six people abducted, including the couple kidnapped at the residence of the late Jere

emir," he said.

The Jere emirate council secretary, Malam Aliyu Zubairu, confirmed the N30 million ransom demanded by the bandits through phone to our reporter.

There was no response from the Kaduna State Police Command about the ransom demand at the time of filing this report.

1,232 drug suspects arrested in Kaduna last year

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Kaduna State Command, says its operatives have arrested 1,232 suspects and recovered 15,104.555kg of illicit drugs in the state.

The state NDLEA commander, Mr Ibrahim Baraje, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Thursday in Kaduna, that the arrests and seizures were made from January to December 2022.

He said of those arrested, 68 were female and 1,163 were male.

The commander said the 15,104.555kg drugs seized included Indian hemp, weighing 7,432.942kg, heroin 0.249kg, cocaine 1.487kg, Methamphetamine 0.767kg, Tramadol 1, 880.102kg and psychotropics 5, 789.008kg.

Baraje said within the period under

review, 199 suspects were convicted, while 350 cases were pending and 683 suspects counseled, rehabilitated and integrated into society.

He disclosed that 132 illicit drug joints were destroyed and 27 properties connected to drug traffickers sealed.

He reiterated the command's determination in the fight against illicit drugs and their consumption.

QUICK READ

Go after killers of Ogun couple, Abiodun tells police
From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

The Ogun State governor, Dapo Abiodun, has given a marching order to the police command in the state, to go after the killers of a couple, Kehinde and Bukola Fatinoye, who were killed and their house set ablaze on January 1, 2023 by yet-to-be-identified assassins.

Abiodun declared that the killers who equally kidnapped the couple's son and threw him inside the river, would not go unpunished, hence, the police must go after them and apprehend them.

He described the incident as unfortunate and heart-breaking, vowing that his administration would not hesitate to deploy resources with the view of unmasking persons behind the dastard act.

The governor noted that the incident shocked him, particularly when efforts had been geared by his administration towards strengthening the security architecture within the state, stressing that no effort would be spared in bringing the perpetrators of the heinous crime to book.

Edo to arrest parents of pupils hawking during school hours

From **Usman A. Bello, Benin**

The Edo State government has disclosed that it will henceforth arrest parents or guardians of pupils found hawking during school hours.

The government said such arrests would begin immediately after schools resume on January 9.

The permanent secretary, Ministry of Education, Dr Oni Ekhosuehi, who disclosed this on behalf of the commissioner for Education, Dr Joan Osa Oviawe, said the exercise was aimed at checking the menace of out-of-school children in the state.

"The Edo State Ministry of Education wishes to inform school owners, administrators, parents, guardians and the general public that the official resumption date for the third term as contained in the 2022/2023 harmonized school calendar remains Monday, January 9, 2023," she said in a statement in Benin.

Foundation pays SSCE fees for 1,049 indigent students
From **Usman A. Bello, Benin**

A non-governmental organisation, Anamerio Idofe Foundation, has paid the fees for the 2023 Senior Secondary School Examination Council for 1,049 students in Edo North Senatorial District of Edo State.

The founder of the NGO, Mr Anamerio Dekeri, while presenting the letters to the beneficiaries at Ogute in Etsako East LGA, said the number was increased from 1,000 to 1,049 students this year.

Dekeri, a candidate of the All Progressives Congress (APC) for Etsako Federal Constituency, said the gesture was to reduce the burden of payment on the beneficiaries' parents.

Akeredolu imposes 24-hour curfew on troubled Ikare-Akoko in Ondo

Governor Oluwarotimi Akeredolu of Ondo State has imposed a 24-hour curfew on Ikare-Akoko, headquarters of Akoko Northeast Local Government Area, following a fracas during a New Year carnival.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that pandemonium broke out in the town on Tuesday when a New Year carnival organised by the youth was disrupted by sporadic gunfire.

Reports from Ikare said revellers at the event and residents in the area scamped for safety upon hearing the shots.

According to sources, the disruption of the carnival by suspected gunmen might not be unconnected with the supremacy battle between Owa-Ale and Olokare of Ikare, the two traditional rulers in the town.

In August 2022, the state government elevated the Owa-Ale to a first-class traditional ruler, making the town have two first-class obas.

The announcement of the curfew is contained in a statement made available to newsmen on Thursday in Akure by Mr Richard Olatunde, the chief press secretary to the governor.

The statement said the decision to impose the curfew was taken at the State Security Council meeting headed by the governor on Thursday.

"This follows the escalated violent clash in the town since Tuesday, which has continued unabated, in spite of the meeting held between government and the Olokare of Ikare, Oba Akadiri Momoh, and Owa Ale of Iyometa, Oba Adeleke Adegbite, to control their subjects.

"Security agencies have been directed to ensure strict compliance with the order, just as investigations are already underway to unravel the real cause(s) of the violent clash.

"For emphasis, Ikare Akoko has been closed down for any unauthorised human movement and activity until further notice," the statement said. (NAN)



FCT Minister, Muhammad Musa Bello (1st right) during the visit

Etsu Kwali's death, a reminder — FCT minister

By **Abubakar Sadiq Isah**

The FCT minister, Muhammad Musa Bello, has said the death of the Etsu of Kwali chiefdom, HRH Sha'aban Audu Nizazo (III), will serve as a reminder that every living soul must taste death.

Bello, who stated this when he paid a condolence visit to the family of the late traditional ruler in Kwali on Thursday, called on people to be humble in life.

The minister said the late monarch had been a peace-loving person, which, he noted,

translated to peace and unity in his chiefdom.

He recalled that he last met the late Etsu of Kwali at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, during the Christmas homage to the President, where they exchanged pleasantries, only for him to be told that he died four days later.

"We met at the villa, and we even snapped pictures with the president, and four days later I received the sad news of his death," he said.

Also speaking, the Ona of Abaji, Alhaji Adamu Baba Yunusa, who received the

minister on behalf of the bereaved family, appreciated his visit to the family and the entire people of Kwali chiefdom.

He appealed to the minister and the chairman of the council, Danladi Chiya, to assist in shouldering the education of the late monarch's children, saying he left behind two wives and 11 children.

On his part, the chairman of the council, Danladi Chiya, informed the minister that the late monarch had, before his death, requested that a new Etsu of Kwali chiefdom be appointed without delay whenever he died.

2 suspects supplying guns to bandits in FCT border communities arrested

By **Abubakar Sadiq Isah**

The police have arrested two men for allegedly supplying guns and ammunition to bandits and armed robbers at FCT-Niger State border communities.

The commissioner of police in the FCT, CP Sadiq I. Abubakar, told journalists at the command's headquarters in Abuja on Thursday,

that the suspects were arrested by the anti-kidnapping team of the command during clearance operation when their den was discovered.

He gave the names of the suspects as Anthony Udeh and Emmanuel Onuvu.

He said the suspects had confessed to supplying guns and live ammunition to armed robbers and bandits.

He said 900 cartridges were discovered while several items suspected to belong to victims of kidnapping were also found with the suspects.

He urged members of the public and residents of the FCT to remain vigilant and report any suspicious or abnormal movements through the police emergency lines, 08032003913, 08061581938 and 07057337653.

BUSINESS

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

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

COMMODITIES PRICE (December 28, 2022)

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

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

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

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

Authority in charge of the Federal Operations Unit (FOU), Zone A, on Thursday said it intercepted N13.91 billion worth of smuggled goods from smugglers in six states in the South West region in 2022.

It said in terms of volume, rice topped the list of seizures made in the period under review.

It said the six states where the seizures were made include Lagos, Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Ekiti and Ondo states.

This is even as it said the unit recovered shortfalls in duty payments and achieved a

Customs seized N13.91bn goods in 12 months

total collection of N878.35bn as revenue for the government in 2022.

Besides seizures made, the unit also recovered revenue which would have been lost but for the intervention of officials of FOU 'A', who it said checked to be sure correct duties were paid into government coffers at the nation's seaports in Lagos.

Briefing newsmen on the activities of the unit from

January 1 to December 31 2022, the Acting Controller of FOU Zone, Hussein Kehinde Ejibunu, listed items seized to include 93,102 50kg bags of rice which amount to about 156 trailer load of rice, 108 automobiles comprising trucks, tankers, cars and motorcycles, and 656,414 litres (20 tankers) petrol.

"The unit made a total seizure of smuggled items worth a duty paid value of N13,908,575,436.5.

Aside from protecting the national economy, some of the seizures achieved protection of citizens' health because dangerous, expired and harmful products were prevented from being smuggled into the country."

Customs said illicit drugs seized include 7,354kg and 4,975 tablets of cannabis sativa, 233 cartons and 82 packs; milligrammes of Tramadol.

NNPC denies illegally exporting 17.8m barrels of crude oil

By Simon Echowofun Sunday

The Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited has denied allegations that it exported 17.877 million barrels of crude oil without proper documentation in four years, from 2016 to 2020.

The Chief Corporate Communications Officer, NNPC Ltd, Garba Deen Muhammad, in a statement on Thursday, said the report was false as carried by an online publication.

NNPC Ltd stated that the auditor general's report referred to in the report mentioned 32 oil marketing companies involved in the non-completion of the NXP forms (export document); but that does not in any way mean that the proceeds from the sale of the said crude were not repatriated into the coffers of NNPC Ltd and consequently into the Federation Accounts for federation related barrels.

"It should also be noted that NNPC Ltd does not appoint inspection agents as alleged, but rather, it is the sole responsibility of the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning," it said.

It urged the public to refer to the auditor general's website for access to the full audit report, and be better informed.



■ From left: Chief Executive Officer Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA), Engr. Farouk Ahmed; Minister of State Petroleum Resources, Chief Timipre Sylva; Chief of Defence Staff, General Lucky Irabor; Group Chief Executive Officer, NNPC Ltd, Mallam Mele Kyari, and Chief of Naval Staff Vice, Admiral Awwal Gambo, during a visit to troops of Operation Delta Safe fighting crude oil theft, in Warri, Delta State, on Thursday

Consumers decry high electricity cost as DisCos hike tariff

By Simon Echowofun Sunday (Abuja) & Jide Olasunkanmi (Lagos)

Electricity consumers are protesting the payment of higher electricity bills as the Distribution Companies (DisCos) hike their rates under the Multi Year Tariff Order (MYTO) 2022.

The MYTO 2022 was released by the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) last year with a projection of an increase from February to December 2022 and another increase starting on 1st January 2023; NERC also reviews the tariff every six months.

According to the approved tariff for Abuja DisCo (AEDC), residential customers on Band A tariff rose slightly to N56.28 per kilowatts hour (kwh) to N56.43/kwh. The worst hit under AEDC was Band D residential customers (8-hour daily supply) with nearly N10 increase from N33.20 to N42.88/kwh. The Band E (five-hour daily supply) increased by N5/kwh. Some other categories rose between N1 and N5/kwh.

Musa Okpe, a resident of Gwarinpa, said he recharged his meter to get about 50 units instead of the usual 70 units he gets for N10,000, noting that he saw

20 unit drop, depicting an increase in the tariff cost. "AEDC needs to inform consumers about the increase in tariff. They will always hide it only to surprise customers," he noted.

Beside this noticeable increment observed by some customers since Monday, customers complained that their nominal energy allocation rose on estimated bills but in actual consumption. NERC had recently approved a new energy capping for estimated bills effective November where DisCos increased energy allocation for the various bands based on alleged investments.

For instance, under AEDC, Jacob Onjewu, a customer at the Ado Zone in Nasarawa State said his bill shows he is Band E and consumes over 300kwh monthly with N15,000 monthly bill, but noted that the supply is less than six hours daily.

"How do I consume over 300kwh when the highest they give to us is six hours or less? The Band E itself is a name for consumers getting five-hour supply daily which is at most 150kwh for 30 days," he queried.

Two DisCos in Lagos, Eko Electricity Distribution Company and Ikeja Electric, have sent out the new electricity bills to post-paid consumers.

The Magodo Residents Association (MRA) under Ikeja Electric confirmed the hike via its publicity secretary on Twitter. The residents pay a bilateral tariff of N72.40 rising from N61.75 on December 15, 2022, in line with NERC's directive.

A consumer who paid N57.65/kwh now pays N68.30/kwh effective December 1, 2022 for residential 3-phase MD (R4) service band A, according to a customer bill in Lagos.

Reacting to the tariff raise, convener of the Nigerian Power Consumer Forum, Michael Okoh, said although the increase has been projected in the MYTO 2022 released in May, he however said it is not the right time to activate it.

"The current economic condition including high inflation rate was not the best time for such an increase as Nigerians are already battling high petrol and diesel costs with not enough electricity," Okoh said.

NERC was yet to issue an official statement about the increase, but an official told Daily Trust that the existing projection of the MYTO 2022 was only being implemented. AEDC had responded to customers enquiries, saying the tariff raise was implemented in line with the MYTO.

Azman Air lauds Saudi Arabia, NAHCON for raising quota for Nigerian pilgrims

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano

The managing director of Azman Airline, Alhaji Faisal Abdulmanaf, has appreciated the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for increasing the number of Nigerian Pilgrims to perform the coming 2023 Hajj Exercise.

Abdulmanaf said the gesture is worth appreciating and a joy to every Muslim in the country.

Recall that on December 21, 2022, the Hajj and Umrah Commission of the Kingdom, through its director, Bahauddeen Bin Yusuf Alwani, announced the increase of the number of Nigerian pilgrims to 95,000. It also lifted the age limit and COVID-19 test on the intending pilgrims.

He said the development is an opportunity for intending pilgrims in the country that are willing to perform the 2023 Hajj exercise, adding that Azman Air is preparing and getting ready to airlift them to the Kingdom in good condition as it is known for.

Speaking to journalists in Kano, the MD said they have recorded success during last year's Hajj exercise, despite the threat they faced in Kano which was meant to halt their operation.

"Some people attempted to replace Azman with another airline during the 2022 Hajj operation in Kano, even though we were approved to do so legally. But they were not successful and we have done our best and delivered the pilgrims to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

He also condoled with the families of the managing director of Max Air, Late Alhaji Bashir Mangal, who died recently. He also wished all their customers and Nigerians a happy and prosperous new year.

By Philip Shimnom Clement

Why Nigeria must accelerate efforts in attracting FDIs

As the Nigerian economy gradually recovers from recession and the effects of COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government has made several policies geared towards diversifying the economy and boosting growth.

However, one of the critical areas of note according to analysts is the need to intensify efforts in attracting Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) into Nigeria as it plays a key role in driving economic growth.

Although recent statistics showed that FDIs into Nigeria recorded positive growth in the second quarter of 2022 compared to the figures recorded in 2021, the statistics showed that it declined quarter on quarter, indicating a need for improvement.

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, foreign funds invested into the Nigerian economy in the second quarter (Q2) of 2022 amounted to \$1.535 billion, a 75.34 per cent increase from \$875 million in the second quarter of 2021.

However, on a quarterly basis, foreign investments in the country were down by 2.40 per cent from \$1.573 billion in the first quarter of 2022.

The NBS revealed that states that the largest amount of capital received was through portfolio investment, which accounted for 49.33 percent (\$757.32 million).

This was followed by other investments with 41.09 per cent (\$630.87 million) and FDI accounting for 9.58 per cent (\$147.16 million) of total capital imported in Q2 2022.

“Disaggregated by sectors, capital importation into banking had the highest inflow of \$646.36 million, accounting for 42.10 per cent of the total capital import.

“Capital imported into the production sector was next

at \$233.99 million (15.24 per cent), and the financing sector followed with \$197.31 million (12.85 per cent).

“By destination of investment, Lagos State remained the top destination in Q2 2022 with US\$1,054.18 million, accounting for 68.66 per cent of total capital investment into Nigeria.

“This was followed by investment into Abuja (FCT), valued at \$453.95 million (29.57 per cent),” the NBS report said.

With a quarter on quarter drop, analysts on different fora are cautioning that heightened insecurity especially in the North West and South East parts of Nigeria as well as the increased monetary policy rates may worsen the situation in the coming days.

NIPC approach

However the Nigerian Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC) is flaying those fears, saying Nigeria has numerous prospects of attracting FDIs especially in 2023.

Executive Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of NIPC, Hajiya Saratu Umar, at a recent stakeholders’ engagement for the ministries, departments and agencies, said the commission has already identified a strategy that has been integrated into Nigeria’s investment master plan.

She said the master plan is crucial because Nigeria has huge potential yet untapped.

She noted that with over 200 million people, making it the most populous nation in Africa, Nigeria is blessed with natural resources, including arid land, crude oil and solid minerals, admitting that more can be used to exploit the potential.

She said, “This potential has not been fully harnessed. Hence the situation we find ourselves in today.”

She said the reality was that the level of resource mobilisation was insufficient for inclusive growth, noting that this was why investment promotion was needed to attract FDIs and mobilise local direct investments to fully harness the potential of the Nigerian economy.

“Global FDI market over the last decade has become very competitive and versatile where the investment promotion thrust of successful jurisdictions that are attracting the largest global market share of FDI inflows are driven by effective, efficient and performance-driven Investment Promotion Agencies.

“In 2021, a UN report noted that FDI inflow into Africa grew by 147 per cent. This accentuated the race by African economies to showcase their investment climate reforms and business-friendly policies, facilitated by very competitive IPAs that are aggressively vying for a greater share of the inbound investment.

“The emergence of the AfCTA as well as shifts in the ECOWAS Investment Protocol and the development of the national development plan, the Nigerian integrated infrastructure master plan and others require that the central and strategic role of the NIPC in the coordination of all investment promotion should be activated.

“This is to ensure Nigeria’s investment promotion drive is given traction to onboard investments into the different sectors of the economy in a bid to facilitate

economic growth and national development including job creation, import substitution, foreign exchange generation and reduction of our reliance on debt among others,” the NIPC boss said.

Saratu said with over 170 investment promotion agencies worldwide competing to channel FDI to their different countries, the NIPC was positioned to cut its slice of global investments.

“Consequently, it has become necessary for all stakeholders in the investment promotion ecosystem to work in synergy and complement our mandate and competencies to collectively drive a national investment promotion campaign,” she said.

The NIPC boss stressed the need to maximise Nigeria’s domestic and foreign investment potential, especially with the coming of the African Continental Free trade Area.

Expert reacts

In a chat with *Daily Trust*, a finance expert, Prof. Uche Uwaleke, said for Nigeria to

achieve its needed investment drive, there must be a synergy between the fiscal and monetary authorities

He said, “Investment promotion cannot be left to only the agency in charge. It involves all the stakeholders involved in the economy, including the Central Bank of Nigeria, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Industry, among others.”

He added that Nigeria must also tackle the macroeconomic headwinds of high inflation and currency volatility while addressing and importantly improving production.



■ Saratu

Air Peace airlifts 55m passengers, targets London, Israel

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Air Peace yesterday said it has airlifted 55,821,258 passengers in the last eight years of its inception.

This is just as the airline also reaffirmed its commitment to providing seamless domestic, regional and international connectivity to Nigerians and other Africans through strategic route expansion, increased network options and modern fleet expansion.

The Chief Operating Officer, Air Peace, Oluwatoyin Olajide in a statement stressed that airlifting over 55 million passengers in just eight years is a giant stride and a testament to the steady growth trajectory of the airline.

She stated that Air Peace recorded a passenger load of

52,859 in its launch year, 2014, and the number increased to eight million in 2019, adding that in December 2022, the airline airlifted 14,103,018 passengers.

The passenger figures, as outlined in the news release, are: 2014 - 52,859; 2015 - 661,875; 2016 - 1,832,526; 2017 - 3,538,102; 2018 - 6,060,329; 2019 - 8,491,758; 2020 - 9,634,235; 2021 - 11,446,556; and 2022 - 14,103,018

“When we launched in 2014 with a record fleet of seven aircraft, we had a future-proof blueprint, driven by the vision to reduce the air travel burden of Nigerians through the provision of safe and world-class flight services.

“To achieve this, we strategically invested in the right kind of aircraft, factoring business sustainability and

customer experience while also hiring and training the best technical manpower to drive the process.

“Now, we have 38 aircraft and are still expecting 8 brand new Embraer 195-E2s from our firm order in 2019 and additional 15 brand new Boeing 737 Max 8 and 10 Order as we ramp up plans to strengthen our operations to serve our esteemed customers better. We are also expecting some of our aircraft undergoing maintenance overseas and by the second quarter of this year, they will start returning.”

She disclosed that the airline is planning to launch London, Israel, India, Congo Kinshasa, Togo and Malabo this year, adding that more frequencies will be added to Accra, Monrovia, Freetown, Banjul and Dakar routes with more connections introduced locally.

NDE empowers 10 graduates with carpentry, tailoring tools in Borno

From Hamisu Kabir Matazu, Maiduguri

The National Directorate of Employment (NDE), under its School on-Wheel (SOW) training scheme, has empowered 10 graduates with start-up tools and equipment in Borno State.

The Director General of NDE, Mallam Abubakar Fikpo, disclosed this while handing over the equipment with a cash backing component to the trained beneficiaries in Maiduguri.

Fikpo, represented by the state coordinator, Mohammed Muktar, said resettling the youth will reduce the number of unemployed in the society.

“Realizing that these four vocations are in high demand in Borno State, we trained many youths to venture into them.

Today, we resettled all the 10 in their chosen vocations, and others will follow in batches

“Also, it’s expected of the beneficiaries to train others in their respective LGAs so as to help eliminate poverty and generate revenue for the state,” he said.

Earlier, Mamma Mohammed who represented the director of Vocational Skill Development, Malam Abdu Isah, said the resettlement would have a direct economic impact on the immediate environment of beneficiaries and on the entire state.

He advised them to utilize the tools and equipment in the best way to enable others to benefit.

The beneficiaries are fashion designers (tailors), carpenters and generating sets repairers.

Controversy trails proposed NITDA Bill

By Zakariyya Adaramola

The bill that is seeking to make the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) the regulator of regulators in the ICT sector has been generating a serious heat as condemnations have continued to trail it.

The NITDA Bill 2021 is seriously generating heat in the industry over its possible overlapping and overbearing effect on some functions, which industry analysts claim would cause serious frictions in the sector if not expunged or simplified.

Since 2021 when the news about the contentious bill was made public, stakeholders, operators, startups, among others, have continued to raise the alarm at different fora over some of the provisions in the proposed bill, which they described as ambiguous, overlapping and overbearing and could cause deep frictions within the ICT/telecoms ecosystem.

Speaking with *Daily Trust* via phone on Thursday, the chairman of National Association of Telecommunications Subscribers (NATCOMS) Deolu Ogunbanjo noted that the NITDA Bill 2021 arrogates powers of several other regulatory agencies to NITDA, which is an infringement on the statutory powers of agencies of government like the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Computer Professionals (Registration Council of Nigeria) (CPN), Galaxy backbone, Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA), the National Universities Commission (NUC), among others.

Under the current Act of 2007, which it seeks to amend, Ogunbanjo said NITDA has no



powers, its roles are basically developmental, but the agency does have a host of functions which increased from 14 to 24 in the new bill.

The proposed bill, expected to repeal the NITDA Act 2007, is aimed at creating a regulatory framework for the development of the Nigerian IT sector and digital economy.

Kashifu-Abdullahi disclosed that to keep up with the pace of innovation that has swept the country, there should be a realignment of the Act with “tenets and ideals of the Fourth Industrial Revolution” and Nigeria’s Digital Economy Policy.

Daily Trust reports that NITDA is the agency tasked with creating a framework for the planning, research, development, standardisation, application, coordination, monitoring, evaluation and regulation of Information Technology practices in Nigeria. Simply put, NITDA is a developmental agency.

The agency is currently under the Ministry of Information and

Digital Economy. As part of its mandate, it provides regulations regarding data protection, registration of domain names, IT Clearance, among others.

However, some ICT stakeholders said if the proposed bill is anything to go by, NITDA appears to be gearing up for a more active and forceful reign, which would see it usurping the authorities and powers of other regulatory agencies like NCC and others in the country.

In the planned bill, Sections 6, 13, 20, 21, and 22, which cover NITDA’s power, classes of licenses and authorisations, and offences and penalties, among others, are the most contentious provisions causing apprehension within the sector in Nigeria.

Section 6 proposed new powers to be given to NITDA. Also, a new subsection also gives the agency the power to “enter premises, inspect, seize, seal, detain and impose administrative sanctions on erring persons and companies who contravene any provision of the Act subject to the order of a

court of competent jurisdiction.

NITDA will also have the power to “fix licensing and authorisation charges, collect fees and penalties as may be necessary for the exercise of its functions under this Act.” This bill would also introduce a new regime of licences and penalties.

Section 20 would give NITDA power to issue regulations regarding licences and authorisations for operators in the information technology and digital economy sector — which the agency is to determine.

Bill clashes with NCC roles

With the identified abrogation of regulatory powers of other agencies to itself in the proposed NITDA Bill 2021, experts said one of the key agencies, whose regulatory powers and functions shall be distorted by new provisions in the proposed Bill is the NCC.

Specifically, Sections 1, 2, 9, 10, 16, 26, 28 and 33 conflict with functions of NCC.

“For instance, Section 1 (Objectives of the Bill), states that “The purpose of this Act is to create an effective, impartial,

and independent regulatory framework for the development of the Nigerian information technology sector and digital economy.”

This section lays the foundation of converting NITDA from an IT Development Agency to a regulatory outfit, a top official in a telecom firm said.

The official further said the inclusion of the concept of ‘Digital Economy’ as part of its regulatory purview expands its frontiers to matters within the exclusive regulatory mandate of the NCC. This will impact on the NCC’s functions in Section 4 of the Nigerian Communications Act 2003; that empowers the Commission to regulate communications services that drive the digital economy.

Some legal experts in Nigeria have picked holes in the proposed NITDA (Repeal and Re-Enactment) Bill 2021, describing it as infiltrating or attempting to unnecessarily duplicate the regulatory powers of some existing government agencies in the country.

The legal experts made their positions known last year during a webinar on ‘Stakeholders’ Engagement for Legal Practitioners in Nigeria on National Information Technology Development Agency Bill.

The former NBA President, Olumide Apata, who raised three fundamental concerns on the proposed Bill, which, he said, should be looked into by stakeholders at the webinar. Apata was represented by the ICT Committee, NBA-SBL, Rotimi Ogunyemi.

But speaking on the need for the Bill, Kashifu-Abdullahi, said: “Considering that the NITDA Act is almost 16 years old, we consider it necessary to keep the Act up-to-date with the current reality in the Nigerian digital economy space.”

Premium Pension hits N1tr assets mgt

By Philip Shimnom Clement

Premium Pension Limited, one of Nigeria’s Pension Fund Administrators (PFAs) has announced the attainment of over N1 trillion in Assets under Management (AUM).

A statement by the firm’s Head, Corporate Communications, Aliyu Mohammed Ali yesterday in Abuja said Premium Pension is now part of the three PFAs (out of a total of 19) that are in the trillion-AUM category.

It said the PFA is the first to be fully owned by Nigerians that has achieved over N1 trillion

AUM without any form of business combination.

Commenting on the recent development, the Company’s Board Chairman, Ibrahim Alhassan Babayo said, “The attainment of N1trillion Assets under Management is a clear manifestation of hard work which translated into effective management of resources entrusted under the care of our Company”.

Babayo, while appreciating the National Pension Commission for creating the right environment to safeguard pension assets further said, “Premium Pension is now in the league of Tier-1

PFAs”.

Also, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Umar Sanda Mairami, expressed his appreciation to customers who entrusted their retirement savings to Premium Pension Limited.

He went further to say, “This great milestone of having over N1 trillion Assets under Management was achieved through customer patronage and dint of hard work by staff at all levels without any business combination but by adhering to the Company’s Vision of being “the fastest growing top-tier PFA creating value”.

May & Baker grows revenue by 27%

From Abiodun Alade, Lagos

Pharmaceutical company, May & Baker, has said that it recorded N10.3 billion total revenue in the first nine months of 2022 compared to N8.1bn recorded in the corresponding period of 2021, representing a 27 per cent rise.

It also grew its Profit Before Tax (PBT) from N1.3bn from January to September 2021 to N1.7bn at the same corresponding period in 2022, representing 31% growth.

The company’s working capital also grew from N5.3bn in 2021 to N6.5bn in the same period under review.

The Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Patrick Ajah, who disclosed this at a media parley in Lagos, expressed optimism that the ground-breaking of Biovaccines Nigeria Limited, a joint venture between May & Baker and the Federal Government

for local manufacturing of vaccines will happen in 2023.

He noted that the Federal Executive Council approved the first part of the Memorandum of Understanding of Biovaccines on September 14 for the supply of routine immunisation vaccines.

“We are optimistic that the ground-breaking ceremony for the vaccine production facility will happen before Q2 of 2023,” he said.

He disclosed that there is a designated site in Ota, Ogun state for the factory.

“We are just waiting for some of these processes to be activated, so now that this has been done; we are speaking with our partners, funding partners, technology partners too,” he said.

May & Baker Nigeria Plc has 51% shares in Biovaccines Nigeria Ltd, which was incorporated in 2005 while the federal government controls 49%.

FOCUS ON KATSINA



Co-created content

EVERY FRIDAY

How APC guber candidate, Radda, continues to woo voters in Katsina



■ Dikko Umar Radda during one of his campaign rallies



■ Crowd greeted Dikko Radda at Kurfi yesterday

Yesterday, the APC gubernatorial candidate, Dr Dikko Umar Radda and his team visited the Kurfi as the last local government area from the 11 LGAs of Katsina Central Senatorial district.

At Kurfi, the campaign train was greeted by a mammoth crowd even beyond expectation as the state Director General of the campaign, Dr Ahmed Musa Dangiwa, would say.

"Before our visit to Kurfi, I thought the local government belong to another party, not APC, because some notable politicians were said to have decamped to other parties. But from what I have seen today, Kurfi, like all other LGAs visited in Katsina, belong to APC.

"We have gone to over 230 wards from the 23 LGAs we visited in the two zones of Daura and Katsina, and wherever we go we were received by mammoth crowd which shows the kind of acceptance and support we have in the state," Dangiwa said at the Kurfi rally.

Before the last of the 11 LGAs, the APC campaign train was in 10 LGAs including the state capital, Katsina that comprised of Katsina and Batagarawa local government areas.

In the Katsina local government, the city was agog when the gubernatorial candidate, Dr. Dikko Umar Radda took his campaign rally which took place at the old township stadium on Sunday.

Before arriving at the venue, the campaign team paid homage to the emir of Katsina, Alhaji Abdulumuni Kabir in his palace.

The emir declared his support for Dr. Radda whom he described as a blood relation as a descendant of late emir of Katsina, Muhammadu Dikko.

Speaking, Dr. Radda unveiled to the emir some of his programmes if elected which according to him would tackle the issue of insecurity, agriculture, education and health among others.

Addressing the mammoth crowd at the venue, the APC guber candidate urged people of Katsina state to vote wisely by voting for the APC at all levels in order to ensure a seamless administration.

While in Katsina, the campaign train also took time to visit the mother of former president, Umaru Musa Yar'aduwa, where prayers were offered for the repose of the souls of the late president and his brother Shehu Musa Yar'aduwa.

Among the entourage that accompanied the candidate was Col. Abdulaziz Musa Yar'aduwa a.k.a Audu Soja, brother to the president who also holds the APC's senatorial candidate for the Katsina central senatorial District ahead of the February elections.

In Batagarawa LGA, the Village Head of Bakiyawa, Alhaji Bishir Galadima, has said that no bigwig from any other party came to their aid when they were attacked by bandits last September.

He said only Dr. Dikko Radda and Rtd. Colonel Abdul'aziz Musa ar'Adua commiserated with and assisted them.

Alhaji Bishir Galadima, therefore, expressed his support for the APC Gubernatorial Candidate.

In a rally later at atagarawa, Dr. Radda reiterated his determination to fight insecurity in the state.

He also promised to provide employment opportunities for women and youths in the state.

Before the rally, Dr. Radda had joined numerous people in a funeral prayer for the repose of

the soul of one alhatu Murtala, a relative of the atagarawa District Head, Mallamawan Katsina, Alhaji Dikko alhatu, who died after a protracted illness.

He also condoled the district head over the irreparable loss.

In Charanchi, the home LGA of the guber candidate, more than 3,500 people have crossed-carpet from the PDP into the APC.

The Katsina State APC Chairman, Alhaji Sani Aliyu JB Daura, who received them during a campaign rally in Charanci, said PDP was dead in the local government area.

Honorable Abubakar, who led the decampers, said they decided to join APC to assist all its candidates to win the 2023 elections in Charanchi Local Government Area.

While addressing the rally, the APC Katsina State Gubernatorial Candidate, Dr. Dikko Umar Radda, said he wasn't there to campaign for himself but for other APC candidates as Charanchi was his home Local Government.

In an emotion laden voice, Dr. Radda said he had nothing but gratitude for the people of Charanchi Local Government Area, who had turned out en masse to welcome their son.

It could be recalled that the APC gubernatorial flag-bearer had served as Charanchi Local Government Chairman for two terms, where he set a performance record in all sectors.

The APC governorship candidate had earlier taken his campaign to some of the security prone local government areas in the zone.

According to a statement by the Director, Media and Publicity of his Campaign Council, Ahmed Abdulkadir, the guber candidate traversed

dangerous areas believed to be the stronghold of bandits in Batsari and Safana local government areas of the state.

He visited Zakka, Kukar-Samu, Babban-Duhu, Baure, Ummadau, Tsaskiya and Runka communities in Batsari and Safana local government areas, where he promised to adopt both kinetic and non-kinetic approaches to tackle insecurity in the state if voted into power.

"The second leg of the tour will cover eleven local government areas in Katsina Central Senatorial District. Safana is the fourth local government area he has so far covered in his ward to ward campaign tour across the state.

"He went through areas that were said to be no-go areas because of the activities of the criminal elements. Such areas included Zakka, Kukar-Samu in Batsari local government area, Babban-Duhu, aure, Ummadau, Tsaskiya, Runka and finally to Safana.

In Tsaskiya, one of the hearts of the danger zones in the area, he addressed a huge crowd and told them that no danger could stop him from visiting to see for himself the condition in which they lived.

"He (Radda) reiterated his determination to use a kinetic and non-kinetic approach to end insecurity in the state if voted into power. Dr. Radda said he would be in the forefront in the fight against insecurity if given the chance.

He was accompanied on the tour by his running mate, Alhaji Faruk Jobe, the Katsina State APC Chairman, Alhaji Sani Daura, the Director-General of the Katsina State APC Campaign Council, Arch. Ahmed Musa Dangiwa, other contestants and many important dignitaries.

Katsina's PPP yielding results

Katsina State government's effort of providing a conducive working environment through Public Private Partnership (PPP) is yielding positive results, the Public Relations Officer, Ministry of Lands and Survey, Katsina State, Yakubu Lawal, has said.

This was evident in the completion of the Teachers Service Board office complex constructed through such a partnership between the State government and Green House Company Katsina.

The Office complex, situated inside Ja Abdulkadir State Secretariat, was facilitated by the ministry of Lands and Survey on behalf of the state government.

Already, the Chairman, Board Members, Management and other staff of the Teachers

Service Board have started enjoying the conducive working environment at the new edifice.

The newly constructed one storey building edifice comprised offices for the Board Chairman, Board Members, Management Staff and other supportive staff as well as Board room.

There is also a waiting room, secret and open registry, and computer room, public conveniences for staff and visitors and VIP packing pavilions

Other facilities put in place include dedicated transformer, borehole and the art landscaping surrounding the edifice among others.

The State Head of Service, Alhaji Usman Idris Tune who expressed satisfaction with the quality of the work done in the TSB office complex, said the government has decided to relocate the board

office, to ensure good working conditions of workers of the board.

The Chairman Katsina State Teachers Service Board Alhaji Ummaru Audi Kofar Bai, commended the Masari administration for improving the working environment for the staff of the board.

Kofar Bai, who confirmed that the new edifice has all the facilities that will assist in achieving good results, applauded the government initiative in that regard.

In the partnership the developer, Green House Company Katsina took over the old building located at the old Ministry of information and built a new one at the State Secretariat as replacement.

The Green House Katsina, on the Other hand,

converted the old building to a full-fledged business outlet.

Already, the owner cleaned all the defecation and refuse dumped in and out of the surrounding for the conducive atmosphere of business.

The road close to the building which was hitherto abandoned by motorists and pedestrians, due to its eye sore nature now back to function due to clearance of dump refuse and provision of security lights.

It has been observed that, government's decision to move the TSB office complex to another place through the Public Private Partnership initiative is the best way of meeting people's demands without spending.



■ Newly Teachers Service Board built through Public-Private Partnership in Katsina



Auto brands that hit Nigerian roads in 2022

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

The auto industry in Nigeria in 2022 continues to battle the challenge of non-passage of the National Automotive Industry Development Plan (NAIDP) Bill also known as Auto Policy Bill which would have given them some incentives as well as attracted some foreign investments into the sector. Like the previous year, the year is fast running out without the Auto policy even sent to the National Assembly not to talk of being signed into law.

Be that as it may, some few players in the industry managed to launch a few cars into the Nigerian market for the benefit of the car enthusiasts.

Here are some cars which were released in the outgoing year with majority of them assembled locally:

Changan Star 9 Bus

The Changan Star 9 Bus debuted in Nigeria to combat the menace of unsafe mini commercial buses.

The mini bus was described as “a genuine and tropicalized alternative,” which has come to ease the pain of commercial drivers.

Known as Changan Star 9, its body language is that of a rescue mission. Characterized with safety, body strength, practicality and powerful engine with fuel efficiency, Changan Star 9 is positioned to be a game changer in the nation's mini buses segment marketed by Zahav Automobile Co., Nigeria's official representative of Changan automobile brand.

Santa Fe and Elantra

Hyundai Nigeria Limited unveiled two new brands in May including the Santa Fe SUV and Elantra, both high-tech vehicles with improved styling,

comfort, equipment and segment leading safety features.

Head of Sales and Marketing, Mr. Gaurav Vashisht described the new Santa Fe as a product of continuous research into making Hyundai vehicles safer and more comfortable for customers.

Unlike its predecessor, he said the new Santa Fe provides ample seating for a family of seven and elevated the elegantly styled, high-technology SUV to another level, leading to a significant improvement in collision safety and maximizing vehicle stability on top of larger interior space.

On its part, the All-New, 7th generation Hyundai Elantra was said to have undergone significant changes, delivering the most progressive in-vehicle experience in its class.

Geely Azkarra

Mikano Motors, one of the newest players in the automotive industry, proved many doubting Thomases wrong by releasing three different brands in the outgoing year.

In April, the firm unveiled its all-new flagship luxury SUV from its Geely Nigeria lineup, the Geely Azkarra.

Following a highly successful pre-sale period, the launch event was mapped out to demonstrate the beauty, luxury and surprising power of the Azkarra SUV.

This was the third in the line-up since the partnership between Geely and Mikano was birthed about three years ago.

The General Manager, Mikano Motors, Ralph

Haidar, explained that Mikano Motors offers the best value for car purchases currently obtainable in Nigeria including the five-year/150,000 km warranty, Mobile workshop, VIP Courtesy service, guaranteed resale value and the confidence from Mikano International's legacy quality, after-sales prowess, assurance for peace of mind and overall, the best value for your auto investment.

Similarly, Mikano also launched the Maxus brand, joining the ZNA (Rich6) and Geely brands which have an existing partnership with Mikano.

The Bronco Rebirth

Courtesy of Coscharis Motors Plc, a leading automobile dealer in Nigeria and the exclusive distributors of Ford, the Bronco was birthed at this year's Lagos Motor Fair held at Victoria Island in the Centre of Excellence.

The bespoke and commanding Sports Utility Vehicle was a cynosure of all eyes at the fair, exuding elegance and incredible aesthetics that no automobile enthusiast would shun.

T h e

Bronco comes with a standard 300-hp turbocharged 2.3-liter four-cylinder or an optional 330-hp twin-turbo 2.7-liter V-6. A 10-speed automatic transmission bolts to both gas engines, but a seven-speed manual is only compatible with the smaller one.

All-new Mercedes-Benz C-Class

The all-new C-Class is described as the perfect combination of comfort and performance built with the singular objective of helping people escape the stress of everyday life into a luxurious retreat, into their own comfort zone.

Being one of Mercedes-Benz's best sellers & longest running model series, over 10.5 million Mercedes-Benz C-Class models have been delivered to customers globally since its inception in 1982.

The most prominent highlight in the all-new C-Class is most certainly the latest generation of the Mercedes-Benz User Experience (MBUX) infotainment system, which is more intuitively operated and has a higher learning capacity.



■ 2021 Hyundai Santa-Fe hybrid 4door SUV Limited

Nigeria rebounds as OPEC oil production rises 120,000 bpd in Dec

From Jide Olasunkanmi, Lagos

The rise of 120,000 barrels per day (bpd) in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) oil production has been traced to a rebound in Nigerian oil production in December.

In the month under review, OPEC pumped 29 million bpd, up by 120,000 bpd in November due to a recovery in Nigeria's production from outages, according to a monthly Reuters survey.

With the low supply of oil, price hike and long queues in some Nigerian fuel stations, the survey further quoted Nigeria as the biggest laggard in the OPEC+

production quota, alongside other African OPEC members such as Angola.

Despite the increase in oil production last month, OPEC was still pumping well below the collective target of the ten members bound by the OPEC+ pact.

The larger OPEC+ group moved to cut its collective production target by 2 million bpd in November to about 1.27 million bpd set to come from OPEC members.

“The 10 producers in OPEC with production quotas saw their combined oil output at 780,000 bpd below the target for OPEC for December. The shortfall slightly decreased from 800,000 bpd below the OPEC quota for November.

NECA worries over new taxes in Finance Bill

From Abiodun Alade, Lagos

The Nigeria Employers' Consultative Association (NECA) has expressed concerns over new tax burdens in the finance bill recently passed by the National Assembly.

The president had while signing the 2023 Appropriation Bill into Law this week, stopped assent to the bill pending when all grey areas are addressed.

While speaking in Lagos, the Director-General of NECA, Mr. Adewale-Smatt Oyerinde, who commended President Buhari, noted that while organized

businesses are still faced with burdensome numbers of taxes, the Finance Bill seeks to add additional burden on businesses.

He noted that it is worrisome that the Tertiary Education Tax (TET) was increased from 2.5% to 3.0% without “legacy regard for current economic situation faced by businesses”.

Sharing insight on what he termed a “legacy of taxes and levies”, the Director-General noted that organized businesses are currently burdened with over 50 different taxes, levies and fees.

“Increasing CIT rate for a gas-flaring company from

the standard 30% to 50% is also worrisome, considering the fact these companies are already covered in the Petroleum Industry Act. This could be a recipe for further divestment. Also, the imposition of Excise Duty at rates to be specified via Presidential Order on all services including telecommunication services, is too broad and vague. This could be subject to abuse and further strangulation of the business community,” he said.

Oyerinde stated that it was absurd that the National Assembly would consider and pass the Finance Bill in an unusual manner.

NMDPRA seals 14 erring filling stations in Kano

From Ibrahim Musa Giginyu, Kano

The Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Agency (NMDPRA) Kano office has sealed 14 filling stations found wanting in either discharging fuel

or selling above stipulated pump price to consumers in Kano state.

Addressing newsmen after the sealing of the erring stations, NMDPRA Kano state coordinator Malam Aliyu Muhammed Sama stated that as part of its oversight function, the agency had sealed

120 filling stations in the month of December last year adding that all sealed stations may likely lose their license to operate or face strict sanctions payments.

He explained that the agency will not relent in its efforts to ensure that the fuel scarcity being experienced

recently has come to an end as the government has been doing a lot to ensure availability of the commodity across the nation.

“In December alone, our agency has sealed 120 erring filling stations in Kano and these erring stations risk losing their licenses or face

some strict sanctions that will prevent future occurrences of such behaviours that contradicts the laid down provisions. As mandated upon us, the agency will continue to go out on its oversight routine as well as continue to seal any found erring filling station,” he said.

ADVERTORIAL

PLATEAU EQUITY FORUM

17/1 Bauchi Road Plateau State

4th January, 2023

The Honourable Minister of Health,
Federal Ministry of Health,
Abuja-Nigeria

Dear Sir,

APPEAL FOR THE STOPPAGE OF THE BID TO RELOCATE THE INTENDED NATIONAL ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL FROM JOS

We the undersigned, as bonafide citizens of Nigeria, indigenous to Plateau State, and members of the Afore-mentioned organisation, on behalf of our community, use this medium to respectfully write this letter of complaint, to express our concern, in respect to the statement credited to the Chief Medical Director of the University Teaching Hospital (JUTH), Dr, Pokop Bupwatd, that the proposed Orthopedic hospital billed to be sited in Jos, would be in Barkin Ladi LGA.

The Statement, as reported by the Director of Press, Plateau State Governor's Office on 22nd November 2022, confirmed that the intended National Orthopedic Hospital is about to be relocated to Barkin Ladi.

The CMD made the assertion when he paid a courtesy visit to the Governor in his office to appreciate the goodwill the hospital has been enjoying from the federal Government.

It is in the light of this that we wish to state that the stance of the CMD is misguided and exposes an undisguised hatred to the community.

The agenda to relocate the hospital from Jos Metropolitan is against the law passed by the National Assembly which has been associated to by President Muhammadu Buhari on 21st July, 2022 because the law specifically situated the Hospital in Jos not any Local Government within the State, just as Federal Polytechnic was situated in Shendam and Federal Medical Centre was situated in Wase.

We are therefore writing this formal complaint with the firm belief that if the plan of the CMD is allowed, it is tantamount to a direct violation of the law establishing the institution.

Our community is indeed aggrieved by the intention of the CMD, and sees the attempt as a sign of hospitality to our community, which was a major catalyst in voting Governor Lalong and APC into power in 2015 and 2019. For example, the total number of votes scored by President Buhari in 2015 was 429,140 over 160,000 of which came from Jos North alone.

Similarly, Governor Lalong Scored 537,050 votes out of which 117,443 came from Jos North.

In 2019, President Buhari scored a total of 468,555 votes; out of which 93,800 came from Jos North while Governor Lalong Scored 595,582 out of which 109,161 came from Jos North. On the whole, close to 25% of the total vote casted to APC in the 2015 and 2019 elections came from Jos North. However despite the fact that our community's massive and contribution to the APC victories in the two separate elections, our effort have not been compensated in terms of democratic dividends.

The hostility this action may engender is serious enough to sabotage the success of the APC in Plateau State in 2023.

It is unfortunate that while the Governor claims to be with the APC, he is indirectly fighting the party, like he did during the rerun election for Bassa/Jos North Federal Constituency Seat.

The action of the Governor shows that his segregation against our community is getting worst and gangrenous in his heart, in that he has attacked the community in many directions economically, socially and politically, using different tools.

Let the Governor states the votes cast by Jos North for the APC and that cast for same in Barkin Ladi in the year 2015 and 2019 Governorship elections and tell us the justification behind his latest attempt to relocate the hospital to Barkin Ladi from Jos.

We therefore bring our complaint to the listening ear of your highly esteemed office as good and visionary supporter of this administration, and urge you to please intervene and make sure the plan of the Plateau State Governor is not implemented as this will amount to a violation of the law establishing the institution.

The danger inherent in such an action is that it will drastically reduce the colossal votes of the APC candidate may get from this community come 2023, because this is the only dividend of democracy the community is likely to benefit from, in the eight (8) years of this administration, despite giving the APC the second highest vote in the 2015 election coupled with the fact that our community is one of the major supporters of the president in all his campaigns since 2003.

We therefore respectfully request that the status quo be upheld and the hospital should maintain its statutory location in Jos per the National Assembly Law of 21st July 2022, as assented to by Mr. President.

Thank You

Yours Sincerely,

Hon. Dasuki Salihu Nakande
Former Minister and Chairman
Plateau Equity Forum

Alh. Baba Akawu
Plateau Muslim Ummah

Dr. Ibrahim Idris Zakariyya
Stakeholder

Alh. Danladi Abdullahi
Elder and Stakeholder

Alh. Tijjani Abdullahi
Elder and stakeholder

Mal. Yaqub Al-Maliki Al-Jasawi
Elder and stakeholder

Alh. Balarabe Ismaila Auta
Stakeholder

Alh. Shehu Sa'eed
Stakeholder

Hon. Abubakar Ateeku Yusuf
Stakeholder

Mu'awuya L. Mai sugar
Stakeholder

Hon. Gali Mato
Stakeholder

CC:
The President Federal Republic of Nigerian
The Senate President
The Speaker House of Representatives
The Governor Plateau State
Member Representing Bassa/Jos Federal Constituency
Member Jos North -North Plateau State House of Assembly
Member Jos North -West Plateau State House of Assembly



YOUTHVILLE

Friday, January 6, 2023

...young at heart



Preventing the conflicts of tomorrow means changing the mindset of youth today. – Graça Mache

Initiative trains 30 young Africans on leadership skills



By Simon Echewofun
Sunday

Seeing a great need to develop generational leaders in Africa, a Gordon Conwell MDiv student, Akinyemi Lapinni, has empowered 30 young leaders in the yearly Global Youth Leadership Experience (GYLE 22) in Ibadan, Nigeria.

Lapinni, who is the founder of a Nigeria-based nonprofit outfit, World Changers Development Initiative, says the vision of the programme includes engaging, equipping and empowering young leaders

and institutions in Africa as global change-makers for the transformation of lives and society.

The 2022 cohort has 30 young leaders who are ready to take the world for good, he noted, with speakers drawn from Liberia, Canada, USA and host country, Nigeria.

The students went through courses like developing 'your life vision', 'goals and strategies for impact', 'exploring admission', 'scholarships and exposures in schools abroad', 'exploring the sport ministry', 'maximising ICT and social media', 'creating content and

online platforms for ministry', 'the leader and his life journey'.

Other sessions were 'leadership and resilience' and 'exploring the marketplace ministry'.

Participants expressed their gratitude for the capacity-building and networking opportunities and asked for further mentoring and opportunity for ministry.

The next year two cohorts would take place in Ghana and Nigeria, respectively.

Lapinni disclosed that "The annual Global Youth Leadership Experience (GYLE) programme for young leaders

in Africa started in 2016 when I created a platform for personal spiritual growth, rejuvenation, and relationship with God.

"It also aims to build life skills, mentoring and networking for young leaders, youth ministries, and other leaders in university campuses in Nigeria to impact their world.

"This programme helps them reflect on their leadership journey and the changes they might be willing to make in the future.

"They would explore their own values, motivations and goals on how they want to impact the world for Christ."

NDE empowers young entrepreneurs in Benue, Kaduna

From Hope Abah Emmanuel (Makurdi) & Mohammed Ibrahim Yaba (Kaduna)

The National Directorate of Employment (NDE) has trained and empowered youths in Benue and Kaduna states to enable them to start a business and become self-employed.

Reports said over six million Nigerian youths are unemployed with the unemployment rate reaching 33 per cent in 2020.

In order to tackle rising unemployment, NDE said it distributed N750,000 worth of starter kits to graduate beneficiaries of its School On the Wheels in Benue.

The Director-General of NDE, Malam Abubakar Nuhu Fikpo, who gave out the equipment and tools to the beneficiaries in Makurdi, said the gesture was

aimed at combating poverty among youths.

Fikpo, represented by an official of NDE, Offia Obinna, also noted that the disbursement of the starter kits under the School on Wheels (SOW) scheme was a practical demonstration of the will of the federal government to adequately address unemployment in the state.

Also, the State Coordinator of NDE, Agada William, explained that the beneficiaries were graduates earlier trained by the agency in different vocational skills to include, shoemaking, barber services and hairdressing.

The Head of Department (HOD), Vocational Skill Development, Ene Awosika, urged the beneficiaries not to abandon the starter kits but use them to fend for themselves and their families.

The HOD of Loans, Phillip Uleh, said each of the beneficiaries got a loan of N75,000, adding that the repayment plan would span three years with a grace period of the first three months.

A beneficiary, Vande Terhile, who spoke on behalf of his 10 other colleagues, thanked NDE for the opportunity.

"We will be creating wealth and employment through the starter packs given to us. We will also use it to create a value chain in wealth creation," Terhile said.

In Kaduna, the NDE urged youths not to depend on school certificates but to acquire skills.

Fikpo was represented by the NDE Director of Skills Development, Isa Abdu, at the resettlement ceremony of the School on Wheels (SOW) graduated trainees.

He said, "It has been

predicted by world economists that there would be a global recession in 2023, and one of the recommendations is that there must be skills development, and NDE has been doing that for over 30 years.

"So, the era of depending on certificates is over, our youth must be engaged in skills development."

The NDE head said starter packs were given to 10 graduates trained in fashion design, hairdressing, and electric fitting, among others.

The NDE Kaduna State Coordinator, Malam Ahmed Kawure, said the resettlement loan package given to the beneficiaries will help create wealth and reduce rural-urban migration.

According to him, the loan will be repaid within three years after the six-month moratorium.

Top ways to save money as a young adult

By Simon Echewofun
Sunday

When you're young, saving money may seem like an impossible task. It's easy to see your pay cheque as a way to get by month-to-month and not a way to prepare for the future and save for financial difficulties. But putting just a little money aside each month can make a world of difference.

These five money-saving tips for young adults can help you get started on the path to future financial success.

1. Make a budget: You have heard it before; creating and sticking to a budget is one of the best ways you can save money. Making a budget doesn't mean you have to give up fun for the rest of your life. By creating a budget, you'll be able to see where your money is going each month and allocate funds to saving, bills and entertainment.

2. Don't wait to save and invest: Saving and investing may seem like a challenge right now, but putting away just a few dollars a week can have a big impact. Use your budget to see how much money you can put into your savings account each month.

3. Save one-third of your income: If you aren't sure how much you should save, experts recommend that you save one-third of your income if you can. By saving N1,000 out of every N3,000 you earn, you are making it easier on yourself to survive future financial difficulties, such as layoffs, health, and other surprise expenses.

4. Start an emergency fund: Another good way to save for financial hardship is to start an emergency fund. Investopedia recommends putting some money into a high-interest savings account or money market account.

5. Pay off your debt: While putting money into savings is a good way to prepare for your future, you should also be concerned about paying off your debt. You should be aggressive about paying off your debt and careful not to let your spending spiral out of control.

Accessed via, <https://localfirstbank.com/>

BUSINESS DAY

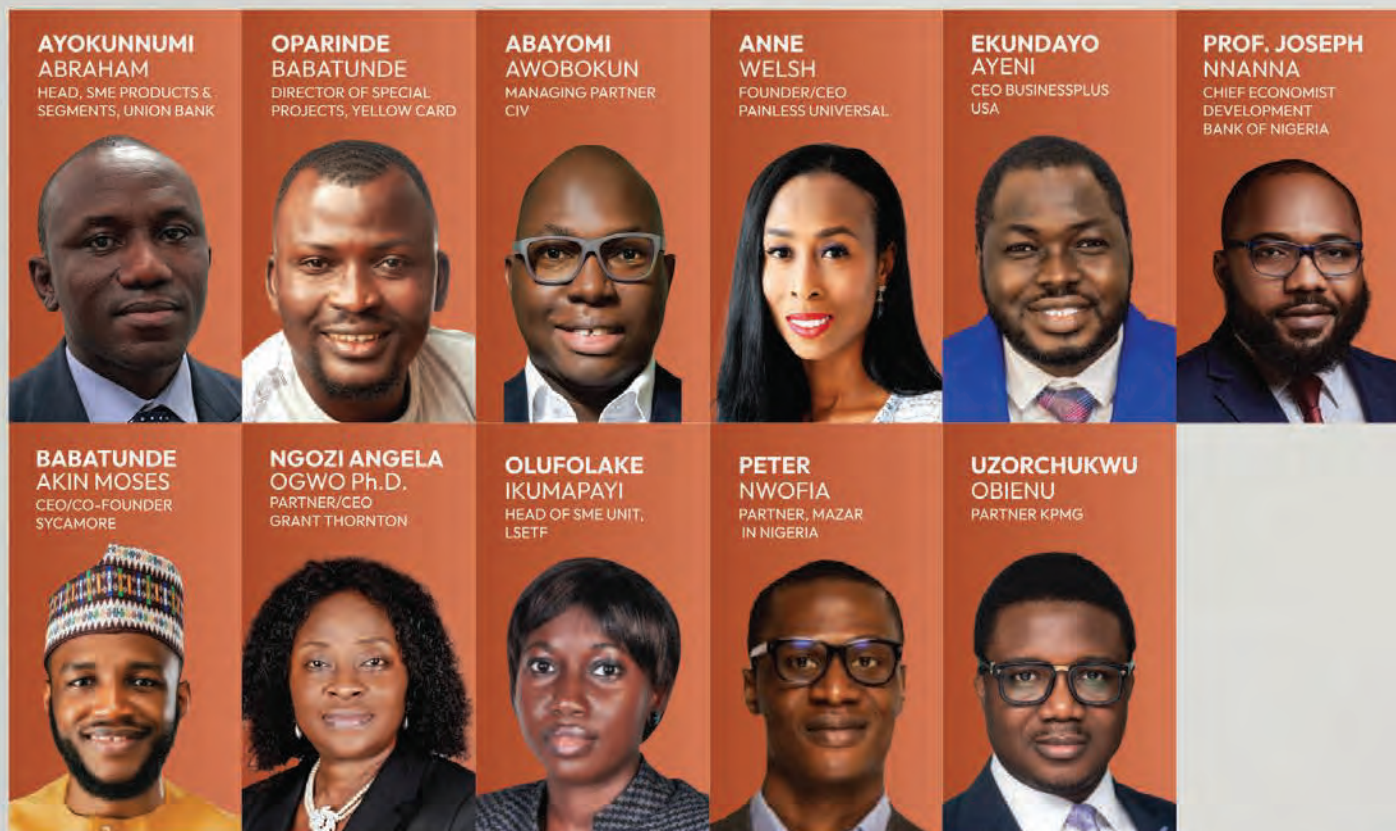
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100

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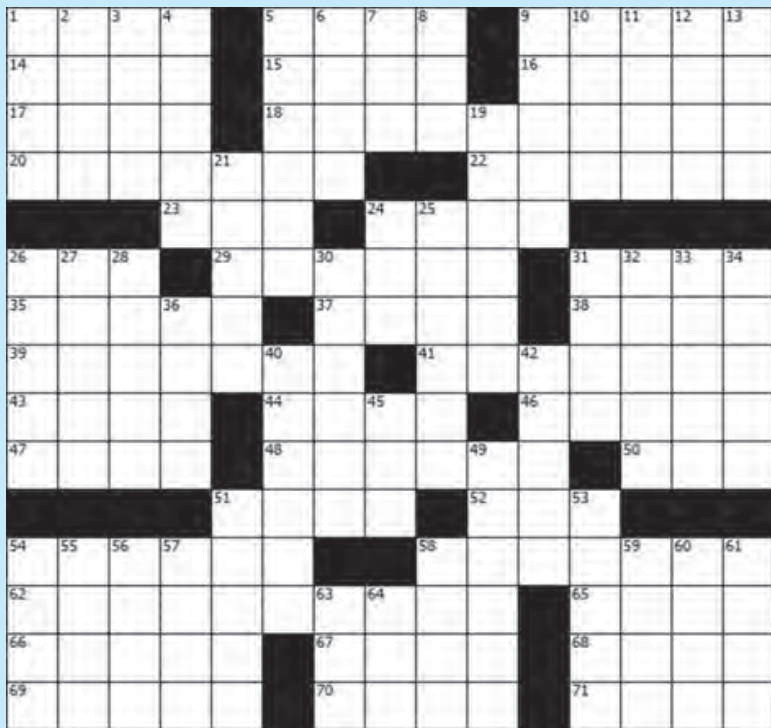


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41

EASY CROSSWORD >>



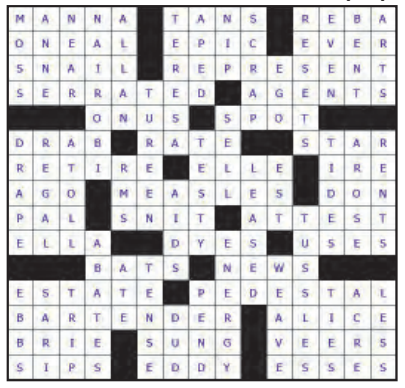
Across

- 1. Summer drinks
- 5. Mellow
- 9. Like old bread
- 14. Talk incoherently
- 15. Buffalo's waterfront
- 16. Ventilated
- 17. Hopping insect
- 18. Lumberjack's sport
- 20. Type of steak
- 22. Not wavering
- 23. That gal
- 24. Spasms
- 26. Bus depot (abbr.)
- 29. Nigeria's continent
- 31. Wedding ring
- 35. Pavarotti, e.g.
- 37. Copycat
- 38. Sunburn soother
- 39. Plead with
- 41. With a leg on each side
- 43. Enlightened one's words (2 wds.)
- 44. Bachelor party
- 46. Inquired
- 47. Loch _____ monster
- 48. Least daffy
- 50. Road curve
- 51. Hue
- 52. Hot drink
- 54. Macaroni and spaghetti
- 58. Sure
- 62. Satisfactory

Down

- 65. Norwegian capital
- 66. Foolish
- 67. Pilot's stunt
- 68. Join together
- 69. Tears apart
- 70. Stickers
- 71. Brashness
- 1. Barking sounds
- 2. Artist Salvador _____
- 3. Happily _____ after
- 4. Embossed emblems
- 5. Easing of pain
- 6. Wrinkle remover
- 7. Sty resident
- 8. Always, poetically
- 9. Seasons
- 10. Mahjong piece
- 11. Opera tune
- 12. Loan
- 13. Uneasy
- 19. Movie awards
- 21. Midwest airport
- 24. Overturn
- 25. Cold era (2 wds.)
- 26. Beer mug
- 27. Edgy
- 28. Poker stakes
- 30. Wicker material
- 31. Saloons
- 32. Similar
- 33. Lymph _____
- 34. Feats
- 36. Mineral deposits
- 40. Aid
- 42. Starchy veggie (sl.)
- 45. Social insect
- 49. Soaks
- 51. Cassettes
- 53. Tiny particles
- 54. Two of a kind
- 55. Teen's woe
- 56. Read quickly
- 57. Look after
- 58. Drain obstruction
- 59. Sailing
- 60. Misfortunes
- 61. Head gestures
- 63. Key near the space bar
- 64. _____ constrictor

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD (40)



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!

41

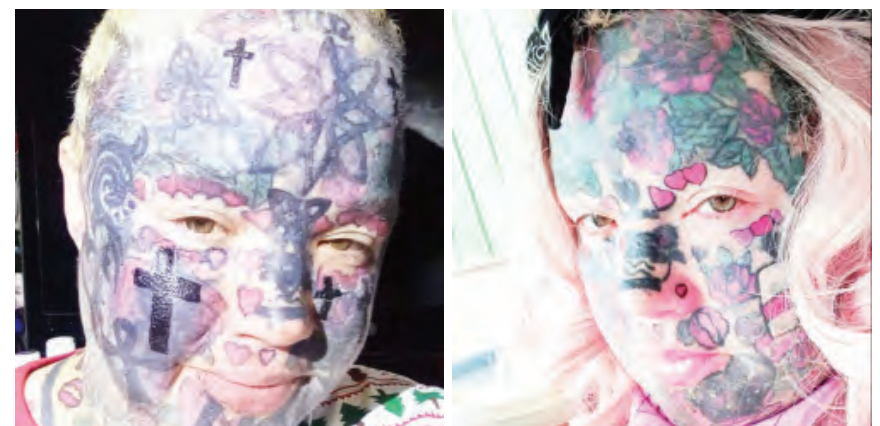
Solution to Sudoku 40

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 2 | | 8 | 4 | | 6 | | |
| | 7 | | | 1 | | | | 8 |
| | | 8 | | | | 5 | 4 | |
| | | | 9 | 6 | | | 1 | |
| 8 | | 7 | | | 4 | 5 | | |
| 7 | | | 2 | | | | | 6 |
| | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 2 | | 5 | 7 | | | 9 | | |
| | | | | 4 | | | | |

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

SNAPSHOT >>

Mum 'banned from the pub' for having too many face tattoos

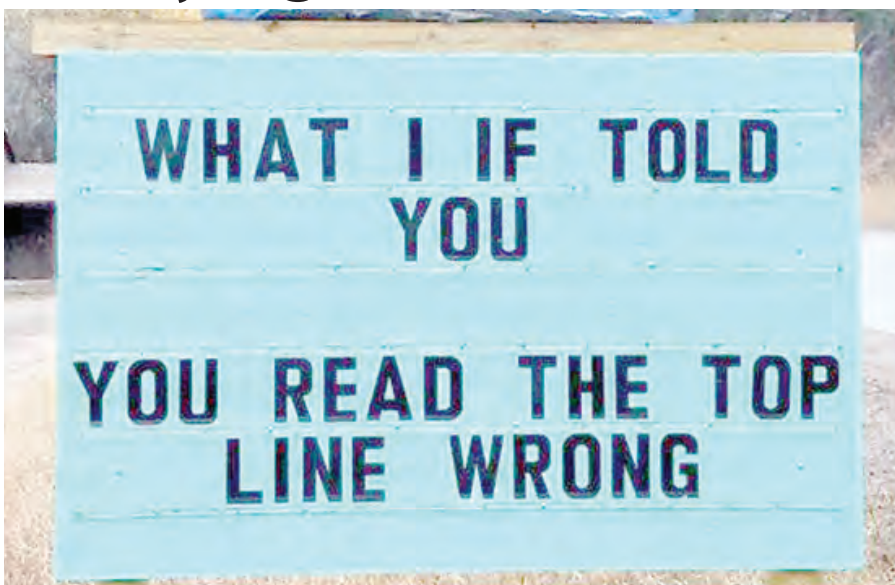


A mum says her Christmas has been ruined because she's been 'banned from her local' for having too many tattoos. Melissa Sloane, from Kidderminster in Worcestershire, has 800 of them covering her face and head. The mum-of-seven bought a tattoo gun on Amazon and covers herself in at least three new tattoos each week. Despite being mocked by other mums on the school run and being unable to attend Christmas parties at her local pub, she is determined to keep tattooing herself. 'Because of who I am, I don't get invited to Christmas parties,' she said. 'I want to enjoy myself and go for a drink at the pub, but they won't even let me in.' Melissa's skin has been falling off recently because of tattoos not healing properly – but it hasn't stopped her loving her colourful face. Despite her skin infections, she still inks in new tattoos on open wounds because she is impatient. While some of her tattoos are done professionally, she likes to get the rest of her family involved. She has allowed partner Luke, 56, and two of her children who are in primary school to ink some on her. But she admits it has been difficult trying to find a job with all her tattoos, which include marijuana symbols and playboy bunnies.

- metro.co.uk

SIGN LANGUAGE >>

Funny signs



- boredpanda

TRUST ISLAMIC FORUM

World condemns Israel minister's visit to Aqsa Mosque

The United Nations and the United States led a chorus of international criticism of a visit by Israel's extreme-right new national security minister to Jerusalem's super-sensitive Al-Aqsa mosque compound on Tuesday.

The move by firebrand Itamar Ben-Gvir angered the Palestinians and US allies in the Arab world, while Western governments warned such moves threaten the fragile status quo at Jerusalem's holy sites.

Ben-Gvir's visit comes days after he took office as national security minister, with powers over the police, giving his decision to enter the highly sensitive site considerable weight.

Al-Aqsa mosque is the third-holiest place in Islam and the most sacred site to Jews, who refer to the compound as the Temple Mount.

The UAE and Morocco, which established diplomatic ties with Israel in 2020, both spoke out against Ben-Gvir's action.

White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said that a change to the status quo of Jerusalem's holy sites would be "unacceptable".

State Department spokesman Ned Price said the United States was "deeply concerned" by Ben-Gvir's visit, which could "provoke



■ Aqsa Mosque violence."

A United Nations spokesman said Secretary General Antonio Guterres called "on all to refrain from steps that could escalate tensions in and around the holy sites".

Germany's ambassador to Israel said the status quo "has long helped maintain the fragile peace and security around the holy sites" and urged all sides to avoid actions that could raise tension.

Jordan's foreign ministry spokesman Sinan Majali said Amman summoned the Israeli ambassador, to "convey a protest message about the recklessness of

the Israeli national security minister in storming the blessed Al-Aqsa mosque".

Saudi Arabia, home to the holiest sites in Islam, condemned the "provocative practices" of Ben-Gvir.

Israel's arch-foe Iran called the visit a "violation of international regulations and an insult to the values and sanctities of the Muslims."

The Palestinian foreign ministry called Ben-Gvir's visit a "serious threat".

Egypt - which serves as a mediator in Gaza - warned "of the negative consequences of such actions". (AFP)

Educate your children on dangers of quick wealth, cleric charges parents

By Dalhatu Liman

An Islamic scholar, Dr Abdullahi Shuaib, has lamented the worrisome upsurge of get-rich-quick syndrome among the Nigerian youths, urging parents to educate their children on the dangers of quick wealth.

He expressed worry that youths were now drifting away from value and belief systems, which serve as moral compass with which they navigate life struggles.

He spoke at the ninth Islamic Holiday Course for the year 2022 organised by Standard Bearers Islamic Organisation in Abuja.

About 200 students drawn from

Niger, Nasarawa, Kaduna, Sokoto and Kogi states and the FCT attended the week-long course, which featured series of lectures, dawah training and interactions.

Dr Shuaib, who is also the CEO of Jaiz Charity and Development Foundation, explained that children are not only divine gifts to parents but also trust placed under their guardianship by Almighty Allah.

He said, "Today, we have seen the youth drifting away from moral value and belief system that we used to know. Everybody wants to make money without making any sacrifice. Everybody wants to jump the queue. Everybody wants

to be something within a short possible time. Of course, this is not possible, there are processes to do that.

"We should inculcate the values and belief system of doing what is right and forbidden what is wrong for the youngsters to recognise the fact that we are representatives of the Creator on the earth. Else, our children may become a source of grief and pain for us and the society."

The Abuja coordinator of Standard Bearers, Idris Jumah, said the programme was designed for Muslim youths to nurture them to be righteous and inculcate in them moral values.

Ahmadiyya urges Nigerians to shun vote buying, other malpractices

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at of Nigeria has urged the electorate and those seeking elective positions to shun vote buying and other electoral malpractices during the coming general elections.

The Amir of Ahmadiyya, Nigeria, Alhaji Alatoye Folurunso Azeez gave the advice during the 68th national conference of the movement held in Ilaro, Ogun State.

The three-day event, otherwise known as Jalsa Salana, took place under the guidance of the world leader of the Ahmadiyya

movement, Caliph Hazrat Masroor Ahmad.

Speaking with newsmen, Azeez cautioned politicians against manipulation, electoral violence and the use of thugs to intimidate oppositions.

He also pledged the commitment of the entire members of Ahmadiyya to peaceful, free, fair and credible elections.

"I will also plead that people should avoid using money to buy votes. We should not try to manipulate the votes. Whoever Allah chooses among them, we should pray for them so that they

can succeed at all levels," he said.

Governor Dapo Abiodun of Ogun state urged Muslims to ensure they get their Permanent Voters' Card (PVCs) and participate fully in the elections.

Abiodun noted that Muslims performing their civic rights was not just a duty to themselves alone, but also to the country.

Daily Trust reports that an estimated 70,000 members of the movement attended the conference, which also featured lectures, special prayer session for Nigeria and award presentation to members who have excelled in their educational pursuit.

THE RELIGION WITH ALLAH IS ISLAM

AFIS A. OLADOSU
08122465111 (Text only)

2023 and the madmen in our cities (I)

Brethren, one of my teachers once told this story to us: a man once passed by a psychiatry hospital. He contemplated the serenity of the exteriority of the hospital and imagined the hubbub and the bedlam that would characterize its interiority. He soon saw one of the patients who was peering out through one of the windows of the hospital. Then the thought occurred to him to engage the mad man in a conversation. He then shouted on top of his voice and asked the mad man as follows: "how many madmen are there in your hospital?" The inmate looked the questioner up and down as if in search of the best response to his question. Then he (the inmate) responded saying: "tell me, how many sane people remain out there?!"

Brethren, sometimes when I contemplate the contrarities in our national life, the brazen display and misuse of power and authority, the wanton destruction of innocent lives and properties by those who see violence as an end in itself, the indulgence in corruption by those whose brief it is to prevent its perpetration, the suggestion that there are no sane men left up there becomes irresistible. One gets a sense of a clime populated by men and women suffering from lunacy; it feels as if we are in a season of anomie.

Brethren, the subject of madness has occupied the attention of thinkers and philosophers across ages and climes. In fact before Islam, the Greeks had explored the phenomenon of madness and sought to engage its multifarious perspectives. Aristotle is quoted to have said that no great mind has ever existed without a touch of madness. In Hamlet, Madness, is deemed to be a necessary ingredient in creativity. It gains mention not just because it is an aspect of life but also because there is a method to it. In other words, if you must go mad, let your madness be with and in style. If you must run naked in the market, ensure it is in pursuit of something noble, not ignoble.

Brethren, when Prophet Muhammad emerged on the rigid landscape of Arabia and began to call on his people to forsake idol worship, sexual oppression of women and perpetration of injustice against the weak, he was dismissed as a madman. He was accused of being in communion with the Jinns who were teaching him verses of the Quran. The Quran, it must be remembered, represents, aside from its eternal universal and holistic messages, the acme and the apotheosis of literary erudition for which the Makkans were renowned. Since they could not match its inimitable structure and content, Makkans therefore dismissed the Ayat of the Quran as the ministrations of the one who is suffering from insanity. Al-Rasul was consequently declaimed for his choice to be honest in a season of dishonesty; he was harangued for his choosing to stand by the poor and the orphans. He was accused of suffering from dementia when he called for an end to graft, bribery, round-tripping and backbiting. Though Arabia was in dire need of a man like al-Rasul for it to be redeemed from imminent implosion, the emergence of al-Rasul, the expected, from an unexpected quarter of the city was, however, deemed an indulgence in lunacy by the power-that be. Makkah, like the world today, needed the emergence of al-Rasul and his companions so that it could occupy the lofty position it presently enjoys in human history. But once that happened, the Makkans decided to go to war against its own redeemer. One wonders who, between the two, was actually 'mad'?

During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, great European thinkers were accused of suffering from dementia. Van Gogh was deemed to be suffering from schizophrenia, Nietzsche was thought to be affected by paranoid disorder then general paresis of the insane. What about Dostoevski, the great Russian writer? He too was said to have been afflicted with epilepsy. Brethren, to choose to be sane in a society with predilections for insanity is to be enrobed with dementia.

But the subject of madness which is of interest to us in our sermon today is different from the 'madness' which men whose memory is interred on the lofty pages of human history. Rather, the mad men of interest to us are 'un-official companions' of those men and women who are in a permanent state of dementia. In other words, two types of images of madness could be seen in our cities today: voluntary and involuntary madness. The first, voluntary madness (VM) is consciously 'acquired', while the second, involuntary madness (IM) is surreptitiously inflicted; the first is socio-cultural, while the second is spiritual-medical; the first is sometimes incurable, the second is usually redeemable. (To be continued).



■ From left; 2nd Deputy President, Chartered Institute of Forensics and Certified Fraud Investigators of Nigeria (CIFCFIN), Prof. Suleiman Aruwa; President, Dr. Ilyasu Gashinbaki; Chairman, House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs, Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub and Council member, Fatima Muhammadu Buhari, during a press conference and unveiling of its Institute as Chartered by Statute and the tasks ahead in combating corruption in Nigeria in Abuja Wednesday. Photo: Ikechukwu Ibe

Kaduna fixes N1.5m as first deposit for 2023 Hajj

From Abubakar Sadiq Mohd, Zaria

Kaduna State Pilgrims Welfare Agency has advised all intending pilgrims from Kaduna State to deposit not less than N1.5 million pending the final announcement of stipulated fee by the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON).

The executive secretary of the agency, Dr Yusuf Yakubu Arrigasiyu, gave the advice at the inauguration of a scheme towards the collection of hajj fares for 2023 at the Emir of Zazzau's palace in Zaria.

He said the effort was aimed at giving intending pilgrims the opportunity to secure hajj seats with ease.

Arrigasiyu, however, warned against payment of cash to any official of the agency, stressing that all payment must be done in the bank after collecting teller from hajj officers at local government level.

The executive secretary, who briefed the Emir of Zazzau on new measures adopted by the agency to curtail favouritism, pledged to ensure that the seat allocation would be strictly done on 'first-come first-served' basis.

He said the agency had earlier conducted four-day training to avail hajj officials with the requisite knowledge on areas of improvement to bridge lapses witnessed during the previous operations for fruitful results.

In his remarks, the Emir of Zazzau, Malam Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli, raised some observations including dehumanisation of pilgrims while in the holy land by some officials, poor logistics arrangements and favouritism in securing hajj seats.

"I don't want a situation where you will come here and announce that you have commenced collection of hajj fares and when people go to pay, they will find that there is no seat left.

"This has been the situation in the past, so I want you to know that this is a religious activity and not political. Therefore, you must be just and fair in all you do regarding the conduct of your activities for successful results," the emir warned.

Responding, the Director General, Kaduna State Interfaith, Barrister Tahir Umar Tahir, assured that the agency had put in place rigorous measures to sanitise the activities of hajj operations.

Tahir pledged that any official found wanting would not be spared.

Bauchi emir replaces Bello Kirfi with Ahmed Kari as new Waziri

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

Barely 48 hours after removing an elder statesman, Alhaji Muhammadu Bello-Kirfi, the Emir of Bauchi, Dr Rilwanu Suleiman Adamu, has appointed Alhaji Muhammad Uba Ahmed Kari as the new Waziri of the Bauchi Emirate Council.

A statement signed by the information officer of the emirate council, Babangida Hassan Jahun, and made available to newsmen Thursday in Bauchi revealed the

turbaning ceremony of the new Waziri would be performed Friday (today) by the emir.

"The Bauchi Emirate Council fondly requests the company of relatives, friends and well-wishers to the turbaning ceremony of the new Waziri of Bauchi, Alhaji Muhammad Uba Kari, on 6th January, 2023 at 11:00am at the emir's palace, Bauchi," the statement partly read.

The elder statesman was stripped of his title for alleged disrespect to Governor Bala Mohammed and the Bauchi State government.

Daily Trust reports that this is

the second time that Kirfi would be sacked as Wazirin Bauchi. He was suspended in 2017. However, on August 5, 2020, he was reinstated. It was gathered that the Bauchi governor, Bala Mohammed, facilitated his reinstatement.

Because of his contribution to the governor's victory, it was gathered that Bala Mohammed rewarded Kirfi by appointing his son, Barrister Yakubu Bello Kirfi, as Commissioner of Justice and Attorney General of the state.

When Yakubu was dropped from the cabinet, the governor appointed Kirfi's daughter,

Saadatu Bello Kirfi, as Commissioner of Cooperatives, Small and Medium Enterprises Development.

Following the sack of her father, Saadatu resigned from the cabinet.

Sources told our correspondent that the latest sack was politically motivated.

It was gathered that Kirfi had last week held a stakeholders' meeting at his residence in Bauchi, where he directed his lieutenants, drawn from across the state, to come out and mobilise for the PDP presidential candidate, Atiku Abubakar only.

Kebbi boat mishap: 14 bodies recovered, 6 still missing

A total of 14 bodies have been recovered while six are still missing in Tuesday's boat mishap in Koko/Besse Local Government Area of Kebbi.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the boat was conveying about 100 rice farmers to Samanaji, a riverside community, when it capsized.

Already 80 people were rescued alive while the search for the six missing persons has continued.

Gov. Atiku Bagudu, accompanied by Minister of Justice Abubakar Malami were in

the community on Thursday to commiserate with them over the accident.

Bagudu warned boat operators to avoid night journeys and overloading, and observe safety measures at all times.

He prayed for those who died and their families to bear the loss with fortitude.

The governor commended those who rendered assistance towards the rescue of the boat passengers and ongoing search for the missing ones.

"I am here with a top delegation

to condole with you over the unfortunate boat mishap.

"We pray to God to forgive all who lost their lives and we pray for the recovery of the missing ones," he said.

Earlier, the Chairman of the council, Alhaji Yahaya Bello thanked the governor for the attention and care shown to the relatives of the victims.

Bello said that search and rescue operations were still ongoing in the area to see if more persons would be found.

The chairman commended the

APC gubernatorial candidate, Dr Nasir Idris for donating N5 million to families of the deceased.

NAN reports that the District Head of Dutsinmari, Alhaji MuAllayidi Usman, received the governor and appreciated him for the condolence visit.

The governor's delegation include former Governor Saidu Dakingari, APC governorship candidate, Dr Nasir Idris and the Speaker of the state Assembly, Alhaji Abubakar Lolo, among others.

Technical education crucial to Nigeria's future—NASENI

From Ismail Adebayo, Birni Kebbi

Executive Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure (NASENI), Professor Mohammad Sani Haruna, says it is important to promote

technical education to protect the future of young men and women who are the leaders of tomorrow.

He spoke yesterday at the foundation stone laying ceremony of the NASENI Skill Acquisition Centre, Bagudo, Kebbi State.

He said President

Muhammadu Buhari approved construction of skill development centres to meet the challenges of technology gap and fill the vacuum created by shortage of artisans.

Governor Atiku Bagudu appreciated the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of the Federation, Abubakar

Malami, and the NASENI for bringing the project to Kebbi.

"We appreciate the minister, Abubakar Malami SAN, for his influence to bring the project to Kebbi, we also appreciate NASENI for its move to establish a centre for manufacturing of farming machines and farming implements in the state," he said.

Military government more sympathetic to lecturers – ASUU president

By Chidimma C. Okeke

The President of the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), Prof. Emmanuel Osodeke, has said the military government era in the country was more sympathetic to the plight of lecturers than the current civilian administration.

He stated this on Thursday in Abuja at the unveiling of 50 tertiary textbooks published by Nigerian authors under the sponsorship of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund).

On the 'no work no pay' policy of the federal government against striking lecturers which has resulted in eight months of unpaid salaries, Osodeke called on Nigerians to increase pressure on the government to save tertiary education from collapse.

While decrying the poor attitude of some big companies and

wealthy Nigerians on the payment of education tax, Osodeke said there was a need to reposition and expand the education tax net to bring about more resources for tertiary education institutions.

Minister of Education, Malam Adamu Adamu, who unveiled the 50 new textbooks, said the publications would end the dominance of foreign academic materials in the nation's educational institutions.

Adamu who was represented by the Minister of State for Education, Goodluck Nanah Opiah, said over time, Nigeria's tertiary education institutions became dependent on books published outside the country with the attendant consequences of the herculean processes and unfavourable foreign exchange rate.

"It is equally worrisome that the quality of most academic publications in our country leaves much to be desired. It is therefore expected that

nourishing the culture of quality authorship and the production of indigenous books will not only ensure the availability of relevant books in the diverse subject areas taking cognizance of our local environment and sensitivities but will also safeguard national pride and reduce the demand for foreign exchange," he said.

In his remark, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Sonny Echono, said the fund had set a minimum target of 50 textbooks per year while assuring that the newly published books would be distributed to tertiary institutions' libraries at no cost.

"All the books we have published so far, the initial publications are going to be distributed to the libraries of our tertiary institutions free of charge. It is the subsequent publications that students will be buying or other researchers will buy," he said.

Police rescue 15 captives from Zamfara forest

Zamfara Police Command on Thursday rescued 15 persons kidnapped by bandits along Gusau-Funtua Road.

The victims were abducted on Tuesday and taken away into the bush.

Briefing newsmen in Gusau, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in the state, Muhammad Shehu, said on receiving

the news, the command mobilised a rescue operation and confidence building patrol team to the area.

Shehu said after an intensive gun battle, the criminals withdrew and fled into the forest, leaving the captives.

"The policemen in the operation team quickly rushed into the bush and recovered 15 persons

comprising seven women, six men and two children.

"The victims had been given the necessary medical checkup and had interactions with the police commissioner for further intelligence report.

"They would be immediately reunited with their family members," Shehu said. (NAN)

Pump price: NMDPRA seals 22 fuel stations in Kano, Osun

The Nigeria Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) has sealed 14 stations in Kano and another eight in Osun State for selling fuel above the approved pump price.

The NMDPRA Coordinator in Kano State, Mr Aliyu Muhammad-Sama, during a monitoring and surveillance exercise on Thursday in Kano, said the authority shut the stations for dispensing fuel at N295 and N300 per litre and breaching surveillance for confirmation discharge and price regulations.

"We have strict regulations to punish

offenders which include revoking their licence of operation, sanction, payment of penalty and invalidation of transaction.

"For now; the sealed fuel stations will be sanctioned to pay N150,000 per pump nozzle so long as they are willing to revert to prices that are convenient for the public," he said.

He, however, said that major marketers were dispensing fuel at N185 per litre, adding that the authority had sealed over 120 fuel stations in the state in December 2022.

His Osun counterpart, Mr Kunle Adeyemo, said that the surveillance was aimed at sensitising the

public that the pump price of petrol, as approved by the federal government, had not changed.

He said that the surveillance operation would continue on a daily basis until all marketers within the state reverted to the government-approved price for PMS.

"We are out basically because prices of fuel are getting erratic and we are trying to tell the people that there is a specific price for petroleum and that the government has not changed it.

"We want to ensure that every filling station in the state adheres strictly to the official price of between N179 and N180 per litre," he said.



SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL PAYE TAX RETURNS FOR THE YEAR 2022 AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

The Management of Kano State Internal Revenue Service is hereby reminding all employers of labour, Corporate entities, Business Enterprises and all Private Sectors to hurry and file their annual PAYE Tax Returns before the end of 31st January, 2023 as in accordance to the provision of Section 47, 48 and 81 of the Personal Income Tax Act Cap P 8 LFN as amended 2011.

2. Also self-assessment for the individual are to be duly complied before the end of 31st March, 2023 as provided in the said act.

3. The returns is expected to include and not limited to:

i. Copy of payroll of all employees (Temporary and Permanent Expatriate and Local) for the year 2022 with breakdown of total emoluments paid to them and the PAYE Tax deducted there from (Form H1).

ii. Schedule of remittances of the tax deducted and copy of the receipts.

iii. Copy of payroll for the year 2022.

iv. Employers can also filled their returns online through our website www.kirs.gov.ng (self service).

4. However, the document should be filled not later than 31st day of January, 2023 failure of which will attract conviction for a penalty of N500,000.00 and N50,000.00 for corporate and individuals respectively as provided in Section 81 (3) Of the said Act. You are expected to submit the documents in both hard and soft copy or online via www.kirs.gov.ng

5. For further inquiry contact us at info@kirs.gov.ng or call us on **080-67597629** and **081-77416260**.

ABDURRAZAK DATTI SALIHI FCA, FCTI, FCFA, FICPSP, CNA, FCCSA (USA), MNIN
Executive Chairman

FACTCHECK

Babangida's endorsement of Peter Obi was from a parody twitter account

By Philip Shimnom Clement

On Tuesday, News broke out that a former head of state, General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, had endorsed the candidate of the Labour Party, Mr Peter Obi.

The endorsement was widely reported by many online sites and some few national dailies.

Verdict: False

Full Text

Daily Trust checks showed that the news of General Babangida's endorsement of Peter Obi was conveyed in his verified Twitter handle @General_Ibbro, following the New Year's Day endorsement by former President Olusegun Obasanjo.

Babangida, who hailed the leadership role of President Olusegun Obasanjo, identifying him as an elder statesman and foremost general, said he cannot agree less with his endorsement of Obi, a position that has equally set the social media abuzz.

The Tweet reads: "Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo will forever be a true elder statesman and a boss in the military. No serving general in the Nigerian army today joined the military earlier than 1982. By then, Obasanjo had already finished his military career. I respect him a lot, with his endorsement."

The account which is said to have joined Twitter in 2013 has over 70,600 followers.

As at the time of this Fact Check, the tweet had 745,000 views, 5,173 retweets, 18,000 likes and 493 quote tweets.

Verification

In verifying the tweet, Daily Trust scrutinised the said account and discovered that it is a parody account and is not associated with the former general.

In fact, this newspaper recalls that the elder statesman has repeatedly said he does not have a social media account and he is not on any social media platforms.

In fact, in the build-up to the 2019 general elections, the media team of Gen. Babangida had to issue a statement cautioning the general public not to fall for any information on social media accounts in his name.

"The attention of General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida has been drawn to the existence of several Twitter handles and other social media accounts, purportedly owned by him.

We wish to state categorically that the Twitter handles bearing



the name and photographs of General Babangida are fictitious. Their creation by unscrupulous elements is aimed at misleading unsuspecting members of the public.

In the light of the unfortunate development, the media handlers of the former military president wish to inform the general public, particularly the social media community, that IBB, as he is fondly called, currently has no active Twitter account and does not operate any other social media site," the media office of IBB had said in 2019.

Consequently, Daily Trust reports that the elder statesman debunked the claims that he endorsed Peter Obi, the presidential candidate of the Labour Party (LP), for the 2023 general elections.

Similarly, spokesperson to the former military leader, Prince Kassim Afegbua, also refuted claims that his principal endorsed Obi, saying IBB

doesn't have a Twitter account.

"It is not true, please. Ignore the report of the endorsement. IBB doesn't have a Twitter handle.

"If he is going to speak, it will be through a signed statement, not Twitter. Those behind the Twitter statement are liars," he said.

Parody accounts on the rise

Daily Trust observes that ahead of 2023 general elections, parody is surging as fake information purveyors are seeking different ways to mislead and deceive the voting public.

The trend now has taken a new dimension as political actors, while leveraging technology, create parody accounts of politicians and prominent leaders, especially on Twitter, to propagate their agenda and influence the voting pattern of the electorate.

For instance, few months back, Daily Trust fact-checked tweets from the parody accounts of a prominent Yoruba

leader, Pa Ayo Adebajo, and that of the vice presidential candidate of the Labour Party Datti Baba Ahmed.

A visit to the Twitter parody account of the 94-year-old elder statesman, @PaAdebajo, showed that the account was opened in March 2021 with 8,843 followers. Also, the parody account @DatiSen was opened in July 2022.

Both Pa Adebajo and Datti Baba Ahmed have dismissed the parody accounts.

Although Baba Ahmed has a Twitter account, Pa Adebajo does not have one just like Gen. Babangida (rtd)

Background

On Tuesday, many online platforms and some major national newspapers reported that a former military head of state, General Ibrahim Babangida, and an elder statesman, Chief Edwin Clark, on Tuesday endorsed Peter Obi, the presidential candidate of the Labour Party (LP), for president in the 2023 general election.

This was coming as Governor Samuel Ortom of Benue State on Tuesday also threw his weight behind the endorsement of Peter Obi by former President Olusegun Obasanjo on Jan 1 2023.

Similarly, spokesperson to the former military leader, Prince Kassim Afegbua, also refuted claims that his principal endorsed Obi, saying IBB doesn't have a Twitter account

This is just as Chief Edwin Clark endorsed the candidate of the Labour Party as his preferred choice.

In a statement entitled 'Peter Obi, My Choice for the 2023 Presidential Election', Chief Clark said he came to that conclusion after a meeting of PANDEF leaders where the demands of leaders of Niger Delta region were articulated and presented to the former governor of Anambra State.

He said Obi shares his vision of a united, egalitarian and just society built on shared prosperity and commitment to justice, equity and fairness.

He said Obi's vision for Nigerian youths hitherto forgotten by successive administrations calls for total support for it to be realised and urged all well-meaning Nigerians irrespective of religious and political leaning to rally support for the Obi-Datti presidency.

"I have since been fully briefed on the successful outcome of the interaction held at that occasion. Among other things, I have taken note of the following observations which came out of the meeting:

"That PANDEF presented the expectations and demands of the peoples of the Niger Delta, comprising infrastructural development, devolution of power, resource control, effective and inclusive participation in the oil and gas sector, among other things, to the presidential candidate.

"That the vision statement shared by His Excellency Peter Obi at the occasion, as it relates to making Nigeria more productive, using the rich resource endowment in every part of the country; curbing waste and fighting corruption; and creating jobs for our teeming youths through innovative initiatives is very commendable.

"That his restated commitment to restructuring and devolution of power, will promote harmony, peaceful co-existence among the states and constituent parts of the country.

"That his vision for more equity and justice as it pertains to the South South region, which in the past sixty years has produced much of the revenue for the national economy, but has been neglected with little impact in terms of infrastructure and social development, is convincing and commendable," he said while officially declaring his support for Obi."

Classifieds

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Kano Office: Plot 56, Behind Kano International Trade Fair Complex, Off Zoo Road, Kano
Kaduna Office: Abdussalam Ziza House, A9 Mogadishu City Center, Kaduna

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

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

COMPANY REGISTRATION

CHANGE OF NAME

LEGAL NOTICE

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>AUDU: I, formerly known as AUDU EMMANUEL, now wish to be known and addressed as AUDU EMMANUEL Omayage. My date of birth was wrongly captured as 12/10/1973 instead of 14/4/1973. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known as Miss ADEWOLE LYDIA ADEFUNKE now wish to be known and called Mrs ADEROTOYE LYDIA ADEFUNKE. Lagos State University, Guarantee Trust Bank and public should note.</p> | <p>I formerly known as GIFT OBIZUO NOW wish to be known and addressed as GIFT IJEOMA MARTINS. All my documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should take note.</p> | <p>AMEH: I formerly known and addressed as AMEH LEONARD YAHAYA now wish to be known and addressed as AMEH LEONARD JIMOH. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> |
| <p>HOSEA: I, formerly known as NANFWANG ZENRET YAMTAL, now wish to be known and addressed as MUTHIR ZENRET HOSEA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>I, formerly known as MUSA MUHAMMED DAWALLANG, but now wish to be addressed as MUSA MOHAMMED. All the former documents remain valid and I was born on 22nd March, 1995 and not 1st October, 1989 as wrongly captured. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known as PAUL GRACE AMARACHI now wish to be known and addressed as GRACE INNOCENT AMARACHI. All my documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should take note.</p> | <p>MAHMUD: I formerly known and addressed as MISS IDONJE SUCCESS now wish to be known and addressed as MRS MAHMUD SUCCESS IDONJE. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> |
| <p>I, formerly known and addressed as HAUWA ALIYU DAUDA now wish to be known and called HAUWA AMINU ADAM. Concerned authorities and general public should take note please</p> | <p>I, formerly known as MISS EVELYN AUGUSTINA OJEDIBIE, but now wish to be known and addressed as MRS EVELYN AUGUSTINA EMEKE. All my former documents to remain valid. All former documents to remain valid. All authorities concerned should please take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known as ALKASIM HASSAN now wish to be called HUSSAINI INUWA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.</p> | <p>I, formerly known and addressed as JAFAR MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as JAFAR MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.</p> |
| <p>I FORMERLY KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS MISS UDEAJA CHIKA, NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS MRS HALLIDAY UDEAJA CHIKA. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. AUTHORITIES CONCERNED AND GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.</p> | <p>ABUBAKAR: I, formerly known as MUHAMMAD ABUBAKAR, with date of birth 14-04-2022, now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR MOHAMMED, with corrected date of birth 17-05-1979. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.</p> | <p>MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as ABU-SUFYAN MUHAMMAD INUWA, but now wishes to be known and addressed as ABU-SUFYAN MUHAMMAD. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>FILANI: I formerly known and addressed as MISS OGBOGHO TOYIN MERCY now wish to be known and addressed as MRS FILANI QUEEN TOYIN. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> |
| <p>SIMON: I formerly known as ABDULLAHI SIMON OBOY, now wish to be called and addressed as SIMON ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.</p> | <p>BELLO: I, formerly known as MUHAMMAD BELLO, now wish to be known and addressed as BELLO HANAYE GARI. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known as UGOCHUKWU EMMANUEL, now wish to be called and addressed as UGOCHUKWU EMMANUEL CHINAECHEREM. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.</p> | <p>OSHOKE: I formerly known and addressed as SIMON EGBADU. Now wish to be known and addressed as IZUAGIE DAVID OSHOKE. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> |
| <p>I, HAJARA ABUBAKAR wish to change state of origin Borno to my father's Adamawa, Gombi LG JAMB, ASUM, NYSC. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.</p> | <p>CORRECTION OF NAME: This is to inform the general public that my name was wrongly captured as MOHAMMED KALTM NDUME, instead of MOHAMMED KALTM ALI NDUME. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned to take note.</p> | <p>AMUDA: I formerly known as EMMANUEL TABITAH now wish to be known and addressed as AMUDA SATI. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.</p> | <p>AJODOH: I formerly known and addressed as WISDOM HYCENT AJODOH. Now wish to be known and addressed as AJODOH INNOCENT HYCENT. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> |
| <p>MARYAM: I formerly known as MARYAM UMAR, now wish to be known and addressed as MARYAM HARUNA HASSAN. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known and addressed as PAMELA NWANDO OGO. Now wish to be known and addressed as PAMELA NWANDO OGO-ASEMOTA. All former documents remain valid. The general public please take note.</p> | <p>I, formerly known and addressed as JAMILA HALI now wish to be known and addressed as JAMILA MUHAMMAD SIDI. All former documents remain valid. Eco Bank and the general public to take note.</p> | <p>JAMES: This is to notified the general public that ITEBALUMHE PIUS JAMES and ITEBALUMHE PIUS. Belong to me and same person. Now wish to be known as ITEBALUMHE PIUS JAMES. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and public to take note.</p> |
| <p>MERCY: I formerly known as HORNBY MERCY OCTAVIA, now wish to be known and addressed as AYOOLA MERCY MICHEAL. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>YAKUBU: I formerly known as YAKUBU NAADO MUSA ABBA now wish to be known as YAKUBU MUSA ABBA. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known and addressed as MARYAM ABUBAKAR, now wish to be known and addressed as MARYAM ABDULLAHI ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid, general public to take note.</p> | <p>SUNDAY: I formerly known and addressed as AYO ADEPOJU. Now wish to be known and addressed as HIMAH SUNDAY. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> |
| <p>FAITH: I, formerly known as ALAGBU NGOZI FAITH, now wish to be known and addressed as AMOKE NGOZI FAITH. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>SALISU: I formerly known as LAWAL ABDULLAHI now wish to be known as SALISU ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known and addressed as KAYODE YETUNDE IYABODE, now wish to be known and addressed as KAYODE-ONI YETUNDE IYABODE. All former documents remain valid. Bank and general public should take note.</p> | <p>I, formerly known as ALIYAH GUSAU MUSA now wish to be known and addressed as ALIYAH MUSA. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.</p> |
| <p>NNOROM: I formerly known and addressed as JUDE CHUKWUMA MICHAEL now wish to be addressed and known as NNOROM MIKEL CHUKWUMA. All previous documents remain valid. The public should please take note</p> | <p>ABDULLAHI: I formerly known as ABDULLAHI HASIYAH, now wish to be known as ABDULLAHI MUSA HASIYA. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.</p> | <p>My name was wrongly captured as SANI HASSAN but my correct name is HASSAN SANI. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.</p> | <p>I was formerly known and called ADI DOOSUAR, and DOB 20th June, 1985, now wish to be known and addressed as ADI DOOSUAR CAROLINE, and correct DOB 10th Oct, 1985. All former documents remain valid. Banks and general public should take note of this development.</p> |
| <p>SUNDAY: I formerly known as SUNDAY WYCLIFFE PONGRI, now wish to be known and addressed as SUNDAY WYCLIFFE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>AMINU: I formerly known as AMINU MUHAMMADU INUWA, now wish to be known as AMINU MUHAMMADU. And my correct date of birth is 24/04/1966. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.</p> | <p>ELIZABETH: I formerly known and addressed as MISS OMOAREBU ELIZABETH IDIAMIEWAIN now wish to be known and addressed as MRS COLLINS OMOAREBU ELIZABETH. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> | <p>I, formerly known and addressed as UGWU SAMUEL now wish to be known and addressed as OBETTA SAMUEL UGWU. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.</p> |
| <p>CHRISTIANA: I formerly known as OKO FAVOUR, now wish to be known and addressed as OKO CHRISTIANA LEHIYOWO. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>OKOLI: I formerly known as OKOLI UCHECHUKWU GEORGE, now wish to be known as OKOLI GEORGE. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.</p> | <p>BLESSING: I formerly known and addressed as MISS OMOAREBU BLESSING now wish to be known and addressed as MRS OSEMWENGIE OMOAREBU BLESSING. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> | <p>I, formerly known and addressed as INUWA UMAR MUHAMMED now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMAD INUWA UMARZAMA. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.</p> |
| <p>CHIOMA: I, formerly known as CHIOMA PRISCILLIA LINUS, now wish to be known and addressed as CHIOMA PRISCILLIA AMANAMBU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>ADDITION OF NAME: I formerly known as EKWEM PHILOMINA, now wish to be known as EKWEM PHILOMINA NONYELUM. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public please take note.</p> | <p>SIFAU: I formerly known and addressed as OYOFO MUSTAFA SIFAU now wish to be known and addressed as MUSTAFA SIFAU. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known and addressed as YAHYA BUBA now wish to be known and addressed as YAHAYA BUBA DAVID former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.</p> |
| <p>DABO: I formerly known as MOHAMMED HAFIYU IDRIS LERE, now wish to be known and addressed as MOHAMMED HAFIYU DABO. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>I was formerly known and addressed as LAMINU MOHAMMED. Now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMED LAMINU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.</p> | <p>FLOURISH: I formerly known and addressed as MISS PATIENCE O. EMMANUEL now wish to be known and addressed as MRS FLOURISH EMOSHOKE ILUOKHAUNO. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known and addressed as AHMAD ADAMU now wish to be known and addressed as AHMADU ADAMU D.O.B 1/1/1993 NOT 1/1/1991. All former document remain valid. General public authority concerned to take note.</p> |
| <p>I formerly known as HADIZA USMAN and wish to be known and addressed as HADIZA USMAN MUHAMMAD. All former documents to remain valid Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria and other relevant authority concern and general public should please take note.</p> | <p>I formerly known as EGBAJI PHILOMINA. Now wish to be known as UGWU EGBAJI PHILOMINA. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.</p> | <p>SHAKA: I formerly known and addressed as SHAKA ABDULRAZAK. Now wish to be known and addressed as SHAKA RAZAQ. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.</p> | <p>KELECHI: I formerly known as KELECHI OMEIRE now wish to be known as KELECHI CHINOMSO OMEIRE. All other relevant documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> |
| <p>I formerly known as STEPHEN AGANDA now wish to be known and addressed as STEPHEN ESECHATAR AGANDA with DOB 15/03/1956. All former document remain valid General public and Stanbic IBTC Bank should please take note.</p> | <p>*MOBSHI*: I formerly known as *GRACE ANDREW*, now wish to be known and addressed as *MOBSHI ANDREW*. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.</p> | <p>OBASI: I formerly known as OKECHUKWU UKO OJO, now wish to be known and addressed as OJO OBASI UKO. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>*FATIMA*: I formerly known as *IBRAHIM BADIATU MUHAMMAD*, now wish to be known and addressed as *IBRAHIM FATIMA MUHAMMAD*. All my former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.</p> |
| <p>ISSA: I, formerly known as ISSA IDRISU K now wish to be known and address as ISSA IDRISU KONI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>UMARU: I, formerly known as MUHAMMED A ABDULLAHI now wish to be known and address as UMARU SHEHU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>SUMAYYA: I, formally known as IDRIS SUMAYA now wish to be known and addressed as SUMAYYA MUHAMMAD All former documents remain valid general public should please take note.</p> | <p>JACOB: I formerly known as ISUWA PAUL, now wish to be known and addressed as JACOB PAUL. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> |
| <p>ISSA: I, formerly known as ISSA IDRISU K now wish to be known and address as ISSA IDRISU KONI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>UMARU: I, formerly known as MUHAMMED A ABDULLAHI now wish to be known and address as UMARU SHEHU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>JACOB: I formerly known as ISUWA PAUL, now wish to be known and addressed as JACOB PAUL. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>MODUPE: I formerly known and addressed as MODUPE IDOWU OLADEJI but now wish to be known and addressed as MODUPE SAMSON TAYO. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.</p> |
| <p>ISSA: I, formerly known as ISSA IDRISU K now wish to be known and address as ISSA IDRISU KONI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>UMARU: I, formerly known as MUHAMMED A ABDULLAHI now wish to be known and address as UMARU SHEHU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>JACOB: I formerly known as ISUWA PAUL, now wish to be known and addressed as JACOB PAUL. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.</p> | <p>MODUPE: I formerly known and addressed as MODUPE IDOWU OLADEJI but now wish to be known and addressed as MODUPE SAMSON TAYO. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned should take note, please.</p> |

Classifieds made easy

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

I formerly known as GADDAFI SAADU now wish to be called and addressed as GADDAFI SAADU MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

SULEIMAN: I, formerly known as SULAIMAN LAWAL now wish to be called and addressed as SULEIMAN LAWAL all former documents remain valid. any authority concern and general public should please take note.

AHMED: I, formerly known and addressed as AHMED TAOFEEK. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as AHMED TITUS ADISA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

USIKALU: I, formerly known and addressed as MISS ADENIJI ADEDAYO, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. USIKALU ADEDAYO. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly known and addressed as AJEKA S JOSEPH now wish to be called and addressed as AJEKA JOSEPH. All former documents remain valid. NUC and General public should take note.

KHADIJA: I formerly known as HADIZA AHMED now wish to be known and addressed as KHADIJA AHMAD MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. General Public Should please take note.

HADEJIA, I formerly known as IDRIS HASSAN HADEJIA and 15-09-1966 now wish to be called and addressed as HADEJIA HASSAN IDRIS and 15-09-1968. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

ABIGAIL: I, formerly known as ADAMU ABIGAIL ADAMU, now wish to be known and addressed as ABIGAIL ADAMS All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

I formerly known and addressed as Miss FADEBO CHRISTIANAH TEMILADE, now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. SOWEMIMO CHRISTIANAH TEMILADE. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as FRANKLIN-MENA NICOLE OGHENEMAIRO. Now wish to be known and addressed as FRANKLIN NICOLE OGHENEMAIRO. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

ISAH I formerly known as ABUBAKAR AYUBA MUHAMMED, that I now wish to be call and address as ABUBAKAR ISAH ADAM. Henceforth, all my former documents remain valid. I want all authorities concern to take note.

AHMAD: I formerly known as AHMED MOHAMMED now wish to be known and addressed as AHMAD MUHAMMAD RUFAl. All former documents remain valid. NIMC And General Public Should please take note.

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

UBONG: I, formerly known as Ubong Genevieve EKPO, now wish to be known and addressed as Ubong Genevieve JOHNSON. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

I formerly known and addressed as Miss FADEBO ABISOYE FUNMILAYO, now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. JOHNSON ABISOYE FUNMILAYO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

ADEGBOYE: I, formerly known as MRS. OLOKO BOLA KUDIRAT, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. ADEGBOYE KUDIRAT BOLA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

ANNURI: I formerly known as MUSTAPHA ANNURI MUSTAPHA, now wish to be known as ADEDE ANNURI. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known and called YAKUBU MUHAMMED now wish to be known and addressed as YAKUBU MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Concerned authorities and the general public to please take note.

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

ISYAKU: I, formerly known as USAINI ISYAKA, now wish to be known and called ISYAKU HUSSAINI. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

I formerly known and addressed as Miss FADEBO TOLULOPE DORCAS, now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. OGUNDIMU TOLULOPE DORCAS. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

ELEGBELEYE: I, formerly known and as MISS OLAJIDE IYABO ABEJIDE, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. ELEGBELEYE IYABO ABEJIDE. All former documents remain valid. Concerned authorities and general public take note.

AHMED: I formerly known as ALWAHAB AHMED GONI, now wish to be known as ABDULLAH GONI AHMED. All former documents remain valid. Concerned authorities and general public should take note.

DALHATU: I formerly known and called DALHATU UMMa now wish to be known and addressed as UMAR UMMa DALHATU. All former documents remain valid. Concerned authorities and the general public to please take note

I formerly known and addressed as ABDULKARIM ABUBAKAR now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULKARIM DANLADI SALIHU All former documents remain valid general public should take note

NGUHAR: I formerly known as BASH MARY now wish to be called as NGUHAR MARY All former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

I formerly known and addressed as ADEKUNLE KABIRAT ADEOLA, now wish to be known and addressed as OSHO ADEKUNLE KABIRAT ADEOLA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

CORRECTION OF NAME My name is OJOBANIKAN BOSEDE KEMISOLA, to replace DADA BOSEDE and OJOBANIKAN KEMISOLA as written during my BVN registration and appeared in my National Identity Card. All former documents remain valid. Concerned authorities and general public take note.

ABATCHA: I formerly known as ABATCHA UMAR IBRAHIM now wish to be known as ABATCHA UMAR YUSUF. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

I was formerly known as DR AISHATU ABDULLAH ABUBAKAR now wish to be known and called as AISHATU IBRAHIM AMINU. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known and addressed as YUSUF LAWAL now wish to be known and addressed as YUSUF LAWAL UMAR and my correct DOB is 08-04-1999 not 01-01-1998 former documents remain valid general public should take note

ISYAKA: I formerly known as SANI ISHAKA now wish to be called and address as ISYAKA BALA, All former documents remain valid, Authority concern and general public should please take note

I formerly known and addressed as JOSEPH ELIZABETH MOROMOKO, ODUNTAN, MOROMOKO MOTUNRAYO, JOSEPH ELIZABETH MOROMOKO. Now I wish to be known and addressed as JOSEPH, ELIZABETH MOROMOKO. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

CHANGE OF NAME I Formerly known and addressed as OLOGUNJA ISRAEL OLUWATOSIN now wish to be known and addressed as OLUSEYE ISRAEL OLUWATOSIN. All former documents remain valid. The general public take note.

USMAN: I formerly known as USMAN ABUBAKAR, now wish to be known as UMAR BUBA. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

I was formerly known as BADIYA IBRAHIM UMAR now wish to be known and called as SAFIYA SAIDU DAUDA. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

I formerly known and addressed as AMINA HASSAN ABDULLAH now wish to be known and addressed as AMINA MUHAMMAD ABDULBAKI former documents remain valid general public should take note

TURMAM: I Formerly known as GEOFFREY THOMAS Now wish to be called and addressed as TURMAM THOMAS All former documents remain valid UBA BANK PLC Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

CORRECTION OF NAME My name was wrongly written as SADIQ KASSIM instead of SADIQ KASSIM OLATUNJI. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

I Formerly known and addressed as AKINYEMI ABIGAIL OLUWATOYIN and AKINYEMI OLUWATOYIN ABIGAIL now wish to be known and addressed as AKINYEMI ABIGAIL OLUWATOYIN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as FATI MODU, now wish to be known as FATIMA MUSTAPHA TASHA. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

I formerly known as SAEED IDRIS MALWA now wish to be called and addressed as SAEED IDRIS. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as ABBAS BASHIR MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMAD ALHASSAN. All former documents remain valid general public should take note

DOUGLAS: I Formerly known as DOUGLAS HENRY Now wish to be called and addressed as DOUGLAS DAUDA HENRY All former documents remain valid ZENITH BANK PLC Any Authority concern and the General public to please take note

USMAN: I, formerly known and addressed as USMAN YAYA OMOWUNMI. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as USMAN YAYA OMODUNNI. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as MISS AJAYI ADEOLA AISHAT, now wish to be known called and addressed as MRS. YUSUF ADEOLA AISHAT. All former documents remain valid concerned authorities and general public should please take note.

ALIYU I formerly known as ALIYU YAKUBU MAIBIU now wish to be known and addressed as ALIYU YAKUBU All former document remain valid General public should please take note

I formerly known as SAMINU SAADU now wish to be called and addressed as SAMINU MUAZU all former document remain valid authority concern and general public should take to note

I formerly known and addressed as MOHAMMAD AUWAL ABDULKADIR now wish to be known and addressed as MOHAMMED ABDULKADIR former documents remain valid general public should take note

ABUBAKAR: I, formerly known as ABUBAKAR YAHAYA now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR ISYAKU All former documents remain valid, wrong DOB 01/01/2000, Correct DOB 14/03/2003. First Bank and the general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

OMOTAYO: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss MAJARO ADEOLA OLAITAN. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as Mrs. OMOTAYO ADEOLA OLAITAN. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

I Formerly known and addressed as MISS OLOWOJOBA ODUNOPE OLUWASEUN now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. AKINSEHINDE ODUNOPE OLUWASEUN All former documents remain valid. The general public take note.

I, ALIYU ISA MUHAMMAD solemnly declare that the name ALIYU ISA MUHAMMAD and ISA MUHAMMED ALIYU are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called ALIYU ISA MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

I formerly known as SANI MUHAMMAD 01-01-1998 now wish to be called and addresses BELLO BASHIR 21-01-1999 all former document remain valid authority concern and general public should take to note

I formerly known and addressed as MARYAM MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as MARYAM ABDULLAH former documents remain valid general public should take note

SAIFULLAHI: I formerly known as SEFILAH ADAM HASSAN now wish to be known as SAIFULLAHI ADAM HASSAN All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

FIWAJOBA: I, formerly known and addressed as OKEOLUMADE MOJISOLA RACHEAL. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as FIWAJOBA MONSURAT MOJISOLA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

EZEKE: I Formerly known and addressed as AWELE JOY EZENWA, now wish to be known and addressed as Awele Joy Ezeoke. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

AUWAL: I formerly known as AUWAL SAIDU HARUNA, now wish to be known as AUWAL HARUNA. All former document remain valid. With correct DOB 01/01/1975 NOT 06/05/1972, General public should take note.

I formerly known as HALIMA ALIYU KABIR now wish to be called and addressed as HALIMATU KABIR MAIKATIFA All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as ABDUSSAMADU NASIRU, ABDUSSAMADU NASIR wish to be known and addressed as ABDUSSAMADU NASIR MAIWADA and my correct DOB is 27-003-1982 not 05-09-1982 all former documents remain valid general public should take note

SAFWANU: I formerly known as SAFWANU ADAMU now wish to be known as SAFWANU ADO All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

THAT ON MY BANK ACCOUNT AND BVN MY NAME WAS WRITTEN AS ADEGUN PELUMI ABIAT INSTEAD OF ADEGUN OLUWAPELUMI OYINDAMOLA. WHERE AS AM THE SAME PERSON, NOW I WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS ADEGUN OLUWAPELUMI OYINDAMOLA. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC TAKE NOTE.

ADAORA: I Formerly known and addressed as ADAORA CHUKWUKA, now wish to be known and addressed as ADAORA VIVIEN CHUKWUKA-AKUDIGWE. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

KABIRU: I formerly known as KABIRU MUHAMMAD, now wish to be known as KABIRU MUHAMMAD TIJJANI. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

I formerly known as AUWAL BABA DALA now wish to be called and addressed as AUWALU BABA DALA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as MUNTARI JAFAR wish to be known and addressed as MUKHTAR JAFAR and my correct DOB is 02-08-1996 not 01-01-1992 all former documents remain valid general public should take note

HAUWA: I formerly known as HAUWA SHUAIBU now wish to be known as HAUWA ADAMU All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

OSOLUKOYA-ADENIYI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss ADENIYI OMOLOLA MARGARET. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as Mrs. OSOLUKOYA-ADENIYI OMOLOLA MARGARET. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

AJAYI : I, formerly known and addressed as ABULFATAI ROHEEMOT ADEOLA ABIMBOLA, now wish to be known and addressed as AJAYI ROHEEMOT ADEOLA ABIMBOLA, due to marital status. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

FATIMA I formerly known as FATIMA YAHAYA now wish to be known and address as FATIMA AHMAD. all former documents remain valid general public should take note

I formerly known as MUHAMMAD MAHAMUD now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMAD MAHMUD. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as FATIMA AMINU HAMZA wish to be known and addressed as MRS FATIMA AMINU EL-LADAN all former documents remain valid general public should take note

ABUBAKAR: I formerly known as ABUBAKAR SADIQ now wish to be known as ABUBAKAR SADIQ NUHU All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

AJIBODE: I, formerly known and addressed as AJIBODE CALEB AYO. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as AJIBODE CALEB AYOMIDE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

That I was formerly known, called and addressed as AJETOMOBI ABIMBOLA BUKOLA. That I now wish to be known, called and addressed as FOLARIN ABIMBOLA BUKOLA. That all documents bearing my former name still remain valid. General Public take note.

I, formerly known as VESTA DANJUMA DAN ADAM now wish to be known and addressed as VESTA DANJUMA. All former documents remain valid. And my correct DOB is 01-01-1972 not 01-01-1974. General public should take note.

I formerly known as GAMBO HADIRU UMAR now wish to be called and addressed as GAMBO UMAR DAHIRU. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as BAKARE ABIDEEN ADEBAYO OLADAPO wish to be known and addressed as BAKARE ABIDEEN ADEBAYO former documents remain valid general public should take note

RABIU: I formerly known as RABIU ABUBAKAR now wish to be known as RABIU ABUBAKAR YUSUF All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

ADEBIYI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss BELLO KAFAYAT OLUWABUNMI. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as Mrs. ADEBIYI KAFAYAT OLUWABUNMI. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

That I was formerly known, called and addressed as OSALUMESE OJIAKE EXCELLENCE IMARIA. That I now wish to be known, called and addressed as IGWUBOR EXCELLENCE IMARIA. That the change of name is due to marriage. That all documents bearing my former name still remain valid. General public take note.

AISHA : I formerly known as AISHA MUHD MUHD now wish to be known as AISHA MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD. All former document remain valid. General public should take note

I formerly known as ABDULBAKI IYATU now wish to be called and addressed as ABDULBAKI MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as ABDULKADIR KHADIJA, ABDULKADIR KADIJA DANHAUWA wish to be known and addressed as KHADIJA ABDULKADIR DAN-HAUWA all former documents remain valid general public should take note

UMMA: I formerly known as UMMA ABUBAKAR MAMAS now wish to be known as UMMA ABUBAKAR ABDULLAH All former documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should please take note

EBULUE: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss EEZALA EUCHARIA ANAKA. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as Mrs. EBULUE EUCHARIA ANAKA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

ALIMOT: I, formerly known and addressed as ALIMOT ADEBOLA ADENIJI. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as ALIMOT ADEBOLA ADISA. The change of name by reason of marriage to ADISA ABIOLO FATAI. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

I, formerly known as BAPPA ABDULSHAD now wish to be known and addressed as BAPPAH ABDULSHAD LAMUWA. All former documents remain valid. And my correct DOB is 02-03-1983. General public should take note.

I formerly known as ZAHRA'U YAHAYA MUHAMMAD now wish to be called and addressed as ZAHRA'U NAZIFI ALHASSAN GARBA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

MOHAMMAD, I formerly known as SANI MAIKUDI ADAMU now wish to be called and addressed as MOHAMMAD SANI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

SEBANJO: I, formerly known and addressed as BADEWA ADEYINKA CHRISTIANAH. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as SEBANJO ADEYINKA CHRISTIANAH. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

ADELEKE: I, formerly known and addressed as SULUKA RASHEEDAT TEMI TOPE. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as ADELEKE RASHEEDAT TEMI TOPE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

HAPPINESS: I, formerly known and addressed as HAPPINESS WARRIBO YARA. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as HAPPINESS FRIDAY WARRIBO. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as FATIMA FATI SHERIFF, now wish to be known as FATIMA SHERIFF TAIBU. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I formerly known as KHADIJA MUHAMMAD AMINU now wish to be called and addressed as HADIZA MUHAMMAD AMINU. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to no

MUHAMMED: I formerly known and addressed as YASIR UMAR BASHIR, now wish to be known and addressed as MUHAMMAD BASHIR UMAR with DOB 01/11/1997. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

AKINOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as AKINOLA OYEBOLO. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as AKINOLA OYEBOLO ABOSEDE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

THIS IS TO NOTIFY THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT I MISS OWONKA HELLEN OPEMIPISI'S ORIGINAL DATE OF BIRTH IS 22ND SEPTEMBER, 1997 NOT 22ND AUGUST, 1997. ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS REMAINS VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC TAKE NOTE.

KUDENUPO: I, formerly known and addressed as SAMSON SUNDAY KUDELUPU on BVN. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as KUDENUPO SAMSON SUNDAY. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

AISHA I formerly known and addressed as AISHA AHMED MALA now wish to be known and addressed as AISHA GONI MALA All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note

I formerly known as Fatima Muhammad Sani now wish to be called and addressed as Fatima Sani all former document remain valid authority concern and general public should take to note

BUHARI: I, formerly known as BUHARI MATI SULAIMAN now to be addressed as BUHARI MATI USMAN. All former documents remain valid. General Public take note

TAIWO: I, formerly known and addressed as OMOLOLA, FUNKE ABIKE. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as TAIWO TEMI TOPE ABIKE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS OGUNLOWO FEMI. NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS SAKA IDOWU. ALSO MY CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1982. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAINS VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE NOTE.

ARIHI: I, formerly known and addressed as UFOMADU OBIAGERI PERPETUA. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as ARIHI OBIAGERI PERPETUA. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and general public take note.

I, formerly known as DORCAS ABEGNAGO now wish to be known and addressed as DORCAS MUSA ABEGNAGO. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

Classifieds made easy

PUBLIC NOTICE Page 3

I, formerly known as **TIJJANI MOHAMMED JUNGUDO** now wish to be known and addressed as **TIJJANI BABAN NANA JUNGUDO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

HANANIYA: I formally known as **HANANIYA JOHN**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **HANANIYA JOHN MATO**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

YUSUF I formerly known and addressed as **GIMBA S YUSUF** now wish to be known and addressed as **YUSUF SULYMAN BAHGIMBA**. All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **GYAL UMAR ABUTALIF** now wish to be known and addressed as **UMAR ABUTALIB**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **TASU MAINASARA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU MAINASARA**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

MARYAM I, formerly known as **MARYAM ABBA AJA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM AJA ABBA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ABASI: I formally known **UTIBE-ABASI AFANGIDEH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **UTIBE MIRACLE AFANGIDEH**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

ADAMU I formerly known and addressed as **ALI ISA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU .A. ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **AWWAL MUNTARI** now wish to be known and addressed as **SAMAILA ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **DANFARI** now wish to be known and addressed as **UMARU NAHAJA**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

WASINI I, formerly known as **WASINI IMPERIJU MAINTA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **WASINI MAIWAAZI MAI DOKI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

HASSAN: I Formerly known as **Hassan Mohammed Musa NOW** wish to be known and addressed as **Hassan Muhammad**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

OKPALA: I formerly known as **OKPALAOHAKPUSI EMMANUEL CHINONYEREM**, now wish to be known as **OKPALA EMMANUEL CHINONYEREM**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as **ALIYU HUSSANA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU HASSANA MALAMI**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **RAMATU ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **RAMATU SANI FANA**. All former documents remain valid. Kebbi State College of Health Technology Jega, general public and authorities concerned should please take note.

NURA: I formally known **NURA USMAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **YUSUF DALHATU**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MUSTAPHA : I formerly known as **MUSTAPHA BUKAR GAJIBO** now wish to be known as **MUSTAPHA ABUBAKAR GAJIBO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as **FATIMA FATI SHERIFF** now wish to be known as **FATIMA SHERIFF TAIBU**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as **HADIZA MUAWIYA SANDA SHAYAU** now wish to be known and addressed as **HADIZA UMAR FAROUK**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **USMAN SANNA USSY** now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN SANI KAJIJI**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

GRACE: I formally known **GRACE AYUBA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HASSANA AYUBA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

FATI : I formerly known as **FATI ZANA MUSA** now wish to be known as **FATI ZANNAH MUSA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

MRS. AGNES = I formally known as **MISS. AGNES BORNUN**. now wish to be known as **MRS. AGNES JAMES NALLEYS**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **ZAYANU MAYAKI** now wish to be known and addressed as **ZAYANU MAYYAKI**. All former documents remain valid. Bank of Agriculture, general public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **KAKALEI ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR KAKALO**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant Plot No. 4 File No. RES/2022/3656, Situated at Hotoro GRA SP/K/2020/73. Bearing the name of **ALH. ISYAKU UMAR TOFA** of Hotoro GRA Kano, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant Plot No. 2 File No. RES/2022/3654, Situated at Hotoro GRA SP/K/2020/73. Bearing the name of **ALH. ISYAKU UMAR TOFA** of Hotoro GRA Kano, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, SOKOTO STATE PROBATE DIVISION OF SOKOTO STATE

WHERE AS the person whose name is set out in the first column here under died intestate on the date and place stated in the said column.

AND WHERE AS the person(s) whose address and claim relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder has/have applied to the High Court of Justice Sokoto for the grant of "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" of the personal properties of the said deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the said "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" will be granted to such person unless a notice of prohibit the grant thereof is filed in the Probate Registry High Court of Justice Sokoto State within TWENTY-ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication of this notice.

| NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED | NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT |
|---|---|
| ABUBAKAR BELLO ADINOYI OF USMANU DANFODIYO UNIVERSITY SOKOTO, WHO DIED ON 16-04-2022 AT UDUTH SOKOTO. | DR. FATIMA BELLO N. JIYA OF BADO QUARTERS AREA, SOKOTO. THE DAUGHTER TO THE DECEASED. |
| GARBA BAKURA OF BIMASA TOWN BAKURA L/G ZAMFARA STATE, WHO DIED ON 05-09-2021 AT HIS RESIDENCE | LAWALI GARBA OF BIMASA TOWN BAKURA L/G ZAMFARA STATE THE SON TO THE DECEASED. |
| ALIYU ISAH OF NIGERIAN POLICE FORCE, WHO DIED ON 03-08-2021 AT UDUTH SOKOTO | ADAMA ISAH OF NAKASARI AREA, SOKOTO. THE SISTER TO THE DECEASED. |

DATED AT SOKOTO THIS 5th DAY OF JANUARY, 2023
BASHAR IBRAHIM
CHIEF REGISTRAR

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant Plot No. 5 File No. RES/2022/3657, Situated at Hotoro GRA SP/K/2020/73. Bearing the name of **ALH. ISYAKU UMAR TOFA** of Hotoro GRA Kano, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant Plot No. 1 File No. RES/2022/3653, Situated at Hotoro GRA SP/K/2020/73. Bearing the name of **ALH. ISYAKU UMAR TOFA** of Hotoro GRA Kano, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

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 notice.

| DECEASED | APPLICANTS |
|---|---|
| NADABO USMAN OF S/TANKARKAR L. E. A. WHO DIED ON THE 15/3/2021 AT HOME. | ABBA NADABO OF DANZOMO TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR. |
| MUHAMMED SANI DAUDA OF DUTSE L. G. A. WHO DIED ON THE 23/3/2019 AT HADEJIA. | GARBA MUHAMMED DAUDA OF M. O. F. DUTSE. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR. |
| DANSULE TANDA OF NPF JIGAWA COMMAND WHO DIED ON THE 19/7/2022 AT HOME. | MUHAMMED DANSULE OF JEKE TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR. |
| TAMBAYA YUSUF CHIROMA OF NPF JIGAWA COMMAND WHO DIED ON THE 11/12/2022 AT HOSPITAL. | KABIRU YUSUF OF HADEJIA TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR |

DATED 4/1/2023
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE JIGAWA
(AISHA AHMAD BABURA ESQ.) PROBATE REGISTRAR

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant Plot No. 3 File No. RES/2022/3655, Situated at Hotoro GRA SP/K/2020/73. Bearing the name of **ALH. ISYAKU UMAR TOFA** of Hotoro GRA Kano, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant Plot No. 6 File No. RES/2022/3658, Situated at Hotoro GRA SP/K/2020/73. Bearing the name of **ALH. ISYAKU UMAR TOFA** of Hotoro GRA Kano, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

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 notice.

| DECEASED | APPLICANTS |
|---|--|
| MUHAMMED INUSA OF NPF JIGAWA COMMAND WHO DIED ON THE 9/3/2021 AT HOSPITAL. | USSAINA MUHAMMAD OF KANO STATE. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATRIX. |
| ABDULLAH YAKUBU OF FIRE SERVICE DUTSE, JIGAWA STATE WHO DIED ON THE 9/6/2021 AT HOSPITAL. | ABDULKARIM ABDULLAH OF GUMEL TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR. |
| MADINA AHMAD OF KAUGAMAL. E. A. WHO DIED ON THE 12/6/2021 AT HOME. | AHMAD AHMAD OF YALLEMAN TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR. |
| RABIU IDRIS OF S/TANKARKAR L. E. A. WHO DIED ON THE 28/9/2022 AT HOME. | MUBARAK RABIU OF ALBASU TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR |

DATED 22/12/2022
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE JIGAWA
(AISHA AHMAD BABURA ESQ.) PROBATE REGISTRAR

LEGAL NOTICE IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, SOKOTO STATE PROBATE DIVISION OF SOKOTO STATE

WHERE AS the person whose name is set out in the first column here under died intestate on the date and place stated in the said column.

AND WHERE AS the person(s) whose address and claim relationship to the said deceased is/are set out in the second column hereunder has/have applied to the High Court of Justice Sokoto for the grant of "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" of the personal properties of the said deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the said "LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION" will be granted to such person unless a notice of prohibit the grant thereof is filed in the Probate Registry High Court of Justice Sokoto State within TWENTY-ONE DAYS (21 DAYS) from the date of publication of this notice.

| NAME AND ADDRESS OF DECEASED | NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT |
|--|--|
| IBRAHIM MAIRIGA OF NIGERIA POLICE FORCE, WHO DIED ON 19-06-1995 AT KEBBI STATE MINISTRY OF HEALTH | RAKIYA IBRAHIM OF WANGACHI VILLAGE VIA DIRIN DAJI KEBBI STATE THE DAUGHTER TO THE DECEASED |
| ALIYU UMAR RIKINA OF RIKINA DANGE SHUNI L/G SOKOTO, WHO DIED ON 30-09-2020 AT SPECIALIST HOSPITAL SOKOTO | MALAMI ALIYU OF RIKINA DANGE SHUNI L/G SOKOTO STATE THE SON TO THE DECEASED. |

DATED AT SOKOTO THIS 5th DAY OF JANUARY, 2023
BASHAR IBRAHIM
CHIEF REGISTRAR

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 notice.

| DECEASED | APPLICANTS |
|---|---|
| SHAFIU MADAKI OF NIGERIA RAILWAY CORPORATION TAURA WHO DIED ON THE 1/2/2021 AT HOME. | IYANNAN SHAFIU OF TAURA. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATRIX. |
| AHMAD MAAZU OF AUYO L. E. A. WHO DIED ON THE 25/8/2021 AT HOME. | NAJIB AHMAD OF AUYO TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR. |
| TABITHA OGENYI ANI OF HADEJIA TOWN WHO DIED ON THE 28/8/2022 AT HOSPITAL. | SUNDAYANI OF HADEJIA TOWN. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR. |
| BASHIR USMAN NASIR OF SULE LAMIDO UNIVERSITY K/HAUSA WHO DIED ON THE 26/9/2022 AT AKTH KANO | MUSA BALA MAHMUD OF GARU QRTS, DUTSE. THE PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR. |

DATED 5/1/2023
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE JIGAWA
(AISHA AHMAD BABURA ESQ.) PROBATE REGISTRAR

Classifieds made easy

PUBLIC NOTICE Page 4

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

We hereby inform the general public of the loss of original copy of certificate of a company named: Hong Tian International Mining Company's limited. Exploration licence number 29824 EL, All efforts to Trace the said certificate prove abortive. If found, kindly return to the nearest police station. All concerned to please take note.

LOSS OF RECERTIFICATION ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of the **recertification acknowledge of the property located within Asokoro Extension District, Cadastral Zone AO4, Plot No: 3269 with File No.: (Old File: OG 2572 and New File No: OG 10351) dated 6th April, 2003 belonging to one AYODEJI OTEGBOLA.**

The said document got lost in transit and all efforts made to trace or recover the missing document proved abortive. If found, kindly return to the nearest police station. All authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

I, **AISHA BABA ASKIRA 'F'** of Gombole Road, Giwa Barrack, Maiduguri. Wish to inform the general public of the lost of Grand Right of Occupancy of Plot Land No. 209 with file Number BO/24108 On BOTP/122 Bearing the name of HON. HUSSAINI GAMBO. That sometime in the year 2000 I discovered the said original grand right of occupancy of the said plot was misplaced at my resident and I have ransacked all the possible place to trace the said documents proof abortive. General public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-3 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3693**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **ALH. B.A. ADAMU** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-2 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3632**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **BUKAR T. GAJABO** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-1 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3691**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **ALH. ABDULLAHY. ADAMU** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-8 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3698**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **SKY LIMITS FC & 5 OTHERS** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-6 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3702**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **MUHD AHMED ZUBAIR** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-4 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3694**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **MUHD SABI'U** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-12 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3696**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **MAKWARARI UNITED FC & 3 OTHERS** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-10 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3700**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **AUWALU M. ZAKARI / SANI ALIYU DANEJI** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant **Plot No. R-9 TP/KAS/265 File No. RES/2003/3699**, Situated at Dan Agundi GRA. Bearing the name of **ABDULLAHI IBRAHIM / IBRAHIM ABBA** of Dan Agundi Quarters, Kano State which has been duly assigned to **ABDULKADIR ANAS BABASHE** of No. 1008, Gwammaja Quarters, Kano State.

All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to kindly note. If found return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

The General Public is hereby notified of the Loss of the Original land document in favour of **MALLAM MUSA, 'M'** of Pompomari bypass, area Maiduguri, in respect of **CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY AND GRANT OF RIGHT OF OCCUPANCY WITH PLOTS NOS 281 AND 279 ON BOTP/72**. Situated at Pompomari bypass, Maiduguri, at unknown destination on 10/12/2022, he got missing. All efforts made to trace the original document proved abortive. general public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

The General Public is hereby notified of the Loss of the Original land document in favour of **ISA YAHAYA, 'M'** of Abuja Sheraton Layin Hadiza area Maiduguri, in respect of **Plot No. 171/BOSA/153** Located at Abuja Sheraton Layin Hadiza Abuja Shishi Karofi Residential layout Maiduguri. He discovered that the Original land document bearing his late Father, **TAHIR ABUBAKAR 'M'**, . Got missing as a result of water flood sometimes August, 2021. All efforts made to trace the original document proved abortive. general public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public of the **loss of the Certificate of Occupancy with No. RSG 006871 and registered as No. 172 at Page 172 in Vol. 107 at the Lands Registry in Port Harcourt, Rivers State over the Property measuring about 2765.97 Sq. Mts. at Plot 34 Diobu GRA Phase Layout, Port Harcourt, belonging to late Chief Dagogo Princwill of No. 4 Birabi Street, GRA Phase 1, Port Harcourt.**

All effort made to recover the document proved abortive. All relevant authorities concerned should take note for record purpose. If found, kindly report to the nearest police station.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to formally inform the general public that Rear-Admiral Godwin Ndubuisi Kanu (rtd.), who was born on 3rd November, 1943, died on the 13th. Of January, 2021, and was since buried in his home town at Ovim, Isiukwuato Local Government Area, of Abia state on the 15th of October, 2021.

General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

Signed: **Kelly Ndubuisi Kanu.**

DAUDA DAURA FOUNDATION

The General Public is hereby notified that the Trustees: of the above proposed foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission under the Companies and Allied Matters Act 2020 for registration as Incorporated Trustees.

TRUSTEES:

1. Nuhu Dauda Daura
2. Abdullahi Mukhtar
3. Abdulmuhaiminu Dauda Daura

AIM AND OBJECTIVE

- 1). To promote community development projects by providing or improving essential services such as Hospitals, Water Resources, Agriculture, etc.
- 2). To enhance the economic capacity of the people through Skills acquisition programmes, Poverty Alleviation and Youth Empowerment.
- 3). To encourage good and qualitative education through sponsorship and to render assistance to the less privileged by giving Bursary allowance or support.
- 4). To promote community development projects by providing or improving essential services such as Hospitals, Water Resources, Agriculture, etc.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, corporate Affairs Commission, plot 420, Tigris crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi street Maitama Abuja, within 28days of this publication

PUBLIC NOTICE

JEHOVAH ELYON COVENANT CHURCH OF GOD ERIALAYO

The general public is hereby notified that the above-named organisation has applied to Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Adebajo Ojibayo Ademola - | CHAIRMAN |
| 2. Ademola Tinuola Rashidat - | SECRETARY |
| 3. Adebajo Solomon Oluosoga - | MEMBER |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To preach and propagate the glorious and the everlasting gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ as well as to educate and to reform people through the Holy Spirit as presented in the Holy Bible in all parts of Nigeria and the whole world at large.
2. To sanctify a spiritual atmosphere of praise and worship unto the lord to promote a suitable biblical atmosphere for the exercise of spiritual authority over Satan, sin, sickness, poverty, curse, oppression, death and such vices.
3. To engage in community and social development programmes and scholarship schemes.
4. To make disciples for Jesus Christ among all nations of the earth; beginning from this nation by preaching and promoting peace, love and progress among the generality of humanity with the aim of making the world a better place to live in.
5. To carry out any and all such other incidental acts (e.g. organising convention, teachings- meetings, crusades) for the attainment of any of the objectives herein specified provided they are conducive and consistent with the holy bible and those outlined objectives.
6. To establish operate and maintain prayer camps, schools, and mission centres for the furtherance of these objectives.
7. To produce, publish and freely distribute or sell religious literature in form of tracts, books and magazines which are compatible with these aims and objectives.

Any objection to this registration should be filed and forwarded to: The Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: **ADEMOLA TINUOLA RASHIDAT**
Secretary

SPORT



■ (L) Chairman of Club Owners, Barrister Isaac Danladi, NFF president, Ibrahim Gusau, Chairman of IMC, Gbenga Elegbeleye and GMD, GTI Group, Abubakar Lawal at the cheque presentation yesterday in Abuja

Kano stripped of National Youth Games hosting right

By David Ngobua

The Federal Ministry of Sports and Youth Development has stripped Kano State of the hosting right for the 7th National Youth Games and awarded it to Delta State.

The Ministry said the choice of Delta State was reached at a meeting of Stakeholders for the Games, which was held on the sidelines of the recently concluded 21st National Sports Festival.

The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Alhaji Ismaila Abubakar, stated that the National Youth Games has since inception become a veritable ground for harvesting the huge talents that abound within the country.

“He said “Many of the discovered athletes have been nurtured to elite level by the Ministry where several of them have been excelling at the international stage by posting podium performances for the country.”

Other objectives of the Game according to him, is to “promote National Unity; curb age cheating in Sports and Youth restiveness as well as establish a standard programme for athletes’ succession”, amongst others.

Alhaji Ismaila assured that the Ministry is poised to ensure that the gains and objectives of the Youth Games are sustained hence, the Ministry’s determination to seek for an alternative host venue for the National Youth Games.

Already Delta State has expressed readiness to host the Games at the Dennis Osadebay University, Asaba, from February 8-18.

Gusau warns referees, match commissioners against corrupt practices

...As IMC doles out N200m to 20 NPFL clubs

By Jide Olusola

The Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) president, Ibrahim Gusau, has issued a stern warning to Nigerian referees and match commissioner against practices capable of bringing the game into disrepute.

He made this known yesterday during the inauguration of the Referees and Match Commissioners’ Committees inside the NFF Secretariat, Abuja.

Gusau said it will no longer be business as usual for match commissioners and referees in the domestic game as those who fail to

meet the high standards already put in place will be summarily ejected and sanctioned appropriately.

“We have been diligent and statute-compliant in the selection of the membership of both the Referees Committee and the Match Commissioners’ Committees, and therefore, we expect them to do their job with the highest level of integrity, passion, commitment and sense of duty.

“The onus is on the committees as we will keenly monitor the performances of your appointees and be dispassionate in our assessment. Anyone found wanting will be thrown out without ceremony, and

be visited with further sanctions.

“The NFF is determined to change the narrative in the league and there is no going back. Please help us to have a new league that all stakeholders will be proud of,” Gusau said.

On her part, Faith Irabor, who chairs the Referees Committee, said the narrative will definitely change from the umpires’ side as Nigeria football moves to implement the highest standards of probity in match officiating.

Meanwhile, the NFF president on behalf of the Interim Management Committee (IMC) presented a N200m cheque to the 20 NPFL clubs

as take-off grants for the upcoming 2022/23 abridged season which kicks off on Sunday.

The N200m dummy cheque was received by Nasarawa United Chairman, Barrister Isaac Danladi, who doubles as Chairman of Club Owners Association.

Gusau also used the occasion to reiterate the need for the abridged league format.

“The abridged league which will start on Sunday was borne out of necessity. We want to return our league to conform with the major leagues in the world. The league must end by May and by August, the new league must start,” he said.

Djokovic survives Halys scare to reach Adelaide quarters

Novak Djokovic battled back from 5-2 down in the first set to beat Quentin Halys 7-6(3) 7-6(5) and move into the Adelaide International 1 quarterfinals on Thursday.

Halys, ranked 64th in the world, has never beaten a top-10 opponent but gave Djokovic a big scare before the former world No 1 prevailed in two tiebreakers.

Djokovic, who has now won 31 consecutive singles matches in Australia, is preparing for the January 16-29 Australian Open, where he is seeking a record-extending 10th crown.

The Serb was unable to defend his title last year after he was deported on the eve of the tournament for not being vaccinated against Covid-19.

“It was a great performance from my opponent today. I want



to congratulate him for great quality and a great fight.

Tough luck but he played like a top 10 player today, no doubt,” Djokovic, now ranked fifth in the world, said.

“As far as my game goes, I feel good on the court. I didn’t have such a great start, I lost my serve early. He was serving really well, fast, big serves, hitting his spots in the box very well.

“Just difficult to play on this kind of court that is really fast. It kind of favours the server. If you’re serving well, it’s tough to break the serve of a big server like him, so two tiebreaks were probably the most realistic score.”

The 35-year-old Serbian will next play Denis Shapovalov, who he has beaten in all seven of their meetings.

Hamadjam, Police Inspector win Opobo marathon

From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

Hamadjam Yahaya from Taraba State and a Police Inspector, Atuoma Chidinma, from Abia State have emerged winners in both male and female categories in the 5th edition of Opobo Marathon.

The winners went home with the sum of N250,000 each, while second and third positions in both male and female categories were rewarded with N150,000 and N100,000 respectively.

In the male category, Clinton Toby came second, with Mariya Ahmed trailing behind, while Victory Toby came second in the female race with Princess Aniete finishing in third place.

In an interview, both Yahaya and Atuoma



country to groom more talents.

Speaking at the finishing point, the Amayanabo of Opobo, King Dandeson Douglas Jaja, Jeki V, who also took part in the leisure category, praised the organisers for a job well done.

He stated that apart from exposing the ancient town to the world, the marathon will further entrench the time-honoured hospitality of the people, its rich culture and human resource across diverse fields of human endeavour.

Chairman of the organising Committee, Bright Ogolo; Team Lead, Iyowuna Cookey and Patron, Sody Peterside all expressed satisfaction with the quality of athletes, competition and increasing interests amongst Opobo people and Rivers at large.

expressed satisfaction with their performances, saying it was a reward for months of practice and endurance.

They both disclosed that they were visiting Opobo for the first time and that the marathon has given them the opportunity to know the ancient kingdom.

Yahaya particularly commended the organisers for a great initiative and called for more of such marathon races across the

DEEPENING DEMOCRACY

with
Jibrin Ibrahim
jibrinibrahim@dailytrust.com

The Sahel and the return of the military

The political landscape in the Sahel started changing dramatically in 2020 with the return of the military. It took a dramatic turn in Chad with the death of Chadian President Idris Derby in combat followed by a takeover by his son in April 2021. In August 2020 Assimi Goitre carried out the first phase of a coup in Mali. The Guinea regime fell to the military in September 2021 and a coup took place in Burkina Faso in September 2022.

The question that is posed is whether we are back to the era in which those who can shoot their way into power would be the ruling class. It would be recalled that on December 2, 1990, Idriss Deby had shot his way into Chad's presidential palace after an epic battle with his former boss and mentor turned enemy, Hisene Habre. For his 30 years in power, it has been a series of rebellions, bloody conflicts, intrigues and coup attempts.

Alongside the instability, elections have been holding and he was killed the day after he had been declared winner of the recently concluded election and was to be sworn in for his sixth term. Alas the self-declared Field Marshall was no more so his 37-year-old son, General Mehemet Idriss Deby, organised a coup the same day, April 21, 2021 and suspended the constitution, dissolved parliament and set up a ruling military council, for which, he is the supreme commander. He promised to hand over power in October 2022 and when he did not and people demonstrated against him, he sent out the army and dozens of protesters were killed.

The Malian tragedy of chronic instability and violence has been exacerbated by the coup d'état, which began on the night of May 24, 2021 when the army led by Vice President Assimi Goita arrested President Bah N'daw and Prime Minister Modar Ouane. Assimi Goita, the head of the junta that led the 2020 Malian coup d'état, announced that N'daw and Ouane were stripped of their powers and that new elections would be held in 2022. It is the country's third coup d'état in 10 years. Nine months prior to the 2021 coup, in August 2020, President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita was removed from power by a military alliance. This followed months of unrest in Mali following irregularities in the March and April parliamentary elections and outrage against the kidnapping of opposition leader Soumaila Cissé.

In Guinea, the coup against President Alpha Conde was organised by Lieutenant-Colonel Mamady Doumbouya, his kinsman who he had appointed head of the

well-resourced and armed elite brigade to ensure that no coup against him succeeds. The then 83-year-old president had been in the democratic opposition for decades until he got to power at 72. After 10 years and two terms, the expectation was that he would take a well-deserved rest. Sadly, he had no intention of leaving power while alive and was ready to use under hand tactics to smash the opposition while abusing his incumbency powers to rig the elections. He worked hard on it.

In August 2019, he spent his Eid vacation with President Buhari in his home town in Daura seeking Nigeria's support. The advice he received everywhere was: "old man; go to your village and rest", he ignored all advice leaving the coup option as the sole viable way to unseat his dictatorship.

What these coups portend is the beginning of another cycle of political instability in the Sahel and West Africa. The collapse of democracy signalled the lost expectations that military coups would be deterred by Article 30 of the African Union Constitutive Act on the unacceptability of unconstitutional changes of government. The tragedy is that Africa learnt an important lesson from the decades of military rule and authoritarian single-party regimes that started transiting into multi-party democracies in 1990. That liberal multi-party democracy is part of a set of variables that could be a veritable tool for conflict prevention and peace building in addition to its use value in the form of the freedoms, rights and citizenship it provides.

Over the past decade, commitment to these principles and above all practices have waned as a result of lack of respect for them by so many African presidents. Our problem is sabotage by many African leaders with responsibility for implementing them. The result is that elections and democracy are being emptied of their essence and African citizens are beginning to question the meaning of elections without choice and democracy without dividends.

It is in this context that conflicts, including banditry, terrorism and violent extremism have grown and spread in the continent. The consequence is that Africa is currently facing intense conflicts due to economic and social grievances on the one hand and violent religious extremism on the other. There is a breakdown of the democratic and even the political order in some countries in the region and military interventions have made a return. Improving governance to create conditions for peace has therefore become an urgent need.

The current crisis in the Sahel is linked to

the geopolitics of the return of the military. Mali has exercised regional leadership in seeking legitimacy for the coup by attacking the former hegemon France, accused of sponsoring and sustaining violent extremism in the Sahel. The junta has succeeded in expelling France from the country in a very dramatic way and has brought in the Russian Wagner mercenary group.

Within the context of the current proxy war in Ukraine between the West under American leadership and Russia and its allies, the cold war is now fully back. What is important is that over the past decade, suspicion of French "pro-violent extremist" action has been spreading and deepening throughout the Sahel. Many Sahelians believe that the failure of France to defeat the extremist since 2012 is the plan rather than an unexpected outcome. This belief is comforted by massive messaging, often with fake news to this effect.

Now there is a contagion effect with Burkina Faso likely to follow the example of Mali in expelling the French. In Niger, where the leadership has stood resolutely with France, there is pressure emanating from street demonstrations to break with France. The ability of the administration to survive politically would depend on how it is able to address popular concerns on this issue. The emergence of this new geopolitics might well create conditions for the escalation of violent extremism and Nigeria would without doubt be affected by these dynamics.

The most serious threat to Nigeria is the spread of the Sahelian brand of violent extremism to North West and North Central Nigeria alongside Boko Haram. In this regard, it's worthy of note that the franchise model that has been implemented by the Islamic State since it ran into problems in Iraq and Syria has arrived in Nigeria.

In his article in the July 2021 edition of *Newsweek*, Bulama Bukarti has called the new developments "gig terrorism" characterised by franchising dissident groups in Africa - Sahel countries including Nigeria and Cameroon as well as Central African Republic, Mozambique, DR Congo and Somalia as long as they have similar ideologies even if their modes of operations differ.

It is in this context that over the past few years, the Boko Haram insurgency has been seeking contact points and collaboration with growing criminal banditry in North West Nigeria, especially in the states of Zamfara, Katsina, Kaduna and Niger. They have been working hard to develop their franchise and convert bandits to ideologically focused terrorists. This poses a major challenge of broadening the conflict and overwhelming Nigeria's security forces.

The same phenomenon is happening in the Sahel zone, around the three-frontier zone between the borders of Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali. If the insurgents in both the North East and North West of Nigeria link up operationally with the ones in Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali, we would enter the worst-case scenario, which we must do all in our powers to prevent.

SPORT REPORT

Chelsea sign French international defender Badiashile



■ Badiashile

Chelsea signed France international defender Benoît Badiashile from Ligue 1 side Monaco on Thursday for a fee believed to be just under 40 million euros (\$42 million).

The 21-year-old central defender signed a "seven-and-a-half-year contract", according to a statement from Chelsea.

Badiashile has been a pivotal figure at Monaco, helping the club finish third in Ligue 1 for the past two seasons.

"At 6ft 4in, Badiashile is a dominant defender in the air but equally comfortable with the ball at his feet, capable of playing short passes out from the back or switching the play with longer diagonals," read the Chelsea statement.

Knee injury forces top-seed Cilic out of Pune Open



■ Marin Cilic

Croatian top seed Marin Cilic has been forced out of the Pune Open in India with a knee injury, the 34-year-old said Thursday, dampening his Australian Open preparations.

The 2014 US Open winner had breezed through his first match but withdrew shortly before his quarterfinal appearance at the ATP year-opener after hurting himself during a practice session.

"Very sorry that I couldn't come out again today to compete," Cilic said in a statement.

"Today during the warm-up, I injured my knee and unfortunately it didn't get better."