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Jos: Reps demand truth commission

By Nasidi A. Yahaya, Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki A. Hassan, Andrew Agbese, & Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

asked the Federal Government to establish a Truth and Reconciliation committee that would reconcile the warring parties in Plateau State to avoid recurrence of crisis in the state. For its part, the Senate asked the

Federal Government led by Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to publish and implement all reports on the various crises in Jos and to also implement their recommendations.

Emerging from a closed door session

which lasted for over two hours, the House also condoled with the people of Plateau State over those that lost their lives during the crisis.

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THE House of Representatives yesterday



A petrol tanker engulfed in flames at Ilupeju Area of Lagos State yesterday.

Trailer crushes 70 in Lokoja

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

AN estimated 70 people were killed yesterday and several dozen others were seriously injured when a trailer laden with cement lost control and veered off its lane at Lokoja, capital of Kogi State. It then rammed into nearly two dozen vehicles coming from the

opposite direction, veered off the road and crushed scores of roadside traders and their customers.

The trailer, belonging to Dangote Cement, was coming from the cement factory at Obajana. Witnesses said its brakes appeared to have failed, hence the accident.

Witnesses also said they counted over 70 dead bodies before police officers and men of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) arrived at the scene of the crash. "Don't let these officers deceive you, we were here when the accident happened. We counted more than 60 dead bodies. There were also about 20

people who were seriously injured in the accident. It was a very terrible accident", said Musa Abdullahi, who said he witnessed it.

Vice Chairman of Lokoja Local Government Area Mr Lawrence Ikuboroje, who could not confirm the casualty figure, however said the incident could have been averted if the on-going Abuja-

Lokoja road dualisation had been completed. He also said if the state government had commissioned the new international market in Lokoja, traders would not have had cause to transact businesses at the roadsides.

Kogi State deputy governor Philip Salawu, who was at the scene of the accident, was nearly mobbed by

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Jonathan should prioritise electoral reform—Buhari

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

THE first priority of Acting President Goodluck Jonathan is to conclude the electoral reform programme and ensure that a credible Independent Electoral Commission (INEC) is put in place because government will just be wasting time if the next election is not free and fair, retired General Muhammad Buhari said yesterday.

General Buhari who spoke in Kaduna when members of the Unity Forum paid him a courtesy visit yesterday also said he had a feeling that Nigerians would not accept flawed elections in 2011.

"This government will have to

go by May next year, one way or the other. So, in fact, it is even more in their own interest to organise proper election so that they can go out or remain gracefully", he said.

The former ANPP presidential candidate reiterated that unless there is free and fair election, "I don't think we will be able to stabilise the polity, not to talk of the country". He recalled what he told the National Assembly when he went under the auspices of the National Democratic Movement (NDM) that the bane of the nation's problem was the elite's failure to lead the country.

Buhari criticised INEC on the Anambra gubernatorial election,

saying, "If INEC cannot organise election in one state, how do we expect INEC to organise election in 36 states and Abuja?". Buhari noted that the PDP Anambra primaries were characterised by rancour until a "so called" winner emerged, adding that one of the groups was so upset that they abducted the father of the said winner. According to him, the voters' register that was used in the last election was so jumbled up that the register of Funtua town in Katsina State was taken to some local governments in Anambra State. "At this stage of development, I think this is unacceptable", he said, adding that the first priority of the government should be

to effect the electoral reform and make sure that there is a credible electoral umpire that can organise elections.

On the constitutional impasse, Buhari said there was no problem about succession in the constitution and it would be wrong for anyone to have introduced extra constitutional measures to resolve the issue. According to him, some patch work was done for political expediency but "instead of stabilising the polity, we are still arguing." He pointed out that if the Federal Executive Council had the integrity to follow the constitution strictly, and raised a medical team to go to Saudi Arabia, the nation

would have been spared the current impasse.

Buhari said the constitution has to be followed whether we like its provisions or not. According to him, even when the political expediency was resorted to, the media is still awash with where the president is. "The moment you start doing extra constitutional things, you are gradually introducing political anarchy. And I don't think that is good," Buhari further said.

He praised the unity forum for sacrificing its time and resources to embark on the agitation for a better Nigeria, adding that it is firmly on the right track and that he associates with their aspirations.

New Nigerian staff on indefinite strike

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

WORKERS of the New Nigerian Newspapers in Kaduna yesterday commenced an indefinite strike, threatening not to resume work unless the Managing Director of the company, Mr. Ndanusa Alao, is relieved of his appointment.

The workers placed placards in strategic locations with the company premises. Some read, "Alao must go; Sack him, EFCC must probe NNN management; NNN management must go".

Vehicles of the Operation Yaki security outfit were seen around the company with well armed policemen walking around.

It would be recalled that the workers last November embarked on a strike over non payment of their seven months salaries. Yesterday's action, according to the striking workers, was staged to demand the sack of the Managing Director whose tenure they described as "hellish". The workers in a four-page petition tagged,

"Alleged financial mismanagement at New Nigerian Newspapers: A call for probe" addressed to the chairman of the Northern Governors' Forum, Niger State Governor (NGF) Dr. Mu'azu Babangida Aliyu alleged that the management of the company had lost focus.

In the petition which was jointly signed by Malam Bulama Mustapha and Mr. Ibrahim Adamu, the chairman and secretary of the joint workers consultative committee of the company respectively, urged the 19 northern governors to dissolve the present management of the company under the leadership of Mr. Ndanusa Alao.

The workers reiterated their readiness to assist the NGF in carrying out the probe by providing relevant documents. Mr. Ndanusa Alao said he was in meeting and promised to call back when our correspondent called him but he never did, and refused picking further calls before press time yesterday.



GOVERNOR Muhammad Danjuma Goje of Gombe State soon after he was turbaned as the Garkuwa of Fulani Herdsmen by the state chapter of Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria during the first Gombe State Farmers Day.

Onitsha market patron, chairman kidnapped, police orderly, driver killed

From Beatrice Onuchukwu, Awka

THE patron of Ogbaru Main Market Traders Association, Onitsha, Chief Sam Mendu (a.k.a Onwa Ogidi) and the chairman of the market, Eugene Nwanekezi, were abducted late Monday by unknown persons.

In the process, the kidnapers shot and killed instantly Mendu's police orderly and his driver who

were with him and Nwanekezi in the same vehicle.

This development has heightened tension in the market which has been shut down by its executives not only to douse the tension but to protest the kidnap and the lingering power tussle in the market.

The Vice President of the market Chief Emmanuel Onuka said they were kidnapped at about

6.60pm while returning from Awka, the Capital of Anambra State, where they had gone to submit a petition to the state Commissioner of Police Mr. Philemon Leha over the lingering crisis in the market.

Onuka stated that the kidnapers who operated with a Toyota Camry car and motor bikes double-crossed their victims at Ezeiweka road in Awada area of

Onitsha with those who operated with the motor bikes, shooting the police orderly and the driver before abducting the two men. He said those who operated with the Camry car wore black attires and went straight for the men, pushed them inside their (kidnapers) vehicles and sped off to an unknown destination.

The vice president said that they had already reported the inci-

dent to the Awada Police Division covering the area of the incident.

The Police Public Relation Officer (PPRO), Mr. Emeka Chukwuemeka (ASP), confirmed the incident.

He said the police were yet to establish any contact with the kidnapers but that they were on their trail, assuring that they would enter their dragnet very soon.

Some read, "Alao must go; Sack him, EFCC must probe NNN management; NNN management must go".

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



MINISTER of Petroleum Dr Rilwanu Lukman (right) and Minister of State for Petroleum Mr Odein Ajumogobia at a meeting with the House Committee on Petroleum Resources (Down Stream) in Abuja yesterday.

'Deregulation only answer to fuel scarcity'

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

MINISTER of Petroleum Resources Rilwanu Lukman yesterday said deregulation of the petroleum sector and the quick passage of the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) are the only way out of the incessant fuel shortages that have plagued the country.

He spoke at an interactive meeting with the House of Representatives Committee on Petroleum (Downstream).

Lukman also listed logistics, regulation of the petroleum sector and vandalism of the pipelines as some of the factors causing shortages of fuel in the country.

Lukman also urged the National Assembly to pass the PIB "to solve the problems that have existed in the industry for 20 to 30 years."

He said transportation of products by trucks, economic downturn which has hit marketers, backlogs owed importers and the inability of banks to advance loans to importers, were also part of the problems causing scarcity.

He lamented that people were given licenses to build refineries when Obasanjo was president, but none was built "because there was no deregulation. No one will bring in money to build a refinery in a regulated environment knowing he will lose money."

Jonathan writes Senate asking for 5 new advisers

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki Hassan

ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan has written to the Senate seeking approval to appoint five new special advisers.

He however did not mention the names of the appointees in the letter he addressed to the Senate President David Mark.

Jonathan said in the letter, "Following my recent appointment as the Acting President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the responsibilities of my office have increased tremendously. In order to cope effectively, I would require to appoint Five (5) Special Advisers."

Senate is expected to approve the request at its plenary session today.

Govs demand probe of N1.15trn fuel subsidy claims

BY AbdulFattah Olajide & Muhammed S. Shehu

STATE governors yesterday said the N1.15 trillion claimed as subsidy to petroleum products marketers by the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) should be probed before any further subsidy payment is made.

Rising from the National Economic Council (NEC) meeting chaired by Acting President Goodluck Jonathan at the Presidential Villa in Abuja, the governors said the payment of subsidy would deplete the amount accru-

able to them from the Federation Account.

Briefing newsmen in company of Finance Minister Mansur Muhtar and the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi, Governors Emmanuel Uduaghan of Delta State, Gbenga Daniel of Ogun State said the NEC has directed that the subsidy claim be audited before any further payment is made.

The controversial subsidy claim covers payment for the supply of petroleum products across the country between N2005 and

2010.

Governor Uduaghan said the states are worried about the Joint Venture Cash Call, in which money is deducted directly by the NNPC to their joint venture funds.

He said last year, for 4-5 months NNPC did not make any contribution to the Federation Account "because money it was making was directly paid into the joint venture account and that really affects us."

"All of that we are going to audit because all the subsidy end up in the hands of the very few.

There is nowhere in the country today where fuel is sold for N65 per litre. In the Delta areas, fuel is sold for up to N150, so who is enjoying the subsidy? A few individuals and we are saying that this should stop," Uduaghan said.

Governor Daniel said the governors restated their support for the deregulation of the downstream oil sector, saying the NEC also discussed the nation's new tax policy, the 50th anniversary celebration of Nigeria, and Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) initiatives on supporting the real sector of the economy.

Police cannot stop armed robbery - Onovo

BY Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Turaki A. Hassan

THE Nigeria police force cannot curb the rising cases of armed robbery in the country because officers and men of the force lack the basic training and necessary equipment to tackle the menace, Inspector General of Police Ogbonna Onovo has said.

Speaking when he appeared before the Senate Ad-Hoc Com-

mittee investigating the failure of the Nigeria police to protect the lives and property of Nigerians at the National Assembly yesterday, Onovo said his men face an enemy that possesses sophisticated weapons.

The IGP said most robbers were attacking Nigerians on the highways with sophisticated machine guns and other advance weapons.

In the course of ensuring the

security of lives and properties in Nigeria, "the Police is paid N7000. To glorify our efforts, it was increased to N21000. I make bold to say that no family in Nigeria can survive on this for a month. We are saying N21000 for somebody who is going to die, where will the morale come from?"

"We do not have enough communication gadgets to track our operations and monitor the roads, vehicles for patrol is not enough,

and even where we have the vehicles what about fuelling because there have been times that those vehicles cannot go out because of fuel," he said.

Committee chairman Senator Patrick Osakwe (PDP, Delta) said the Senate will monitor the N5 billion appropriated by the National Assembly for the purchase of communication equipment for the police to ensure full implementation.

Jos crisis: Jang accuses army of inaction

AbdulFattah Olajide & Mohammed S. Shehu

GOVERNOR Jonah Jang of Plateau State yesterday said Sunday's attack on three communities of Jos South Local Government Area could have been avoided if the army had acted on the security report he transmit-

ted to their commander in the state.

Jang said he got the security report from villagers at about 9 pm on Saturday that some movements of people with arms were seen around the villages and that he immediately reported the matter to the army commanders but nothing was done to prevent

the attack.

"The army should live up to expectations and stop the carnage in Plateau, if they cannot, then they should as well get out of the place," he said.

Jang said, "I received reports at about 9 p.m. on the evening that some people with arms were seen around those villages, and

I reported to the commander of the army and he told me he was going to move some troops there, and because it is near where I live, I even saw a tank pass through my house and I thought it was going towards that area. Three hours or so later, I was woken by a call that they have started burning the villages

and people were being hacked to death. I then tried to locate the commanders but I couldn't get any of them on the telephone."

Jang, who stated this at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, dismissed reports that the attack was a reprisal by some Fulani people who lost their tribesmen and cattle in the January crisis.

Security chiefs report to NSA, says ex-Intelligence officer

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

ALL security chiefs report to president through the office of the National Security Adviser, Daily Trust was told yesterday by a retired military intelligence officer.

The retired officer who worked in the NSA's office from the regime of Gen Ibrahim Babangida through that of Gen Abdulsalami Abubakar said even the Defence Minister reports to NSA not the Commander-in-Chief, on matters of national security.

The security chiefs include Chief of Defence Staff, Chief

of Army Staff, Chief of Naval Staff, Chief of Air Staff, Inspector General of Police, Director-General of the State Security Service (SSS), Department of Military Intelligence (DMI), and National Intelligence Agency (NIA), among others.

"The NSA is in full control of the nation's intelligence and security network. As the name implies, the nation's security lies in that office," the ex-intelligence officer who pleaded anonymity said.

He said whatever security report any of the security agencies wanted the president to know, the information must be

channeled through the NSA, who in turn would analyse the information and advise the president accordingly.

The ex-intelligence officer said the office of the NSA had some liaisons that "vet, filter, assimilate and digest" the security data that were fed to the NSA's office regularly. He said the military, the SSS, and the police all have liaisons at the NSA's office.

He said after digesting the information, the head of the liaison office would then pass the data to the NSA for analysis. "When the NSA analyses the data, he will then tell the presi-

dent what to do. On the issue of national security, the NSA is almost the C-in-C. Why I say this is because the president simply gives endorsement to the NSA's decision," he said.

"Whatever security lapses or improvement in security is observed afterward, the NSA is held accountable because he is assumed to have the full control of the nation's security. He can advise the president to deploy troops to any crisis-prone area or point of an uprising even without the knowledge of the governor of the state where crisis is happening," he said.

According to him, the job of

Chief Security Officer (CSO) to the president is usually narrow, and when contrasted with the office of the NSA, one would find out the powers of the CSO do not go beyond protection of the president and his family.

The retired officer, who once worked under the newly appointed NSA to the president, said Gen Aliyu Gusau usually stands out because of his local and international security connections. "Gusau is more than what people think. He is a consultant to many countries on security and intelligence. He is also an intelligence officer recognised by the United States."

US Embassy clarifies Clinton's statement on Jos crisis



Embassy of the United States of America

Abuja

9 March 2010

Mahmud Jega
22, Tunis Street by Lusaka Street
Wuse Zone 6
Abuja, Nigeria

Dear Mr. Mahmud Jega:

Greetings! I recall our lively conversation in your offices of early December and look forward to a return visit.

But first, this morning's Daily Trust ran a story about comments reportedly made by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton after a meeting yesterday in Washington D.C. with President Bongo of Gabon. Unfortunately, both the headline and the story indicate that Secretary Clinton made comments which she simply did not make.

As you can see from the enclosed full text transcript, Secretary Clinton made no reference whatsoever to "Christians" as the victims of the Jos violence. By suggesting that she did, the story in the Daily Trust is misleading and dangerously provocative.

I believe a correction is in order.

With my regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Peter R. Claussen
Counselor for Public Affairs

Editor's comment:- The story and its headline were completely reproduced from AFP as can be seen below:-

Nigeria must bring killers of Christians to justice: Clinton

Mon Mar 8, 3:34 pm ET

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called Monday on Nigeria to find and punish those responsible for the killings of more than 500 Christians in a wave of sectarian slaughter.

"We continue to urge all parties to exercise restraint," Clinton told reporters, adding the Nigerian government "should make sure the perpetrators are brought to justice."

Clinton addressed reporters during a press conference with Gabon President Ali Bongo after more than 500 people were reported killed in three Christian villages in the north of the country.

"The Nigerian government should ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice under the rule of law."

Police arrest killers of journalist

By Misbahu Bashir

THE police in Abuja yesterday paraded five suspect arrested over the killing of Efenji Efenji, a former reporter of the Africa Independent Television (AIT).

Efenji was stabbed to death at a garden in Karu, Abuja during Valentine celebrations.

The Federal Capital Territory Commissioner of Police John Haruna said the suspects 'jointly' killed Efenji. "Overwhelming evidence has been gathered to

enable diligent prosecution of the suspects in court," he said.

Those arrested are Chidiebere John, Augustine Ogbonna, Vitus Ogbu, Raphael Madu and Paul Akpa.

Haruna said Efenji was stabbed with a broken bottle in a brawl with the suspects.

"One of the suspects, Ogbonna, requested to dance with Efenji's wife, Lyndia, while he (Efenji) was sitting around. When he refused to allow Ogbonna to dance with his wife, a fight ensued

and he was killed," the CP said.

He said initially the matter was settled and Mrs. Efenji went home while her husband remained at the Garden. He was not reported missing until the next morning when a security guard sighted his body near a fence.

He said the police will contact the Director of Public Prosecution in the Federal Ministry of Justice on the prosecution of suspects and they will be charged to court over joint act of murder on Thursday.

REA scam: EFCC asked for proof

By Atika Balal

A Federal High Court in Abuja yesterday asked the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) to provide evidence in a 135 count charge it proffered against Chairman of the House Committee on Power, Ndudi Elumelu and eight others.

Elumelu, Senator Nicholas Ugbane and seven others are standing trial over an alleged N5.2 Billion Rural Electrification Agency (REA) contract scam.

Counsel representing Elumelu, Kamal Fagbemi, had

asked the court for an order compelling the prosecution to make available the proof of evidence to the accused to be relied upon by the prosecution in the case.

Ruling on the application, Justice Mohammed Garba Umar said even though tendering the proof of evidence is not mandatory, the court is obliged when the accused persons demand for such to enable them adequately prepare their defence.

It would be recalled that the court had granted bail to Elumelu, Ugbane and the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Power,

Dr. Abdulahi Aliyu, along with the Managing Director of Rural Electrification Agency Samuel Ibi Gekpe, Simon Nanle, Lawrence Orekoya, Abdulsamad Garba Jahun, Kayode Oyedeji and Jibo Mohammed.

The accused persons who have all pleaded not guilty were remanded in EFCC custody following a 135 amended count charge of meddling with procurement procedures in the award of N5.2 billion REA contract.

Meanwhile the court has slated March 17 for ruling in the substantive matter.

Police want today's protests postponed

By Misbahu Bashir

THE police in Abuja yesterday said the protest matches scheduled to hold today by some interest groups should be postponed.

Three groups including Future Nigeria Group, Save Nigeria Coalition and Jama'atul Nasril Islam have organised protest rallies today.

The Commissioner of Police in the Federal Capital Territory, John Haruna said at a press conference yesterday, "It is paramount to let the organisers know that the timing of these protests

for tomorrow March 10 2010 and simultaneously is unhealthy, ill timed and can lead to breach of peace currently being enjoyed in the FCT".

He said only Future Nigeria Group had yesterday notified the police of the protest while the other two groups did not. He said police need to be notified 72 hours before the rallies to be able to make adequate preparations for them.

He said no group will be allowed to go near the presidential villa during the protests. "It is

a restricted area" he said.

“It is paramount to let the organisers know that the timing of these protests for tomorrow March 10 2010 and simultaneously is unhealthy, ill timed and can lead to breach of peace

Stampede in Jos again, one feared dead

By Andrew Agbese, & Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

THERE was another stampede in Jos yesterday as people took to their heels on hearing reports of a clash between military men and some villagers around the Police Staff College in Jos.

There was a similar commotion on Monday when the military tried to prevent youths from staging a protest march into the town.

Yesterday's stampede was said to have been as a result of an attempt by some youths to prevent some hoodlums from vandalizing some vehicles damaged during the January crisis which were parked at the roadsides. Another version has it that confusion broke out when some youths tried to stop some Fulani who were relocating from that part of the town to another and members of the joint task force intervened.

Another account however attributed the commotion to a clash by members of the joint task force and some policemen at the Police Staff College, while trying to arrest some fleeing Fulani men who ran into the college's premises.

The soldiers were said to have opened fire when the police men refused them entry into the premises saying they must first clear with higher authorities.

The shot fired by military men was said to have hit two persons. One of them was said to have died instantly while the other was injured. One military man was said to have been shot too. It was not clear whether he died.

The military men were said to have gone to the college in two armoured personnel carriers (APCs) with number NA 25-950322 and NA 25-95032333 and two Hilux trucks with number FGN 373A0/3 and PL274101. The Fulani men were alleged to have sneaked into the premises of the college through a collapsed fence.

Police public relations officer ASP Mohammed Lerama could not confirm the incident but said the police would be addressing the press today to answer to all questions emanating from the recent crisis. Army spokesperson Lt. Col. Galadima Shekari could not be reached for comments.

In another development, women in Vwang district of Jos South local government came out yesterday to protest the alleged killing of a young man.

The women, numbering about 30, who wore black attires, lamented the situation saying it is unfortunate if those sent to defend them were now killing them.



FROM left: Acting President Goodluck Jonathan, Governor Bukola Saraki of Kwara State, Governor Mahmud Shinkafi of Zamfara, Deputy Governor Abubakar D. Ali of Yobe State and Taraba State Deputy Governor, Alhaji Sami Abubakar Daniadi at the National Economic Council Meeting in Abuja yesterday.

Trailer crushes 70 in Lokoja

Continued from page 1

angry residents and traders and he hurriedly left the scene.

The state Police Public Relations Officer Mr. Abubakar Muhammed told our reporter that over 50 people were killed in the incident. But the FRSC sector commander, Mr Yomi Asaniyan, said his men evacuated only 24 dead bodies, including eight females and 16 males, as well as nine injured persons who were taken to the Kogi State Specialist Hospital in Lokoja.

Asaniyan also said there could be many more causalities from the

accident because many families had already taken away their relations before the Road Safety men got to the scene.

According to him, the accident involved over 20 vehicles, including five buses, all of which were coming from the direction of Abuja. Five motorcycles were also crushed, he said.

"The cause of the accident was that Dangote trailer loaded with 600 bags of cement which was coming from Obajana and incidentally the driver lost control. Felele is a market place where traders transact their businesses at the roadside. As the trailer lost

control, it started hitting vehicles and crushing people. It is unfortunate that a market can be on the highway.

Drivers are also in the habit of parking there to carry passengers and goods. For now, the government should ban this market or move traders out of this place. Dangote trailers in recent times have been causing accidents in this area.

Some of these trailers are not roadworthy, while the drivers are not well trained to be safety-conscious on the highway," said the FRSC boss.

Meanwhile, Governor Ibrahim

Idris, through his Special Adviser on Media and Public Affairs Mr Zakari Adamu, expressed shock and sadness over yesterday's accident and appealed to motorists to always check their vehicles before taking to the road. "This is one accident too many. I sympathise with the families of the victims. I pray that God repose the souls of the deceased and may He give the injured quick recovery," said the governor.

It would be recalled that a similar incident occurred at the Dekina market in the state last December, during which over 90 people were reportedly killed.

Reps demand truth commission

Continued from page 1

Reading the resolution on the floor, House Leader Rep Tunde Akogun (PDP, Edo State) said the MPs urged the Federal Government to investigate, identify and prosecute perpetrators of the crisis in order to forestall its recurrence.

He said, "the House condoles with the families of all those who lost their lives in Jos crisis and totally condemns the barbaric act; asks security agencies to investigate, identify and prosecute perpetrators of the crisis; and we urge the Federal Government to set up a Truth and Reconciliation committee to reconcile the parties."

Earlier at the plenary session, Rep Halims Agoda (PDP, Delta State) raised a Point of Order, drawing the House's attention to the crisis that engulfed Plateau State, saying there was the need to come up with a motion for mem-

bers to find a lasting solution to it.

But Speaker Bankole said the matter was too sensitive to be debated openly, and called on the House Leader to request for a closed door session that would allow members to discuss it freely and come up with a unanimous stand. When the House resumed, Bankole said they discussed issues revolving around the Plateau State crisis and he asked the Leader to read the resolutions.

Thereafter, Bankole asked for the observance of one minute silence for the repose of the soul of those who lost their lives during the crisis. He also asked Rep Bitrus Kaze (PDP, Plateau State) to move a motion for the adjournment of the House, to which he did.

Speaking to newsmen after the session, Kaze said the House decided to debate the matter in a closed door session to avoid emotional contributions by the

members. He said, "Anything that comes out of the floor can be sensitive and we did not want to do anything that would aggravate tension. Jos is a microcosm of Nigeria and whenever there is crisis in Jos, the victims are always from various parts of Nigeria. We thought it would be best to handle it in the executive session.

"During the previous crises, the House set up a committee that went to Jos and the court ruled it was outside our legal competence. A motion would have brought up emotions in the House," he added.

After its own long closed door session yesterday, the Senate called for calm and restraint, saying "The Senate urges all Nigerians especially leaders to be calm and steadfast and must not do or say anything that will aggravate the crisis."

While urging the Federal Government to take urgent steps at arresting the perpetrators of

the recent killings in Jos, Senate "expressed satisfaction with actions so far taken by the Acting President to address the issues." It said the crisis has no religious dimension and urged the Jos community to learn to live together as brothers and sisters.

Senate also said, "It is in our opinion once crisis too many. Our hearts go out to all those that lost loved ones during this recent crisis and indeed all previous crises. There can be no place for such barbaric acts in our democracy."

Daily Trust however gathered that there was heated debate among senators as to how past crises in Plateau State were handled by government. One senator said, "We are tired of crises in Jos. This thing keeps occurring because no one has been punished; people kill their fellow humans and get away with. It is time for government to take a critical look at the issues behind the recurring crises in Jos."

Akinola links crises to leaders

From Johnkennedy Uzoma, Owerri

CLERGYMAN Peter Jasper Akinola has blamed the continued religious crises in the country on intolerant attitude of some leaders.

Akinola said yesterday in a sermon for the foundation stone laying ceremony of the new cathedral and dedication of the Bishop's office/Diocesan Secretariat, Ohaji/Egbema Missionary Diocese in Ohaji/Egbema LGA of Imo State. The former head of the Anglican Communion in Nigeria appealed to religious leaders to stop fueling crises, adding that no country thrives in the midst of crises. According to him, the situation in Nigeria today is not different from other parts of the world.

He said that what is happening in Jos is highly regrettable, adding that if nothing is urgently done now, the situation might escalate.

He advised members of the Diocese to be committed to their responsibilities to ensure early completion of the Cathedral and bishop's building. He urged them to avoid procrastination in whatever they do to complete the two projects, adding that it is the responsibility of all to ensure the realization of the projects. Akinola assured them that whatever they spend to see to the completion of the projects, God would reward them abundantly. The Bishop of Ohaji/Egbema Missionary Diocese thanked the Primate for the honour done to the Diocese by identifying with it. He assured that with the help of God, the two projects would be completed on time. The former prelate commended the Speaker, Imo State House of Assembly Chief Goodluck Opiah and Sir. Agwuocha Chukwukadibia for their selfless contributions to the Diocese.

NEMA registers 2,635 in Bauchi camps

From Isa Umar Gusau, Maiduguri

TWO thousand, six hundred and thirty five persons, mostly women and children, have been registered in three relief camps in Boto, Bauchi State, by the Northeast zonal office of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) following the fresh crisis Sunday in Plateau State.

Information officer of the Maiduguri based zonal office, Ibrahim Farinloye, disclosed this in a statement Monday. He noted that the 2,635 persons had been registered to benefit from NEMA's relief packages in three camps located in Central Primary School, Government Junior Secondary School and Government Senior Secondary School, all in Boto. He said 80 per cent of them were mostly women and children while registration was still going on. Farinloye quoted NEMA's zonal Coordinator in the North East Aliyu B. Sambo as saying that from what the agency gathered, some parents asked their children to escape for safety while they remained behind to find other escape routes. Sambo said several of the children were brought in by people who saw them by the roadside.

JOS CRISIS

Bauchi pledges assistance to displaced people

From Muhammad Abubakar, Bauchi

THE Bauchi State government has promised to continue accommodating and assisting displaced people from Plateau State who have been taking shelter in various resettlement camps in the state due to the outbreak of violence in Jos and environs.

Speaking to our correspondent on the influx since Sunday,

the Special Assistant to the Bauchi State governor on Media Affairs Sanusi Muhammad said Bauchi would still accommodate those displaced by crises in neighbouring states.

"Bauchi State as the home of hospitality will continue to assist and accommodate those displaced by crises until they decide to return to their places when the crises abate. We will assist and

accommodate them irrespective of their tribe or religion", he said.

The Secretary of the state Red Cross Adamu Abubakar told our correspondent on phone that there was an influx of displaced people from Jos and environs taking shelter in various camps across neighbouring local governments with Plateau.

"They are mostly women and children. We are still registering

the new comers. Last night we had to return to Bauchi metropolis to get a sack of garri for the children because they were crying. The situation is pathetic", he said on Monday.

The state government as well as various groups and wealthy individuals have donated food items as well as clothing materials to the first set of displaced people.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



CROSS-SECTION of the rural women during a free breast screening for 100 rural and urban women at the Garki Specialist Hospital, Abuja, organized by the International Cancer Centre in Abuja on Tuesday.

Hoodlums attack FRCN, CNN reporters

From Mahmud Lalo and Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

HOODLUMS attacked CNN and FRCN reporters Monday during the mass burial of victims of Sunday's violence in Plateau villages.

FRCN reporter, Murtala Hashim Sani is on admission at the Air Force hospital in Jos after sustaining injuries on his head, face and back.

Narrating his ordeal to Daily Trust in his hospital bed, Sani said they were called from Hill station to cover the burial at Shen village together with the CNN reporters and other colleagues from RFI and AP and followed a truck

loaded with corpses from Shen to Dogo Na Hauwa which was the venue for the mass burial.

Sani said, "Immediately after the burial, some journalists interviewed youths and community leaders while I sat near my car because I could not stand what I saw. After they finished, I went to my car then I saw two people coming towards me. When they came closer, I saw the Special Adviser to the Plateau State Governor on Religious Affairs and one other person, he called me and asked me to identify myself and collected my identification card. While we were talking, the other one that accompanied him

slapped me then other hoodlums rushed and started beating me, stabbing me, and throwing stones at me".

He added, "I fell on the ground until a policeman took me and put me in a car while the youths continued following us trying to block road but the policeman escaped through another route but they continued to pursue us until we reached Ray field near Government House".

Sani said the hoodlums also started beating CNN reporters, thinking they were Aljazeera reporters, alleging that they were not being fair in their reportage until they were also saved by secu-

rity operatives.

The FRCN correspondent added that a policeman took him to the barrack along Anglo Jos where they referred him to the Air Force hospital for medical treatment.

He said state Commissioner for Information and Communications Mr Gregory Yenlong visited him and pledged to settle his medical bill. He also directed security agents to retrieve his car from the burial place.

Yenlong commiserated with the family of the victims and described what happened as unfortunate and pledged government's assistance to them.

Namadi ties success of Vision2020 to employment

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

FOR Nigeria to attain the Vision 20:2020, unemployment in the country must be addressed, Kaduna State Governor Namadi Sambo has said.

Governor Sambo who spoke at the opening ceremony of a five day train-the-trainers programme organised by the Small

and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (SMEDAN) in Kaduna yesterday said the global economic recession and challenges for infrastructure support services, especially power, were taking a toll on Nigeria's economy. The governor who was represented by his deputy, Mr. Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa, said most of the companies in

the country had closed down, increasing the number of unemployed people in the country.

"This dangerous trend needs to be reversed quickly so that Nigeria can achieve the Vision 20:2020", he said, adding that there was the need to focus on the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sub-sector and that the base for such is the

availability of adequate power supply.

"With what is on ground, we are optimistic that in no distant future, Kaduna will have adequate power supply," he said.

The Director-General of SMEDAN Alhaji Muhammad Nadada Umar urged state governments to develop small and medium businesses.

"The Boko Haram, Kala Kato, Jos crisis and even the Niger-Delta crises was as a result of unemployment. All these would be put to rest when state governments begin to harness SME potentials. If you want to remain in office for life, harness the business potentials in your state and see what will follow," he said.

EU to fight poverty in Nigeria with N1bn

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

THE European Commission in Nigeria says it would provide N1.158 billion as grant to Non-State Actors (NSAs) in Nigeria to fight poverty.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, EU INSIDE Project, Nigeria, Mabel Ade, disclosed this yesterday in Sokoto at the information session on increasing Non-State Actors (NSAs) implementation and development expertise. She said the project was to help build structures that could tackle poverty and assist Nigeria to attain the MDG as well as strengthen democratisation.

"This is a poverty focused intervention for the grass roots people in Nigeria", she stated, adding that the project would assist Nigerian NSAs that were fostering pro-poor policies to enhance their service delivery. She said projects to be carried out would be in the areas of peace and security, governance and human rights, water and sanitation as well as environmental protection and climate change.



A bulldozer demolishing illegal structure at Ajelogo market along Ikorodu in Lagos yesterday.

Demolition displaces 10,000 in Lagos

From Femi Akinola, Lagos

MANY residents of Ajelogo and Akanimodo market in Mile 12 area of Lagos State have been displaced following the demolition of their houses and shops by men of the Lagos State Task Force on Environment and Special Offences.

Our correspondent who visited the area yesterday reports that over

10,000 residents who are mostly women and children were rendered homeless by the exercise.

Some residents who spoke with *Daily Trust* said they were taken by surprise. They maintained that they did not receive any quit notice from the state government. One of the displaced residents, Mr. Jaye Olalekan, said the exercise had shattered the plans of many people in the area.

Mrs. Daramola Aina, a mother of six who was also affected, decried the action, saying, "We have nowhere to go, our children cannot go to school and we have nowhere to lay our heads".

The Chairman of the task force, Superintendent Bayo Sulaimon, said government moved into the area because it discovered that some residents were in possession of unau-

thorized guns. He denied the allegation by some of the residents that they were not given notice before the demolition, adding that government had a stakeholder's forum with the residents where they were asked to relocate.

Sulaiman added that some members of the task force had been stationed in the area to ensure that the displaced people did not return.

Group faults proposal on Ogun PDP crisis

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

A group in the Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) in Ogun State, Omo Ilu, has rejected a recommendation by the committee set up to investigate the December 5, 2009 violence that erupted at Ijebu-east Local Government Area of the state in which several lives and property were lost. The Vice Chairman of the Omo Ilu group,

Alhaji Munirudeen Bamidele Idris, who addressed newsmen yesterday in Abeokuta said the recommendation of the Justice Kayode Somolu-led commission of inquiry that the Tunde Oladunjoye-led council be suspended was, "Embarrassing sentimental and a mockery of justice and the rule of law".

"The white paper is an affront to the group. It is a deliberate attempt to attack both the group and Oladunjoye,

knowing that none of us was involved in the crisis", he said.

He said the governor suspended the chairman and councillors of the council without following due process.

"We commiserate with the people of Ijebu-Ife and the family of late ASP Omolodun who died during the crisis", the group added.

Teenage Boko Haram suspect requests to see mum

From Yahaya Ibrahim & Sharafa Dauda, Maiduguri

AS hearing into the Boko Haram crisis continued yesterday at the Borno State High Court, a teenage suspect who was arraigned with 18 others told the court that he wanted to see his mother.

The presiding judge, Justice Abdullahi Yerima Sanya, told the boy's lawyer to inform the mother of the request.

"She should either come to the court to see her son or go to the remand home where minors among those charged are kept. Our hands are tied because the teenager is charged with adults under Section 221", he said.

AC says Jos violence a product of FG's insincerity

By Muideen Olaniyi

THE Action Congress (AC) yesterday attributed the resurgence of violence in Jos, Plateau State, to insincerity and hypocrisy on the part of the Federal Government.

National Publicity Secretary of the party Alhaji Lai Mohammed said only concrete action would end the violence as against the crocodile tears being shed by people.

Mohammed said nothing short of arresting and bringing perpetrators of the heinous killings to justice and ensuring

respect for human rights will end the recurring violence that has claimed 5,000 lives in Jos since 2001, according to official figures. He said the perpetrators of the killings knew that once the government and all concerned make all the noises, the whole issue will die down until the next round of violence, noting that "this is what has emboldened them to continue to kill and maim innocent people."

"The government is the problem. It has the power of arrest and prosecution. It has the ability and resources to gather intelligence. If it (government) were hunting the opposition

now, it will be more efficient. They know what to do to stop the violence but will not do it," he said.

He said the killings are more political than religious. "A few security agencies may be involved in shooting some innocent people, but the real perpetrators are far away, pulling the strings. At the end, only the common man dies, either the low and poor Christians or the low and poor Muslims," he added.

AC said unless something urgent is done to stop the cycle of violence in the country it may assume a more dangerous dimension.



FROM right: Kaduna State Deputy Governor Patrick Yakowa, Director General, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency, SMEDAN, Alhaji Nadada Umar and Executive Director, International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Career Centre, India, Mr. Chandramauli Pathak during SMEDAN, training of trainers for enterprise and development service providers in Kaduna yesterday.

Canada to assist Plateau on violence prevention

By Aisha Umar Agaie

CANADIAN High Commission in Nigeria has donated N8.4million for workshop to sensitise 150 youths in Plateau State on finding creative alternative to violence in conflict situation.

Also Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Honourable Lawrence Cannon said "Canada condemns in the strongest of terms the renewed violence and the loss of life near the city of Jos."

Titled the 'Youth Peace Conference, Towards Enduring Peace in Jos', the workshop will bring together youths, male and female, from the three local government areas of Jos for interactive sessions.

The project is to be implemented by the Institute of Governance and Social Research (IGSR) in Jos.

A statement by the Canadian High Commissioner Denis Kingsley said the North American country "is very

pleased to be associated with this project, which we hope will promote greater understanding among communities." "We hope these workshops will provide local youth with a better understanding of the roots of conflict and help them develop better tools to resolve differences," Kingsley said.

President of the IGSR Professor J. Isawa Elaigwu welcomed Canada's support to the peace building efforts in Jos, adding that "The workshop will

encourage peace building among the youth of diverse groups in Jos through mutual respect and tolerance of one another's beliefs."

The second project will equip a local school, Rantya Model School, with a fully functional computer lab that can work eight hours a day to give students regular access to computer and IT classes as well as contribute to improving computer literacy among staff and students.

Nigeria, Tanzania call for close ties among African parliaments

By Turaki A. Hassan

SENATE President David Mark and Chairman of the Tanzanian Parliamentary Service Commission Dr. Chrisant M. Mzindakaya have called for closer ties among African parliaments to fashion out a blueprint that would eradicate the problems of the continent.

Exchanging views at the National Assembly

yesterday, both leaders agreed that only a common approach to the multifaceted challenges facing the continent would be a panacea to its problems.

"African parliaments should begin to work together for the benefit of all citizens. We need to exchange ideas on how to address the problem of human rights, development, health, education

and even aviation in our continent. There is no reason why we should not have direct flights connecting our countries or exchanging programmes on how to address health or education problems for the common good of our people," Mark said. He said Nigeria runs a Presidential system of government which gives state governors some levels of autonomy and a sys-

tem of government that upholds sanctity of separation of powers between and among the executive, legislature and the judiciary.

Earlier, leader of the Tanzanian parliamentary delegation led Dr. Chrisant M. Mzindakaya urged Nigeria to use its strength to ensure that democracy remains the option and the best form of government among African states.

Spain donates 6 patrol vans to Nigeria

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

THE Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) yesterday took delivery of six patrol vans for fighting against trans-boarder crimes from the Spanish government.

Presenting the cars, the Spanish Ambassador to Nigeria Angel Losada said the pickup vans will help strengthen the activities of the Nigeria Immigration Service.

Losada, who asked for collaboration with the Nigerian government in fighting crime, also donated €10 million to ECOWAS countries for the development of agriculture, through micro financing the sector.

Launching the vehicles, Interior Minister Dr. Shettima Mustapha said the donation came at "the most appropriate time when relevant agencies in Nigeria, especially Immigration Service, are optimizing efforts in the fight against human trafficking and all forms of trans-border crime."

The minister also called for more collaboration with other countries in fighting crimes.

Muslim group warns against reprisal killing

By Abbas Jimoh

THE Muslim Rights Concern (MURIC) yesterday advised Nigerians to always channel their grievances to the appropriate authority rather than take the laws into their hands.

The group said was reacting to the reports of reprisal killings in parts of Jos, Plateau State, allegedly carried out by nomadic Fulanis to avenge the killings of their kinsmen and cattle in January.

About two hundred people were reported killed in the latest bout of killings.

The group's Director Dr. Is-haq Akintola said "We cannot make meaningful progress if Nigerians live like cats and mice everyday of their lives."

He said there is urgent need for security agents to be deployed to every nook and cranny of Plateau State until peace is fully restored.

"No adherents of any religious group must be treated as sacred cows," he said.

"We call on Muslim leaders and scholars in Plateau State to imbibe the teachings of forgiveness, tolerance and patience," Akintola said.

He said the citizenry needs the protection of the government of the day to be able to go about their works without any fear of molestation and remind stakeholders of the need to exercise caution and maturity on this issue so that the crisis may not escalate.

FG urged to invest in technology

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

THE Commonwealth Society of Nigeria yesterday urged the Federal Government to redirect its policies by investing in science and technology to be among the 20 top advanced economies by the year 2020.

Regional Coordinator of Teachers without Borders Ralph Oko made the plea in Abuja at this year's Commonwealth Day celebration organised by the society in collaboration with Fresh and Young Brains Development Initiative. Mr. Oko said Nigeria is endowed with mineral and human resources which if adequately utilized through the use of modern science and technology can help the country meet its set target as well as Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

He, however, regretted that over 40 years after civil war Nigeria is still battling with ethno-political crises which have negatively impacted on the rapid development of science and technology in the country.

Group opposes city gates in Gusau

From Sadeeq Aliyu, Gusau

A group known as Concerned Citizens in Gusau, Zamfara State, has written to the Minister of Works and Corps Marshal of the Federal Road Safety Commission to stop the construction of city gates in Gusau.

In a statement jointly

signed by the group's Chairman, Muhammad Bello Lawal and Secretary Ibrahim Muhammad Bello, the group made reference to the gate erected along the Zaria - Sokoto road where a trailer fell and blocked the road for many days. The group said city gates were supposed to be constructed on dual car-

riage ways, and not on single lanes as was the case in Gusau. Other similar gates under construction are on the Gusau - Sokoto road and Gusau - Kaura Namoda high way. They described the gates as illegal and urged that they be dismantled to prevent further loss of lives and property.

'Women need to be politically, economically relevant'

From Sadeeq Aliyu, Gusau

Wife of Zamfara State Governor, Hajiya Aisha Mahmud Shinkafi, has said that for Nigerian women to be fully empowered, they have to be relevant on political and economic levels.

Aisha Shinkafi who spoke at the opening ceremony of the 2010 national conference on 'Women Empowerment for Wealth Creation' in Gusau yesterday said women were catalysts for social cohesion, rallying and mobilizing different social groups, hence the need to decen-

tralize the polity. She said though the merits of women were recognized and appreciated everywhere, there were still impediments to the empowerment of women in the country. The President of Women in Colleges of Education Gusau chapter, Mrs. Ohakwe, said since women constituted more than 50 percent of the country's population, the struggle to empower them could in no way be a wasted venture. She however lamented that despite the role played by women in the society, they were the worst hit in times of crises.

Adamawa AC lawmakers defect to PDP

From Ibrahim Muhammad, Yola

THREE of the nine members of the Action Congress in the Adamawa State House of Assembly have defected to the Peoples Democratic Party.

The legislators announced their defection at a special sitting of the Assembly yesterday. Speaking on behalf of his colleagues, the member representing Mubi south, Sajo Gella, said the decision to defect followed the failure of the party to provide effective leadership.

He said it was the lead-

ership failure that led to factionalization of the party at the wards and local government levels.

"Ladies and gentlemen, let me make it clear that we have resolved to join the PDP, not because we want to join the bandwagon, but to move our state forward through a visionary and people-oriented leadership", he said.

The state Chairman of the PDP Mijinyawa Umaru Kugama told our correspondent on phone that the legislators were welcome to the PDP and that efforts would be made to make

their stay fruitful.

When contacted, the state secretary of the Action Congress, Sa'idu

Halidu, denied that there was crisis in the party.

"Our party is not rattled with the purported defection. I think they were only looking for escape routes and let me assure you that they will not escape the wrath of the electorates", he said.

The defected members are Sajo Gella member representing Mubi south, Ahmadu Umaru, Madagali and Micheal Zidon, representing Lamurde

Ibadan Poly expels 10 students over fake results

From Yemi Bamidele, Ibadan

THE management of The Polytechnic, Ibadan, has expelled 10 students for using fake results to seek admission into Higher National Diploma (HND) programmes of the institution.

The affected students were among the 2009/2010 batch of the Higher National Diploma programme.

According to a statement signed by the institution's Registrar, Mr. 'Tosho Ayanwale, the 10 students who were currently awaiting their final results for the Part-Time National Diploma programme which commenced three sessions ago procured fake results to gain admission into Higher National Diploma programmes.

They were discovered during the screening of the credentials and consequently appeared before the institution's students'

disciplinary committee which found them guilty of the offence, the statement said. It further said eight of the students were from the Business Studies Programme, one from Computer studies and the last from Insurance.

Those from the Business Studies are, Oshin Edileola T., Oyerinde Tolulope, Ajibike Sunday D., Alao Ifeoluwa O., Rashied Taoreed A., Rasak Ibrahim O., Mutimi Olubunmi and Oladeinde Rasheed O. The remaining two students are Atanda Moses A. (Computer Studies) and Yusuf Akindele from Insurance Department.

The statement urged employers of labour and institutions of higher learning with applicants with certificates or notifications of results of The Polytechnic, Ibadan to always endeavour to verify the authenticity of such credentials from the Directorate of Academic Affairs of the institution.



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SPEAKERS/RESOURCE PERSONS

Keynote Address: Alhaji. Ibrahim Dankwambo *FCA, OON* Accountant-General of the Federation

Opening Remarks: Mr. Steve Oronsaye, *FCA, CON*, Head of Civil Service of the Federation

Engr Emeka M. Eze, *FNSE* Director-General Bureau for Public Procurement *The Link Between Sound Procurement Practices and Budget Implementation*

Senator Iyiola Omisore, Chairman Senate Committee On Appropriation: *Legislative Perspective On Budgeting And Implementation-I*

Professor Sylvester Monye, Executive Secretary, National Planning Commission, Abuja: *The Budget As A Key Instrument For Budgeting And Planning*

Chinedum Nwoko, Public Finance Expert and Consulting Executive, Policy Associates, Abuja: *The Imperative of Work Planning And Activity Budgeting In Budget Delivery*

Barrister Chibuzor Ekwewuo, Procurement Specialist and Managing Partner, A & E Law Partnership (Legal and Consultants): *Procurement Planning And Due Process In Budget Implementation*

Dr. Godwin U. Owoh, *FCA, FCTI* Chief Executive Officer, Union Wright Ltd, Abuja: *The Role Of Budget Monitoring, Evaluation, Accounting, Auditing, And Reporting*

Hon. Ayoade Ademola, Chairman, House Committee On Appropriation: *Legislative Perspective on Budgeting And Implementation-II*

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2010 SCHEDULED SHORT TRAINING PROGRAMMES AT NISLT

| DATE/DURATION | COURSE TITLE | COURSE FEES | FOR WHOM |
|-------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| 12th - 16th April, 2010 | Concepts and Principles in Laboratory Management and Administration | N40,000.00 | Laboratory Scientists / Technologists, Laboratory Managers / Supervisors, Users of laboratory Equipment and Laboratory Equipment Procurement Officers. Chief Executives of science based Institutions are also invited. |
| 19th - 23rd April, 2010 | Modern Laboratory Practices and Procedures | N30,000.00 | Assistant Laboratory Technologists, Laboratory Assistants, Attendants, Assistant Technicians and Junior/Middle level laboratory personnel in Tertiary Institutions, Secondary Schools, Research Institutes, Industries and Private organizations. |
| 3rd - 7th May, 2010 | Quality Management Systems and Good Laboratory Practices. | N40,000.00 | Technologists / Scientists in Tertiary Institutions, Research Institutes and Quality Control and Assurance Managers in Industries, Public Analysts, Development and Production Managers, Human Resource Managers. |
| 17th - 21st May, 2010 | Scientific Research Methods and Data Management. | N40,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, research officers, scientific officers in tertiary institutes, industrialists, private organization and research students in tertiary institutions. |
| 24th - 28th May, 2010 | Hands-on Training on High Performance Liquid Chromatographic and Gas Chromatographic Techniques. | N40,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Chemical Analysts, Quality Control Managers in Tertiary Institutions, Research Institutes, Industries and Private organizations. |
| 7th - 11th June 2010 | Laboratory Methods of Biotechnology | N50,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Research Officer and Chemical Analysts, Quality Control Managers Scientists, Technologists and Chemical analysts from Agricultural Institution, Tertiary Institution, Research Institutes, Government Agencies and Parastatals, Organizations and interested members of the public. |
| 21st - 30th June 2010 | Hands-on Training on Workshop on Analysis of Mycotoxin and Aflatoxin. | N70,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Agriculturists, Chemical Analysts, Lecturers, Researchers from Agricultural Institution, Tertiary Institution, Research Institution, Government Research Agencies and Parastatals, Organization, Interested job seekers and students. |
| 5th - 10th July 2010 | Hands-on Training on Amino Acid Analyzer | N40,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Chemical Analysts, Quality Control Managers in Tertiary Institutions, Research Institutes, Industries and Private organizations. |

| DATE/DURATION | COURSE TITLE | COURSE FEES | FOR WHOM |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| 12th - 16th July, 2010 | Hands-on Training on Science Equipment Maintenance and Management. | N50,000.00 | Technologists, Scientists, Supervisors, Laboratory Managers and those involved in use and maintenance of Laboratory Equipment. |
| 19th - 23rd July, 2010 | Hands-on Training on Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer, Flame photometer | N40,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Chemical Analyst, Quality control Managers in Tertiary Institutions, Research institutes, Industries and private organizations. |
| 28th - 30th July, 2010 | Private Practice and Entrepreneurial Development for Science Laboratory Technology Professionals. | N20,000.00 | Laboratory Scientists / Technologists, intending to establish a private science laboratory and practicing laboratory scientists/ technologists planning to retire from public service. |
| 2nd - 6th August, 2010 | Laboratory Methods of Water and Environmental Sample Analysis | N40,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Quality Control Managers, Environmental Health Officers, Water processing industries, Private industrialist and other interested members of the public. |
| 16th - 20th August, 2010 | Hands-on Training on Fourier Transform Infra red Spectrophotometer ultra-violet / visible Spectrophotometer Equipment. | N40,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Chemical Analysts, Quality Control Managers in Tertiary Institutions, Research institutes, Industries and private organizations. |
| 30th August - 30th September, 2010 | Laboratory Procedures for Effective Science Practicals in Secondary Schools | N30,000.00 | The course is designed for Science Teachers and Laboratory Personnel in Secondary Schools in Nigeria. |
| 20th - 24th September, 2010 | Hands-on Training on Photomicrography | N40,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Researchers, Post-graduate students and staff in the science medicine, agriculture, plant/animal pathology, fisheries/wildlife, technology peology and archeology. |
| 4th - 8th October, 2010 | Laboratory Methods of Analysis and quality control of Food and Food Products | N50,000.00 | Scientists, Technologists, Quality Control Managers, Health officers, food processing industries, private industrialists and interested members of the public. |
| 18th - 22nd October, 2010 | Laboratory Procedures and Analysis of Soil, Crop, Water and agricultural Products | N50,000.00 | Technologists/Scientists, Research Officers, Field Officers, Lecturers, Agriculturists, Agro-industrialists, Farmers, Veterinarians etc. in tertiary institutions, Federal and State Ministries of agriculture, agricultural officers in local government, research institutes industries and private establishment. |

ALL TRAINING PROGRAMMES WILL BE HELD AT THE NISLT SECRETARIAT, SAMONDA, IBADAN, OYO STATE. APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE REGISTRAR/CEO, NISLT BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF TRAINING. FEW SPACES ARE AVAILABLE. THEREFORE SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE BASED ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS

MR. JACKSON I. OSUH FISLT
Director, Education, Training & Inspectorate
for Registrar/CEO



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- Holder of Diploma in Community Health with not less than two years post qualification experience plus, five (5) Credit level passes in SSCE (WASCE, NECO OR GCE O/L) at not more than two sittings, which must include: English Language, Mathematics and Biology/Health Science.
- Community Health Extension Workers with 5 years experience and five (5) Credit level passes in SSCE (WASCE, NECO or GCE O/L) at not more than two sittings, which must include: English Language, Mathematics and Biology/Health Science.
- Applicants must be registered, with the Community Health Practitioners' Registration Board of Nigeria and possess a valid practice license.

2. DURATION OF COURSE

This is a 2 year Residential Course, leading to the award of the Community Health Practitioners Registration Board Higher Diploma in Community Health.

3. LOCATION OF COURSE

Most activities connected with the course, including lectures, will take place at the LUTH Primary Care Centre at Pakoto (Ifo Local Government Area of Ogun State) and the surrounding villages except when it is necessary for students to go to LUTH, Idi-Araba Lagos, for lectures.

4. METHOD OF APPLICATION

Application letter with photocopies of credentials and 2 passport sized photographs should be addressed to:-

THE CO-ORDINATOR (CHO PROGRAMME)
INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND PRIMARY CARE
LAGOS UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL
P. M.B. 12003, LAGOS, NIGERIA

and should be accompanied with the receipt of the application fee of N5,000 (Five Thousand Naira). Fees are payable in cash to the Cash Office of the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Idi-Araba.

5. CLOSING DATE OF APPLICATION

Closing date for application is Friday 26th June, 2010.
Interview/Test will be conducted on Thursday and Friday the 1st and 2nd of July 2010, respectively, in the Lecture Theatre Block of the Institute of Child Health and Primary Care, LUTH PHC Complex, Pakoto, Ogun State. Further invitation to attend interview will not be issued. Candidates should bring to the interview, originals of their credentials, letters of sponsorship from their Local Government/Institution and also Attestation letters from their employers stating that they will practice Primary Health Care at the end of the course. Successful applicants will be informed subsequently.

Prof. Akin Osibogun
Chief Medical Director



NEUROPSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL, ARO, ABEOKUTA P.M.B. 2002, ABEOKUTA, OGUN STATE.

APPOINTMENT OF AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the post of an ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION.

Qualifications Required

- Applicants must possess a degree in any of the disciplines of Social Science or Humanities from a recognized University plus at least 12 (twelve) years cognate experience.
- A Masters Degree or higher qualification in any of the disciplines of Social Science or Humanities will be an advantage.
- Must have worked in the Public Service at a level not below Chief Administrative Officer.
- Must have a professional qualification from the Institute of Health Service Administrators of Nigeria.

Conditions of Service

These are similar to those obtainable in the Federal Public Service or Federal Specialist Health Institutions.

Referees

Applicants should request three (3) Referees to forward Confidential Reports on them directly to the address shown below:

Method of Application

Applicants should submit Ten (10) typewritten copies of each of their credentials with detailed Curriculum Vitae and letters of application as well as GSM numbers in a sealed envelop and marked "POST OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION" on the top left corner, addressed to:

The Provost/Chief Medical Director,
Aro Neuropsychiatric Hospital,
P.M.B. 2002,
Abeokuta,
Ogun State.

Such applications must reach the office of the Provost/Chief Medical not later than six (6) weeks from the date of this publication.

- Please note that only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Dr. A.O. Ogunlesi
Provost/Chief Medical Director
Neuropsychiatric Hospital
Aro, Abeokuta.

Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON www.dailytrust.com



I am not to blame –Jang

THIS is no time for excuses, Jang. Other states like Bauchi and Borno effectively contained similar upheavals with the Federal

controlled security agencies.
Abubakar
asslere@yahoo.com

Yes, as the Chief Security Officer of the state, you are to blame and it is your responsibility to ensure security in the state.

Where that fails, who do you think will take the blame.
Maryam Abdullahi
maryam4iaj@yahoo.com



IGP Ogbonna Onovo

Jos killings a reprisal –Police

I still insist that the Plateau State former police commissioner should be held responsible for this senseless killings. He was the one who openly brought religion into a simple conflict between neighbours that could have been resolved in court, leading to reprisals and counter-reprisals.

Belyus
belyus2000@yahoo.com

It is sad to hear from a high ranking police officer that the attack in Jos was a reprisal. Is he justifying the act? Is he saying that his investigation was concluded 24 hours after the attack? Did he just speak to the culprits and then agreed that they were on a vengeance mission because they said it? A police officer should do more than that.

Datong
dgdatong@yahoo.com

It is common knowledge that a Fulani man always moves about with a knife. The fact that they saw four men with knives does not mean that they were part of the people behind the attack. I hope the people the police caught are actually those responsible.

SB
sbadamu@gmail.com

The Plateau State government needs to be objective in handling this issue if not peace will continue to elude the state.

Muhammad Abba
muhammadsaniabba@ymail.com

Gen Gusau bounces back as NSA



GEN Aliyu Gusau

WE pray to Allah Almighty to help us. Changing the security adviser will not change the situation, let the government do something drastic about the security situation in the country. Nobody is above the law.

Bashir
bash.zee@gmail.com

The fact that he could be reappointed means that the man is

very competent and dedicated. I wish him luck in the discharge of his duties. May Allah help us to live in peace.

Abubakar Chika Maru
abubakarsuleiman2009@yahoo.com

The removal of Sarki Mukhtar was in order, but bringing Aliyu Gusau back is totally unacceptable.

Mal. Alkali

alkalizai@yahoo.com

I don't believe that Mukhtar's sack has anything to do with the Jos crisis.

If it is because of Jos mayhem, the first person that ought to leave is Governor Jang. This sack is political.

A Rasheed Makarfi
arasheedng2003@yahoo.com

200 killed in Jos villages raid

THIS is really sad, however, we should always remember that whatever you do to others will be done to you. For now, let the Federal Government declare a state of emergency in Plateau.

Yusufu
aayusufu@yahoo.com

In a sane society, the IGP, DG, SSS, DG NIA and the Commandant of NSCDC would have resigned. They need not to be told to go. They have failed the nation.

Sunusi Musa
iano22@yahoo.com

The recent killings in Dogo Na Hauwa and three other villages in Plateau State have been described by the state government as a reprisal by the Fulanis. This claim is not only false and baseless, but funny because the government has failed to name

the culprits

Kamil Tunde
kammy4u@yahoo.com

Enough is enough, nobody has the monopoly of violence. The situation in Plateau State is rather precarious. The Federal Government must rise up to its responsibility of protecting its citizens.

Shamsuddin Daura
shamsydr@yahoo.co.uk

First, the Beroms attacked the Fulanis, killing them and stealing their cattle. Now, the Fulanis have taken revenge. What a lawless and hopeless country. I think the masses should join hands and fight those holding this country to ransom and not each another.

Peace
peace009@gmail.com

This is the result of bad leadership. I hope we will not repeat

this mistake in 2011.

Adam Abdulkadir
speaktoadam@yahoo.com

When will the killing and shedding of innocent blood stop in Jos.

Mike
lykekana@yahoo.com

These killings are not necessary. But the problem with our country today is that people no longer have confidence in our justice system and they feel the leadership is not listening to their plights, so they have decided to take the law into their hands.

Umar Modibbo
umarfaruk1@yahoo.com

Acting President Goodluck should please find a lasting solution to this killings and let us pray for peace to reign in our country.

Rislana Kanya
mohdelrislan@yahoo.com



PLATEAU State Governor David Jonah Jang

Nigeria must bring killers of Christians to justice –Clinton

IT is necessary. Why fight in the name of religion?

Mary
moludoun@yahoo.com

Where was she when Chris-



US Secretary of State Mrs Hillary Clinton

tians massacred Muslims in Jos? Is it now that the Christians are the victims that she will call for the perpetrators to be punished?

Musa
musagarbati@yahoo.com

Such provocative words should not come from Clinton.

Sadiq
asmu4529@yahoo.com

When will we get justice? When a large number of Muslims were killed, you kept quiet only to come out now to say the killers of Christians should be brought to book. What about the Muslims who were killed in Kuru and two other villages last month?

Abbafalke
abbafalke@yahoo.com

Where was Mrs Clinton when the other killings took place?

Muhammad
mrabilm@gmail.com

Mrs Clinton should generalise it, not to mention only Christians. Both sides suffered from the crisis. She should advice the government to make security of lives and property a priority instead of saying the killers of Christians must be brought to book.

Senior
asimails@yahoo.co.uk

We should try to bring to book all those that were behind the killings because both Muslims and Christians were killed. The fact is that we are one.

Jafar
jafs07@yahoo.com

So what about the Muslims that were killed? Didn't she hear of it. We don't want this kind of things to continue, but people should try to be fair.

Auwal Sagir
asmyscool@yahoo.com

I see no reason why we should be killing each other, we should try to embrace one and other. I think the crisis was politically motivated. The government of Plateau should be held responsible.

Ibrahim
ibsoftconsult@yahoo.com

It is good to bring the killers to book, not only of Christian, but of everyone.

Anas Umar
anasium2009@yahoo.com

Plateau insists 500 killed

WHEN it happened in Kuru, neither the NTA nor any other local network reported the facts. Jang even complained that Aljazeera reported it, but in this case, they are confirming the figures. May God help us all.

Sani
u4thejob@gmail.com

I think the statements by Plateau State government officials are enough to explain why we are in this situation. This same government that could not give the accurate number of those killed in the crisis that occurred about a month ago is now giving casualty figures shortly after the incident. The world is watching and history is the best judge.

Sunusi Musa
iyando22@yahoo.com



CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA

In furtherance of the transparency and full disclosure stance of the Central Bank of Nigeria, the Monetary Policy Committee has decided that henceforth the lending rates obtainable in all Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) be made public to guide business decisions. Consequently, find below the applicable rates for each of the DMBs as at 5/03/2010. The rates will be published every Wednesday in some selected National Newspapers. The rates will also be available on the website of the Central Bank of Nigeria

Average Deposit and Lending Rates as at 5-03-2010

| S/N | NAME OF BANK | Deposit | | | Lending Rate | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------------|-------|-----------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| | | Demand Deposit | Savings Deposit | Time Deposit | Agriculture | | Mining & Quarrying | | Oil & Gas | | Manufacturing | | Real Estate & Const | |
| | | Ave.Int Rate | Ave.Int Rate | Ave.Int Rate | Prime | Max. | Prime | Max. | Prime | Max. | Prime | Max. | Prime | Max. |
| 1 | Access Bank | 0-2 | 3-5 | 6-9 | 17.00 | 24.00 | 17.50 | 24.00 | 17.50 | 24.00 | 17.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 |
| 2 | Afribank Nigeria | 0.67 | 3.00 | 11.00 | 18.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 |
| 3 | Diamond Bank | 0.65 | 2.90 | 12.25 | 14.00 | 19.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 23.00 |
| 4 | Ecobank Nigeria | 0.10 | 3.00 | 11.50 | - | - | 18.00 | 22.00 | 19.00 | 22.00 | 14.00 | 20.00 | 18.00 | 21.50 |
| 5 | Equatorial Trust Bank | 2.00 | 6.00 | 13.10 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 |
| 6 | Fidelity Bank | 2.00 | 4.00 | 11.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 |
| 7 | First Bank of Nigeria | - | 3.00 | 3.80 | 8.00 | 22.00 | 22.00 | 24.25 | 22.00 | 24.25 | 22.00 | 24.25 | 22.00 | 23.25 |
| 8 | FCMB | 0.17 | 1.98 | 12.00 | 17.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 23.50 | 17.00 | 23.50 | 17.00 | 22.50 | 17.00 | 23.50 |
| 9 | FINBANK | 0.25 | 3.00 | 10.50 | 14.00 | 24.75 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.50 |
| 10 | Guaranty Trust Bank | - | 2.25 | 4-8 | 16.00 | 17.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 19.00 | 22.00 | 19.00 | 22.00 |
| 11 | Stanbic IBTC Bank | 0.97 | 2.19 | 11.69 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 20.00 | 17.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 22.00 |
| 12 | Intercontinental Bank | 0 | 0.50 | 12.16 | 22.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | - | - | 22.00 | 25.00 |
| 13 | Citi Bank Nigeria | 0.75 | 1.50 | 5.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 |
| 14 | Oceanic Bank | 0.25 | 3.00 | 2-11.5 | 21.00 | 27.00 | 21.00 | 27.00 | 21.00 | 27.00 | 16.50 | 27.00 | 18.00 | 27.00 |
| 15 | Bank PHB | 0.65 | 1.70 | 12.88 | 5.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 |
| 16 | Skye Bank | 2.00 | 3.00 | 13.00 | 14.00 | 14.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 |
| 17 | Spring Bank | 0 | 3.00 | 7.70 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 |
| 18 | Standard Chartered Bank | 1.5 | 3 | 8.25 | 17.00 | 21.00 | 17.00 | 21.00 | 17.00 | 21.00 | 17.00 | 21.00 | 17.00 | 21.00 |
| 19 | Sterling Bank | 0.50 | 4.50 | 11.50 | 19.00 | 22.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 23.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 |
| 20 | Union Bank | - | 2.00 | 12.00 | 17.00 | 19.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 |
| 21 | United Bank for Africa | 0.83 | 2.31 | 12.94 | 8.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 15.50 | 24.00 | 15.50 | 24.00 | 15.50 | 24.00 |
| 22 | Unity Bank | 1.00 | 4-5 | 2-12.5 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 |
| 23 | Wema Bank | 1.00 | 3.00 | 10.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 |
| 24 | Zenith Bank | - | 0-5 | 8.00 | 16.00 | 22.00 | 16.00 | 22.00 | 16.00 | 22.00 | 16.00 | 22.00 | 13.00 | 22.00 |

| S/N | NAME OF BANK | Deposit | | | Lending Rate | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|-------|----------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | Demand Deposit | Savings Deposit | Time Deposit | General Comm. | | Mortgage | | Transp. & Comm. | | Fin. & Ins. | | Govt. | |
| | | Ave.Int Rate | Ave.Int Rate | Ave.Int Rate | Prime | Max. | Prime | Max. | Prime | Max. | Prime | Max. | Prime | Max. |
| 1 | Access Bank | 0-2 | 3-5 | 6-9 | 18.00 | 24.00 | 14.00 | 24.00 | 18.00 | 24.00 | 18.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 |
| 2 | Afribank Nigeria | 0.67 | 3.00 | 11.00 | 19.00 | 25.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 25.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 |
| 3 | Diamond Bank | 0.65 | 2.90 | 12.25 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 23.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 23.00 | 20.00 | 23.00 |
| 4 | Ecobank Nigeria | 0.10 | 3.00 | 11.50 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 16.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 16.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 20.00 |
| 5 | Equatorial Trust Bank | 2.00 | 6.00 | 13.10 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 |
| 6 | Fidelity Bank | 2.00 | 4.00 | 11.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 | 19.00 | 23.00 |
| 7 | First Bank of Nigeria | - | 3.00 | 3.80 | 22.00 | 24.25 | 22.00 | 24.25 | 22.00 | 24.25 | 22.00 | 24.25 | 22.00 | 23.25 |
| 8 | FCMB | 0.17 | 1.98 | 12.00 | 17.00 | 26.00 | 17.00 | 22.50 | 17.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 23.00 | 17.00 | 22.00 |
| 9 | FINBANK | 0.25 | 3.00 | 10.50 | 21.00 | 26.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 21.00 | 25.00 |
| 10 | Guaranty Trust Bank | - | 2.25 | 4-8 | 20.00 | 22.00 | 20.00 | 22.00 | 20.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | - | 22.00 |
| 11 | Stanbic IBTC Bank | 0.97 | 2.19 | 11.69 | 17.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 24.00 | 17.00 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 19.00 | 17.00 | 20.00 |
| 12 | Intercontinental Bank | 0 | 0.50 | 12.16 | 22.00 | 28.00 | 9.50 | 9.50 | 18.00 | 25.00 | 22.00 | 28.00 | 22.00 | 25.00 |
| 13 | Citi Bank Nigeria | 0.75 | 1.50 | 5.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | - | - | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | - | - |
| 14 | Oceanic Bank | 0.25 | 3.00 | 2-11.5 | 19.00 | 27.00 | 17.00 | 25.00 | 21.00 | 27.00 | 21.00 | 27.00 | 22.00 | 27.00 |
| 15 | Bank PHB | 0.65 | 1.70 | 12.88 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 | 19.00 | 24.00 |
| 16 | Skye Bank | 2.00 | 3.00 | 13.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 |
| 17 | Spring Bank | 0 | 3.00 | 7.70 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 |
| 18 | Standard Chartered Bank | 1.5 | 3 | 8.25 | 17.00 | 21.00 | 17.00 | 21.00 | 17.00 | 21.00 | 17.00 | 21.00 | 17.00 | 21.00 |
| 19 | Sterling Bank | 0.50 | 4.50 | 11.50 | 20.00 | 25.00 | 20.00 | 25.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 22.00 |
| 20 | Union Bank | - | 2.00 | 12.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 | 20.00 | 24.00 |
| 21 | United Bank for Africa | 0.83 | 2.31 | 12.94 | 21.00 | 24.00 | 15.50 | 24.00 | 15.50 | 24.00 | 115.50 | 24.00 | 21.00 | 24.00 |
| 22 | Unity Bank | 1.00 | 4-5 | 2-12.5 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 | 22.00 | 24.00 |
| 23 | Wema Bank | 1.00 | 3.00 | 10.00 | 18.00 | 23.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 23.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 | 18.00 | 22.00 |
| 24 | Zenith Bank | - | 0-5 | 8.00 | 19.00 | 22.00 | 17.50 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 22.00 | 12.00 | 20.00 | 19.00 | 22.00 |

These are the interest rates banks charge the public on loans and advances. It reflects the cost of borrowings and also includes all charges and commissions levied by banks.

(Signed)
Management

GUSAU BOUNCES BACK AS NSA

— News



Your Letters

Re: Defence college course on sexual abuse

The attention of the National Defence College has been drawn to a new story captioned "Defence College Course on Sexual Abuse" in your paper's edition of Tuesday 9 March 2010. The opening paragraph of the

story in which it was claimed that the NDC has introduced "sexual exploitation and abuse as a course for the Senior Mission Leaders Course" is entirely misleading.

Secondly, at no point in his speech did the guest of honour, Senator Ibrahim Ida, make such a statement. Evidently, the reporter wanted to make reference to the EU Delegation representative's observation that the Senior Mission Leaders Course delved into several chal-

lenges of Peace Keeping Operations including sexual exploitation and abuse. Regrettably, the report misled the point.

The NDC holds the Daily Trust in high esteem and is saddened by the poor handling of that report. It would be appreciated if you clarify our observation on the report. Counting on your continuous cooperation.

S Dahun, Commander for Commandant.

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

Cause of Jos crises

BAD leadership in Plateau State and indeed the country at large is responsible for the ugly happening in that state. A state of emergency should therefore be declared there. Gov. Jang also should be punished, if not for complicity, at least for incompetence.

HASSAN S. Karakai, Zamfara state, 08032951749.

Foreign do-gooders

HABA Mrs Clinton, why express concern only for Christians; what about the Muslims that were killed in the January crisis. May be you are just telling us America's position on this matter. Please let's talk like leaders, and forget sentiment. **08032174301.**

From frying pan...

THE situation in Jos is moving from bad to worse! No adequate measure was taken since the last crisis in January to prevent recurrence. It is well known that the number of cattle which the Birom hijacked from the Fulani herdsmen is over 1000 heads. Yet Jang and his weak administration

could not come to their aid. Federal Government should therefore do the right thing and treat this matter with urgency, before the cycle of revenge terrorism is set. **ADAMU Lamiga Shanono, Jos, 08038480491.**

Media as problem

HABA Nigerian media! Where were you when the Fulani, their wives, children and cattle were being seized and slaughtered? If not for the intervention of the international media maybe nothing would have been heard of their massacre. Now that it's other way round we hear total and immediate judgement even before investigation is commenced. This simply is hypocrisy. **A.I. Bello, 08038430030.**

The solution

I think the only solution to this frequent crisis is to appoint a military administrator, and suspend all political activities in the state till further notice. **08065960861.**

And this

JOS crisis will stop if only *Daily Trust* stops its inciting and terror-

ist reportage. **08034533196.**

Try Turai?

WOLE Soyinka, the professor of folktales is still looking for more popularity but appears to have run out of ideas. Just go back to your story telling and leave politicians to do their thing. **LAWAL Dodo, Kagadama, Bauchi State, 08027876701.**

Spare her, please

IN his latest antics against the North, Soyinka is calling for criminal prosecution of Turai Yar'ad uwa. For those who nurse any iota of doubt about the man's pathological hatred of anything Northern, it is my hope that this is an eye-opener. **DANLAMI Baban Takko, Bauchi, 08030539506.**

A word for labour

NLC, please treat the cause and not the ELECTORAL symptoms. NIGERIANS need Electoral REFORM not Prof. Iwu's RESIGNATION. **DAHE, Suleja, Niger State, 08096465688.**



By Tunde Asaju

PDP for ever

Who would have thought that the boiling cauldron, built over Yar'adua could just freeze with a single pronouncement? Surely I'd had sleepless nights wondering what would happen to Nigeria if the north should lose power in 2011. The consequences could have been grave, reduction in unbridled breeding and subsequently in the numbers of *almajirai*. Where would politicians find canon foddors to fight their many wars? Poverty would have been eradicated. What promises would politicians be making after that? As a result, cows would have stopped giving their milk; we would have lost the age-old advantage of being educationally disadvantaged. Villages without water would have had water, those without electricity would've been connected to the national grid, and the north would have leapfrogged into advancement. That would have been the end of the entity called Nigeria.

But St. Vincent Ogbulafor has saved the day by assuring Nigerians that the north would have and hold power till 2014. And that has nothing to do with the constitution which does not recognise zoning, this is the PDP glue to keep Nigeria one. But I am totally miffed that up till now, no solidarity rally has been held to celebrate this cheering news – where is Soyinka, Falana and Bakare? No Emir has deemed it fit to bestow on the chairman of Africa's largest party a proper chieftaincy title, like the *Garkuwan Arewa*. An Ibo man, republican by birth and answering the title of Prince is an antithetical misnomer; a true title from the house of Arewa would have remedied that. We may dethrone Emirs if they fail to act fast.

Why does the PDP have to think about the constitution? Do they not control the parliament at the top and have over two thirds of those in states? Do they not have a plan to run Fashola, Oshiomhole, and others aground in 2011 and then rule us for another sixty years? So what is the constitution? I hear shouts of people power? What happened to people's power in Bauchi and a deputy governor who tried to be more people than his pocket? What about the PPA in Imo? Just give Peter Obi time to sit in proper, he will find his roots. Did Ahmed Sani not sit on the hottest bed of opposition in Zamfara for eight years? Did he not make his own deputy succeed him? Where is that deputy? *Faafuun*, the PDP train is moving, woe betide those who try to stand in front of it. This power given to us by Allah would never be taken away from us by anybody. If Togo can build an empire, why can't Nigeria? And if the people fail to vote for us, we have the record to make our goats, camels, horses and chickens fill the gap.

Our strength is in our unity. Is it anybody's fault that while the north is a monolithic entity, the south is an agglutination of tribal fiefdoms? I must remind Nigerians that it was not the PDP that divided Nigeria – that fame belongs to the British. It was not the PDP that amalgamated what has been naturally divided by the Niger and Benue – that glory goes to Frederick Lugard. This catholic marriage can only be dissolved by Lugard himself. If anyone knows where he is, let them appeal to him personally. Yes, the north is a monolithic entity and if anyone wants to learn a trick or two about how to make the Izon sit at peace with the Urhobo and the Itshekiri; or how to make the Yoruba share a plate of *eba* and *ofe Owerrri* with the Ibo; or make the Anang and the Efik settle their differences over a plate of *epankoko* garnished with *mfi* and do not know how to do that, they can ask us, descendants of Fodio and the *Sardauna*, we have the recipe.

Our ancestors left the recipe that made the Tiv share a hot plate of pounded yam with the Idoma; the Etulo and the Igala; the Beriberi with the Kukawa; the Anago and the Jarawa; the Okun with the Anebira; the Hausa and the Fulani. The only difficult recipe we are not mixing correctly is that one that makes the Hausa/Fulani enjoy *gote* with the Berom. Even that we shall cook somewhere in the heath between heaven and hell. But our elders did not die with the recipes; indeed, they wrote the down for us in Arabic preserved it in the house of Fodio and therein lays our power. It's not too late for the south to learn to be one.

I think Vincent has done more for us as a nation, he has finally put paid to all the bloody agitation over the health; whereabouts or fate of our dear President Umaru Musa Yar'adua. Since he made the pronouncement, Nigeria has settled down like boiling water taken off the pressure cooker. And for that singular act, let us make him Father of the Nation, even if Obasanjo would not like that. For starters, let us give him a national honour, Grand Commander of the Federal Republic, GCFR at a venue to be announced soon. Southerners who want to attend should send their names to Hajiya Turai, secretary of the committee and place congratulatory adverts in *Daily Trust*. PDP! Power to Destroy Democracy.

(tundeasaju@yahoo.co.uk)

DAILY TRUST

EDITORIAL

No. 20 P.O.W. Mafemi Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way,
Utako District, Abuja
09-6726241, 6715364

Guarding against meningitis

Thirteen persons were killed in Jigawa state by cerebrospinal meningitis (CSM) disease between January and March this year. Reports of the CSM outbreak came as shortage of vaccines was said to have marred vaccination efforts in the affected areas. The Jigawa state Commissioner for Health, Dr Ibrahim Muhammad Nashabaru, said at a briefing that seventeen local government areas of the state, including Dutse the state capital, were affected. He noted that the state had only 7,300 doses of the vaccine when the outbreak of the disease began, adding that the Federal Government assisted with about 300,000 doses, all constituting only 10% of the total demand for the vaccine in the state.

The disease in the last couple of weeks has spread to other states, including Bauchi and Plateau, where some deaths were also recorded. The Directors of Health in Pankshin and Shendam Local Government areas both declared at a recent sensitization workshop on CSM organized by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for the North Central zone in Jos that deaths from meningitis had been recorded in their areas.

The practice by states and local governments to wait for meningitis to break out before residents are vaccinated against the disease, or get to know what amount of vaccines is in stock leaves much to be desired. The outbreak of disease over the years has become a seasonal occurrence in the country; there ought to be more comprehensive and efficient methods therefore of tackling it. Such methods include early preparations to vaccinate people in risk environments even before the season sets in.

Meningitis is the inflammation of the protective membranes covering the brain and spinal cord, known collectively as meninges. A common disease worldwide, meningitis can result from contact with viruses, bacteria or other organisms. The disease is commonly contracted and spreads fast during hot seasons of the year especially in tropical regions. Meningitis affects people of all age groups; however, children, the elderly and persons with compromised immune system are more at risk. It can appear abruptly and may last from 48 hours to several weeks. Meningitis can be life-threatening because of the inflammation's proximity to the brain and spinal cord, which is why the disease is classified by health workers as a medical emergency.

While viral meningitis (also called aseptic meningitis) is caused by a group of viruses called entero-viruses; bacterial meningitis often follows infection of the middle ear, or upper respiratory tract, or pneumonia. According to experts, characteristic symptoms of meningitis in adults may include fever, headache, and stiff neck, an inability to bend the chin to the chest or tolerate light (photophobia). Symptoms of meningitis usually appear rapidly. Young adults can fall seriously ill in less than 24 hours of infection; older persons may not show typical symptoms but may have a low-grade fever. If infection is not treated promptly, other advanced symptoms that the disease would present may include drowsiness, irritability; confusion, loss of consciousness, shock, and stroke-like symptoms including paralysis.

Relevant government agencies including the Federal Ministry of Health, NEMA, and the National Primary Healthcare Agency (NPHA), should embark on regular mass enlightenment campaigns to educate the general public, particularly rural communities on the outbreak and symptoms of the disease; and to equally educate them on preventive measures such as avoiding over-crowded enclosures, keeping bedrooms properly ventilated especially at night by leaving the windows open. People who notice or present signs and symptoms of the disease should immediately seek medical attention. State health officials of affected areas need to take necessary measures to contain the spread of the disease, while other states should acquire sufficient vaccines and without delay to begin the vaccination of their communities, including public places such as schools, motor parks and marketplaces. Prevention is always better than cure.

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Akunyili: Heroine or feeding finger biting villain?

Any well meaning Nigerian that has followed Professor Dora Akunyili's more recent utterances must be asking this question. Is she a heroine of democracy, or just a typical Nigerian opportunist that has bitten the finger of the hand she has fed from? From the beginning of last week, I have had worries that the Yoruba adage that "when you hear the talking drum at its loudest, watch it, it is waiting to burst", would be true of Akunyili and that we would soon see her, foot in mouth. Look at the oddity. Here is a Minister and chief spokesman of a regime, who chickened out of a conspiracy with her colleagues to keep a seemingly unfit President in office, and became whistle blower through her controversial stood down memo; got robbed by the National Assembly, of the glory of being the patriot whose rare righteous indignation brought down the house of Yar'adua! In a bizarre newspaper interview, she labels some of her colleagues belonging to "a cabal". Here is a frontline functionary, who took a position against the PDP family, and while being woman in the collective, offered not a drop of the milk of human kindness to her ailing mentor.

The House of Representatives and the Governors succinctly put it to Acting President Jonathan that this volte face ideologue had gone too far, and that if not checked, Dora would spoil her "nkpokiti" with too high jumping. (She is not from Umunze, is she?) It was bound to happen to any government functionary as verbose as Dora Akunyili. Now she has earned a first yellow card. And some questions beg for answers. Was her thinking hitherto tethered to a principal puppeteer? Has the puppeteer withdrawn

Timawus Mathias

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his hand for fear that we have come close to discovering the real identity? Does this explain her tardiness having been left on

system does not tolerate loose canons firing indiscriminately, especially when the fiasco is in-house. In the end, Jonathan would need to protect and execute the Yar'adua mandate for the remaining two years, secure a rapprochement with all factions in the government and the PDP. In doing this, he may not need the controversy personified by Akunyili due to her utter-

In a bizarre newspaper interview, she labels some of her colleagues belonging to "a cabal". Here is a frontline functionary, who took a position against the PDP family, and while being woman in the collective, offered not a drop of the milk of human kindness to her ailing mentor

her own?

Reputation is attained by the evolution of thought, which transforms to action, and repeated action begets character. In the current political dispensation, it seems to me that Dora's character has given her a reputation that would do Jonathan little good no matter how much luck he is assured of. While Jonathan was facing his challenges calmly and giving due deference and respects to ailing President Yar'adua, Dora appears to want to be marked as the leading patriot, some commander of the loyal, and succeeding to make it look like Jonathan needed her as agent provocateur, prop and defending shield.. The political

ances. In fact she is less tolerable than erstwhile Attorney General Michael Aondoakaa, who only professionally defended constitutional statutes in relation to his master, Yar'adua! Therefore it should not come as a surprise to anyone, seeing Dora as the first casualty in an inevitable purge very soon. Those who derive their fame riding the back of a tiger all too often wind up in the tiger's stomach.

Now Acting President Goodluck Jonathan - what a way to build muscle power. There is significance in the establishment of a Presidential Advisory Council inaugurated last week, especially when viewed against the bold home truth in Chairman TY Danjuma's first advice to Acting President Jonathan. *Abonta* TY Danjuma urged that within the limited time available, the Acting President should take extra-ordinary measures and act aggressively, in order to sustain the prevailing goodwill. With such mettle behind Jonathan, he should be able to distinguish himself as a change agent in these dire times. All the members of the Presidential Advisory Council have in one way or the other paid their dues to Nigeria.

Jonathan can be reassured he has protection from forces of yesterday. It is doubtful that anything would be left for former President Olusegun Obasanjo to advice upon. There is no member on the council with whom his ideas rhyme. Of a truth, God loves Nigeria.

Now Acting President Goodluck Jonathan - what a way to build muscle power. There is significance in the establishment of a Presidential Advisory Council inaugurated last week, especially when viewed against the bold home truth in Chairman TY Danjuma's first advice to Acting President Jonathan. *Abonta* TY Danjuma urged that within the limited time available



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INTERNATIONAL



TOGO riot police disperse supporters of opposition leader Jean-Pierre Fabre in Lome.

Togo opposition attacked with water cannon

RIOT police used a water cannon and tear gas to attack the headquarters of the main opposition party yesterday as its leaders huddled inside following a disputed presidential election, police and opposition leaders said.

Earlier security forces had blocked leading opposition candidate Jean-Pierre Fabre from reaching a demonstration he had planned to lead in the fourth day of rising tension since the son of the country's former dictator was declared winner of the presidential vote.

Hundreds of protesters had gathered on one side of the boulevard in a downtrodden neighbourhood to wait for Fabre. He had vowed to lead a protest every day demanding a review of the results of last week's election that handed victory once more to the same family that has ruled Togo for the past 43 years.

Fabre said his car was pelted with tear gas grenades as he approached a column of anti-riot police that blocked his path with fiberglass shields.

On the other side of the column, his supporters clashed with police throwing rocks and setting a car on fire. Huge orange flames licked out of its sides. Shortly after when he had returned to the party's headquarters, police surrounded the headquarters and attacked with a water cannon and tear gas.

Abalo Issah, spokesman for a special election commando unit, said the police took the measures because the opposition was intent on going ahead with a march that the government had banned. He denied that security forces had come to destroy evidence of alleged election rigging.

Fabre claimed that security forces on Tuesday burst into the

office where the party was compiling election results and preparing evidence to back up its allegations the vote was rigged. The country's constitutional court is due to review the results later this week. "We were ahead in the polls.

It's for this reason that they went and seized our proof ... because they know very well that the results they proclaimed were fraudulent," Fabre said. Eric Dupuy, an opposition spokesman, said that 12 supporters were arrested.

Saturday's provisional results showed Fabre lost to incumbent President Faure Gnassingbe, who won 60.9 percent of the vote. Thursday's election was only the second since the death of Gnassingbe's father, who seized power in a 1967 coup and ruled the country for 38 years only for his son to grab control upon the father's death in 2005.

South Sudan defends independence referendum

SOUTHERN Sudan's leader said yesterday that a 2011 referendum on his oil-rich region's independence is more important to his people than Sudan's upcoming national election.

The southern Sudanese consider the referendum a major political achievement in a 2005 peace deal that ended a 20-year north-south war and will defend it at any cost, said Salva Kiir, the president of Southern Sudan.

"The people of Southern Sudan even attach more importance to the referendum than the elections," Kiir told leaders of Sudan's neighbors and others who are meeting to review the progress in implementing the north-south deal.

The seven-nation Intergovernmental Authority on Development, or IGAD, mediated that peace

deal but had not put Sudan on its agenda for five years until yesterday.

"For (southerners), the right of self-determination is one their biggest political achievements in the CPA and they will defend it at any cost," Kiir said.

The referendum, which is part of the peace deal that is formally called the Comprehensive Peace Agreement or CPA, has been a source of tension between north and south Sudan even though both parties are supposed to work to make unity attractive.

"While we reaffirm our unequivocal commitment to respect the choice of the people of Southern Sudan, we clearly state that our vision and hope (is) that unity of Sudan will be the free choice and outcome of the referendum," said Ali Osman Taha, Sudan's second vice president.

Somali insurgent leader shot dead in Mogadishu

GUNMEN yesterday killed a Somali Islamist military leader critical of his group's recent merger with the Al Qaeda-inspired Shebab movement, officials and witnesses said.

Bare Ali Bare was a senior military leader for the Ras Kamboni group but had made no secret of his opposition to a decision by his leader, Sheikh Hassan al-Turki, last month to join Shebab, who control most of the country.

He was killed in a Mogadishu market. "Armed militiamen shot the commander dead in Bakara market and we are still investigating who the assailants are," senior insurgent leader Sheikh Mohamed Adan told AFP. "He was a senior member in our group and we are very concerned about his killing, it is a blow to us," he added.

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APPRECIATION

The Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Il Ibrahim, on behalf of officers, ratings, civilian staff of the Nigerian Navy and the families of our deceased personnel, wish to extend our profound gratitude and deep appreciation for the outpouring of sympathy, support and words of encouragement during our moment of grief when we lost 4 of our personnel in a helicopter crash on 16 January 2010.

We are deeply touched and indeed very grateful to our political leaders, royal fathers, colleagues, captains of industries and individuals for their warm support and prayers for our departed colleagues who died in the course of national service. Time and space will not allow me to mention everyone. However, I want to most respectfully express our profound appreciation to the President C- in- C, Umaru Musa Yar'Adua who, from his sick bed in Saudi Arabia sent words of encouragement, Acting President, Dr Goodluck Jonathan, the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, former Presidents and Heads of State, State Governors, Chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Defence and Navy as well as other members of the National and State Assemblies, Secretary to the Government of the Federation, National Security Adviser and other members of the Federal Executive Council. We deeply appreciate the visits and messages of sympathy from the French and US Ambassadors, the Indian High Commissioner in Nigeria and other members of the Diplomatic Corps.

We were also deeply touched by the fatherly and brotherly support and sympathies of the Honourable Minister of Defence and Minister of State for Defence, Chief of Defence Staff, Chief of Army Staff, Chief of the Air Staff, Inspector General of Police and heads of other security agencies. The former Chiefs of General and Naval Staff as well as retired and serving officers of the Nigerian Armed Forces were exceptionally supportive, for which we are highly obliged.

Our friends in the corporate world, Captains of Industry and other distinguished personalities too numerous to mention have been enormously supportive.

We feel deep pains at the loss of these fine, young and very promising colleagues whose untimely death is truly a great loss not only to their families and the Nigerian Navy but indeed to the nation

We are however consoled and encouraged by the kind words of support, encouragement and the overwhelming show of sympathy from many Nigerians which has inspired and further strengthen our resolve to rededicate ourselves to national service with total commitment.

We truly lack adequate words to express our deep feelings and profound appreciation for your sympathy. May the Almighty God reward you all abundantly.

Once more thanks a lot.

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International



HAITIAN president Rene Preval welcoming Canadian Governor General Michaëlle Jean (R) in Port-au-Prince.

Haiti's president heads to Washington to talk aid

HAITIAN President Rene Preval is heading to the US to discuss what is needed to rebuild his shattered country.

Preval says he plans to personally thank President Barack Obama today for the private and public US aid that flooded into the country after the January 12 earthquake that killed an estimated 230,000 people.

The Haitian president told reporters

before leaving yesterday that he also hopes to discuss what next steps are needed for reconstruction.

He says Haiti needs help with job creation and less donated food, which can undermine local producers. Preval's trip includes meetings with Secretary of State Clinton, Attorney General Eric Holder and the head of USAID.

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EXTENSION OF DATELINE FOR COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION OF TENDER FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS, SERVICES AND WORKS UNDER THE FGN 2010 BUDGET PROPOSAL

The Management of (PHCN) Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company hereby inform the General Public, interested and reputable Manufacturers, Manufacturers Representatives, and competent Suppliers and Contractors that the dateline for collection and submission of bidding and tender documents FOR 2010 Budget proposal has been extended by two weeks from March 05, 2010. Interested bidders are advised to pick up the Tender documents from the procurement department after payment, in bank draft, of a non refundable processing fee of Thirty Thousand Naira only to Kaduna Electricity Distribution Company. Bidders are also advised to check for details on eligibility and other conditions in the Daily Trust and Federal Tenders Journal of Monday January 11, and the Punch of Tuesday January 12, 2010.

The new closing date is now 5pm Friday, March 19, 2010. Bids will be opened on Tuesday March 23, 2010 at 1pm at the conference hall, 6th floor, Nagwamatse House, Ahmadu Bello way, Kaduna.

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INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION TO TENDER

Federal Capital Territory Judicial Service Committee, Abuja wishes to pre-qualify competent contractors and other service providers who wish to tender for contracts for supply of goods and services in the 2010.

Interested persons are hereby invited to submit their documents for screening and further necessary action.

The Committee will require the following goods and services

(1) SUPPLY OF OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENTS

- a. Supply of Furniture
- b. Supply of Office Equipments such as: Fax Machines, Electric Typewriters (IBM), Shredding Machine, Safes, Fire Proof Cabinets, Adding Machines, Air-conditioners, Refrigerators, Standing Fans, Ceiling Fans, Steel Filing Cabinet, Photocopier Machine, Television Sets, TV Stands, Wall Clocks, Rubbish bins, Stabilizers, UPS.

(2) SUPPLY OF COMPUTERS, COMPUTER ACCESSORIES, NETWORKING AND COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENTS

- a. Supply of Desktop and Laptops Computers
- b. DeskJet and LaserJet Printers
- c. Provision of V-sat/Networking and Provision of Internet Facilities.
- e. Supply of Projectors and related Equipments

(3) PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- a). Information Technology
- b). Finance
- c). Office Management & Administration.
- d). Staff Training
- (4). Rehabilitation of office /Library & Residential buildings.
- (5). Sinking of New and Rehabilitation of existing Boreholes
- (6). Supply of Power Generating Plants/Installation and Generator Spare Parts
- (7). Supply of library Books, Equipments and Periodicals
- (8). Printing of J.S.C Forms, Non-Security and other Documents

(9) MAINTENANCE SERVICES

- a. Facility Management of offices
- b. Maintenance of Office Equipment
- c. Maintenance of Office Furniture
- d. Maintenance of Vehicles
- e. Maintenance of Vehicles
- f. Maintenance of Generators and Plants

(10) Supply of Stationeries

(11) SUPPLY OF OTHER OFFICE MATERIALS

- a. Supply of Sporting Equipments
- b. Supply of Sanitation Equipments
- c. Supply of Security Equipments
- d. Supply of Dinner Sets, Tea Sets, Kettles, Cutlery Sets etc.

(12) . SUPPLY OF UNIFORMS

- Supply of Uniforms for Drivers, Security-men, Craftsmen, Artisans.

(13). Supply of Drugs and Medical Equipments

(14) Construction of An Archives warehouse & Store.

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT

Prospective Contractors shall be required to possess the following Pre-qualification documents:

- (a). Valid Certificate of Incorporation/ Registration
- (b). Current Tax Clearance Certificate
- (c). Value Added Tax Registration Certificate
- (d). Three Years Company Audited Accounts (Companies with annual Turn-over of less than Two Hundred Million Naira (N200,000,000.00) need NOT to apply)
- (e). Company Profile with Curriculum Vitae of Directors
- (f). Details of Equipments and Plants
- (g). Bank Reference Letter
- (h).. Evidence of execution of similar contract with the FCT-JSC or any other establishment (Letter or Certificate of Successful Completion must be attached)

SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Pre-qualification documents should be enclosed in sealed envelopes marked "2010 PRE-QUALIFICATION" and must be returned to the Tenders Board Secretariat, FCT-JSC, Abuja, within two (2) weeks from the date this publication, addressed to

The Secretary,
FCT-Judicial Service Committee,
P.M.B. 713,
Gudu District, Apo- Abuja, FCT.

PLEASE NOTE:

- (a). All documents submitted will be subject to verification by the Committee from relevant Agencies like CAC, FIRS etc
- (b). Late submissions will be rejected.
- (c). This advertisement for "Pre-qualification to tender" shall not be construed to be a commitment on the part of the FCT-JSC, Abuja nor shall it entitle any person to make any claims and or seek indemnity from the Committee by virtue of such person having responded to this advert and the FCT-JSC shall not enter into any correspondence with unsuccessful applicants.
- (d). Applicants must be specific in their area specialization and interest.

SIGNED:
MANAGEMENT
FCT - JSC, ABUJA



FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

Honourable Minister of Interior

2nd Floor, Block F, Federal Secretariat, Area 1, P.M.B. 7007, Garki, Abuja.

PLEASE STOP THESE LIES: THEY DO NOT HELP ANYBODY, CERTAINLY NOT THE COUNTRY

Our attention has been drawn to a front page publication in the Guardian of Saturday March 6, 2010 with a warped caption "**Maintain Status Quo: Twelve Ministers write Jonathan**" deliberately fabricated by one Muyiwa Adeyemi, clearly aimed at whipping up sentiments against the Ministers whom the writer deviously said referred to themselves as '12 wise men'.

Perhaps, as intended by the author and his cohorts, in a calculated move to further heat up the polity, the publication has already generated a series of unnecessary debates and comments on some television channels, thereby casting aspersions on our persons and giving the erroneous impression that we are on a different mission from that which we were appointed to serve: the interest of Nigeria and its people.

Among other things, the writer accused the Ministers of writing a strongly worded memorandum to the Acting President and to the Federal Executive Council to maintain the status quo, not to dissolve the cabinet and not to tamper with the Service Chiefs.

The false write-up also alleged that the Ministers kicked against the constitution of the recently inaugurated Presidential Advisory Council and warned the Acting President that he should not regard his tenure as a new Government.

As law-abiding and patriotic Nigerians who have distinguished ourselves in our chosen careers and been found worthy to serve Nigeria at this very critical point in our history, we are mindful of the potential confusion these barefaced lies are capable of generating and the potential harm they could do to the polity. Although we are sure that the bouquet of LIES will not stand the test of time, as only the truth can serve this country and its people, we are compelled to put the record straight, so that right thinking and honest Nigerians are not fed with falsehood by a band of dishonest and self-seeking elements, who are out to destabilize the country for their narrow political interests.

We hereby state categorically that the Ministers, whose names were listed by the newspaper in question did not

write any letter or memo to the Acting President as alleged by the Guardian. We also state on honour that we have not submitted any proposal to the Acting President on how he should run this Administration. As Ministers of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, we owe complete and unalloyed loyalty, respect and support to the Acting President, in line with our oath of allegiance and oath of office.

We hereby challenge Muyiwa Adeyemi, his sponsors and the Guardian to urgently publish the said letter which the "12 Wise Men" purportedly wrote to the Acting President as well as this rejoinder and give them the same prominence that they gave to their false report. By this token we also expect the other media that based their comments on the falsehood created by the Guardian to be honourable enough to publicize this our reaction.

It is unfortunate that the Guardian Newspaper that prides itself as the 'Flagship of Nigerian Journalism' can condescend to a ludicrous level of churning out outright falsehood to feed undiscerning readers.

We demand nothing short of an unreserved public apology from the Guardian for this deliberate attempt to malign us.

It is also regrettable to note the low level to which journalism has been sunk by not only the Muiywas of this world but also the subsequent comments in the newspapers, radio and television while no effort was made by any of them to contact us to confirm the authenticity or otherwise of the report. The norms and ethics of journalism must be upheld at all times. GOD BLESS NIGERIA.

DR. SHETTIMA MUSTAFA, CON

HON. MINISTER OF INTERIOR

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE MALIGNED MINISTERS

BUSINESS

0805 1000 536



FROM Left: Director-General of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE), Prof. Ndi Okereke-Onyiuke, Director-General of Securities and Exchange Commission Arunma Oteh and former Minister of Industry, Mrs Nike Akande, at a dinner in Lagos weekend.

'FG may suspend NITEL sale'

• Bolanle is BPE's acting head

By Jibrin Abubakar

STRONG indications emerged yesterday that the Federal Government may suspend the sale of Nigerian Telecommunication Limited, (NITEL) to the New Generation Consortium.

National Council on Privatisation (NCP) is meeting later in the week to make this position known, a source said. This is coming as Acting President Goodluck Jonathan asked the Director General of Bureau of Public Enterprises Christopher Anyanwu to proceed on an indefinite suspension.

New Generation Consortium was declared winner of the bid by the NCP after bidding \$2.5 billion for 75 percent stake in Abuja on February 16. The reserve bidder is Omen International Consortium which offered \$956.9 million.

Sources said the Federal Government has since discovered flaws and that the Bureau of Public Enterprises failed in its duty to carry out a satisfactory due diligence on the preferred bidders—the New Generation Consortium. The source said the government is studying the recommendations of the inter-ministerial technical committee that NITEL be repositioned for two years before selling it.

The source said the National Council on Privatisation (NCP), chaired by the Acting

President Goodluck Jonathan, is aggrieved over the controversy that rocked the sale of NITEL to the consortium.

Some of the partners of the New Generation Consortium had come out to say they were not part of the deal. But the BPE said there was no cause for alarm.

Contrary to the reports that the acting president's tight schedule was responsible for the delay in sealing the transaction, sources said acting President Jonathan has lost confidence in the BPE boss.

The letter of offer is yet to be received by New Generation Consortium, three weeks after the financial bid opening, whereas the Privatisation Act stipulates seven working days for the issuance of offer letter to preferred bidders.

According to the guidelines, the New Generation Consortium is expected to pay 30 percent of the bid price within 10 days of the NCP approval and subsequently pay the rest of the 70 percent.

Meanwhile, the Federal Government has asked the most senior director in BPE Ms Bolanle Onagorua to act as the head of the agency, BPE's spokesman Chigbo Anichebe confirmed to *Daily Trust* yesterday. The new head, who is a lawyer by training, is the most senior director in charge of the electric power sector of the agency. But the spokesman could not confirm the reason why

his boss was relieved of his duty. He however said: "I am also in the dark. I don't know the reason why he was suspended. I will be speculating if I say it is in connection with NITEL sale."

Asked whether his suspension will affect NITEL sale to the new consortium, he simply said: "It may not affect it."

Meanwhile, President Senior Staff Association of Communications, Transport and Corporation (SSAC-TAC) NITEL branch, Comrade E.Y. Kazzah had told *Daily Trust* that NITEL is not ripe for sale.

Dr. Christopher Anyanwu, who until now was a little known law teacher in the University of Nigeria Nsukka, was appointed by President Umaru Musa Yar'adua on the March 10, 2009 to head the nation's privatisation agency.

Mr. Anyanwu has had a running battle with the members of the National Assembly over what they described as his inability to run the BPE. The House of Representatives Committee on Privatisation and Commercialization had accused the BPE boss of fraud running to N12.9bn in the sale of Sky Power Aviation Handling Company Limited (SAHCOL). Mr. Anyanwu denied any wrong doing.

'Don't stop NITEL sale'

By Yunus Abdulhamid & Francis Okeke

A cross section of staff of the Nigeria Telecommunication Limited (NITEL) yesterday reacted with mixed feeling to the suspension of the Director General of the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE), Dr Christopher Anyanwu by the federal government. They wondered why the federal government went ahead to give an indefinite suspension to him when NITEL was on the verge of being privatised under his tutelage.

President of National Union of Post and Telecommunication Employees, Sunday Alhasan urged the federal government to do all it can to conclude the NITEL privatisation process to avoid further decay of the firm.

Hajia Zainab Ilyasu is the acting Chief Executive of NITEL. She told *Daily Trust* in a telephone interview yesterday that she was optimistic the removal of the BPE boss would not affect the current effort to sell of 75% stake of NITEL to investors. "The National Council on Privatisation (NCP) had already approved of the transaction. I do not expect the DG's removal to affect the process because the exercise was transparent," she said.

Yet another staff of the moribund company, Mr Abdullahi el-Amin said it was curious that the federal government did not offer any reason as to why Christopher Anyanwu was suspended, saying "if it would affect the NITEL transaction, we are definitely going to be angry. He said they needed their over 20 months salaries paid soon without delays.

Daily Trust gathered that an NCP meeting has been scheduled for this Friday where the NITEL transaction would be considered. With the indefinite suspension of the BPE boss, it is unclear if that is likely to take place.

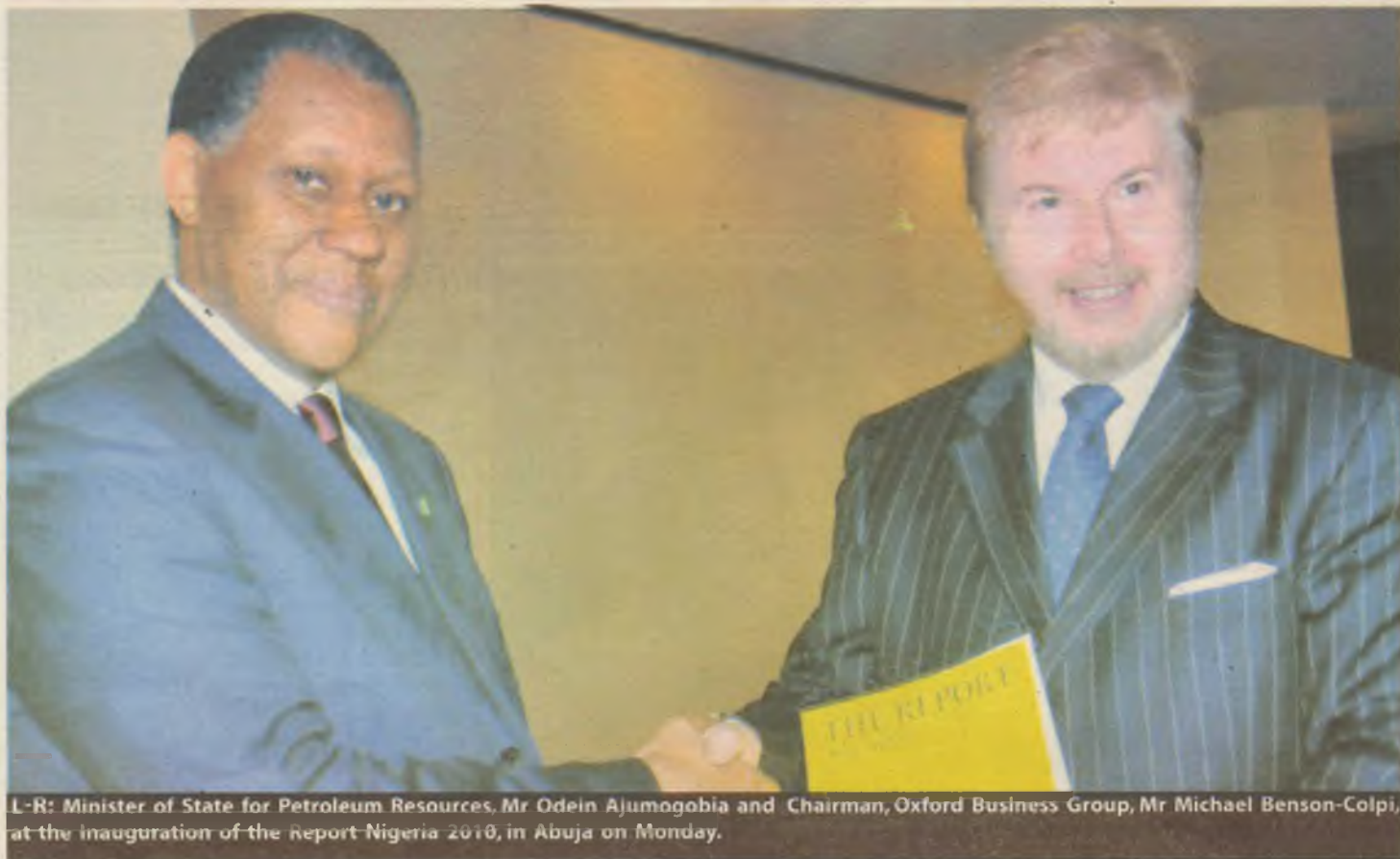
Trust Index

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Inflation | → | 12.3% |
| GDP | → | 6.90% |
| Budget | → | N3.1tr |
| External Reserves Acct | → | \$41.5bn |
| Excess Crude Acct | → | \$4.2bn |
| Poverty Ratio | → | 54.4% |
| Monetary Policy Rate | → | 6% |
| Banks | → | 24 |
| Oil Price | → | \$79 a barrel |
| Power Supply | → | 2, 200MW |
| Oil output per day | → | 2.5mbd |
| Broad Money Supply | → | N10,796,734.5m |
| Credit to Private Sector | → | N10,018,035.3m |
| Inter-Bank Rate | → | 1.1600% |
| Treasury Bills | → | 2.02% |
| Deposit Rate | → | 12.28% |
| Prime Lending Rate | → | 18.38% |

| CBN EXCHANGE RATES | | | BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|---|------|--|
| | Buying (NGN) | Central (NGN) | Selling (NGN) | | | |
| CFA | 0.286 | 0.296 | 0.306 | BUYING | | |
| DANISH KRONER | 27.008 | 27.0997 | 27.1914 | DOLLAR..... | N152 | |
| EURO | 201.0782 | 201.7607 | 202.4432 | EURO..... | N205 | |
| POUNDS STERLING | 222.7033 | 223.4592 | 224.2151 | POUNDS..... | N235 | |
| RIYAL | 39.2827 | 39.416 | 39.5493 | SELLING | | |
| SDR | 225.62 | 226.3858 | 227.1516 | DOLLAR..... | N154 | |
| SWISS FRANC | 137.3904 | 137.8568 | 138.3231 | EURO..... | N208 | |
| US DOLLAR | 147.31 | 147.81 | 148.31 | POUNDS..... | N235 | |
| WAUA | 224.7375 | 225.5003 | 226.2631 | Source: S&J Bureau de Change, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja. | | |
| YEN | 1.629 | 1.6346 | 1.6401 | | | |

| Stock Market Index | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Date: | Tuesday, March 9, 2010 |
| Index: | 23,047.31 |
| Deals: | 7,067 |
| Volume: | 534,459,047 |
| Value: | NN 2,685,840,514.48 |
| Cap.: | N 5,550,311,911,196.61 |

Business/Finance



L-R: Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Mr Odein Ajumogobia and Chairman, Oxford Business Group, Mr Michael Benson-Colpi, at the inauguration of the Report Nigeria 2010, in Abuja on Monday.

US firm invests \$3m in Nigeria

By Sunday Williams

MINISTER of Commerce and Industry, Achike Udenwa has lauded Cummins Global Holdings of USA and AGLeventis of Nigeria for investing over \$3 million into the Nigeria's economy.

Speaking when a delegation of Cummins and AG Leventis led by the chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Tim Solso visited him in his office, the Minister said the Marine transportation they are going into was an area that Nigeria is interested in.

He said "I'm sure the dredging of the river Niger will enable you to participate very actively in the development of inland waterways in Nigeria."

Udenwa said he is happy to see the delegation of the largest diesel engine manufacturer of the world's market share in Nigeria in its effort to explore business opportunities in the country.

He commended their joint venture with AG Leventis which he described as a leader in the private sector of Nigeria economy.

He expressed his disappointment over the country's infrastructure especially in the areas of power and transportation and challenged Cummins Holdings to help develop the sectors.

Chairman of Cummins incorporation USA Mr. Tim Solso in his remarks said they were in Nigeria to see the possibility of expanding their joint venture and to inject more capital into their earlier \$3million investment in the country.

He said the company is into mining, oil and gas and presently investing into the Nigeria's marine transportation at the border coastal region.

Skye Bank, Korean bank sign \$15m deal

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

SKYE Bank Plc has entered into a \$15 million credit agreement with the Korean Export-Import Bank.

According to a release signed by the bank's Head of Corporate Affairs, Kayode Akinyemi,

the credit line would be used for interbank export loan, letter of credit confirmation and for guaranteeing purposes for K-Exim's guarantee cover.

It said the credit figure would be increased to \$100 million by the Korean bank if Skye Bank comes up with deals of that size.

Skye Bank, the statement noted, was the first bank to consummate a relationship with the Korean bank and the second to sign a deal with them after Zenith Bank.

The bank said the Korean bank also expressed satisfaction with the turnaround time for

the deals to be signed under the credit agreement.

The Export-Import Bank of Korea (Korea Exim Bank) is an official export credit agency providing comprehensive export credit and guarantee programs to support Korean enterprises in conducting overseas business.

Standard Bank, OFID launch support in Africa

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

STANDARD Bank and the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) have announced the launch of two African development financing initiatives.

The first of the OFID/Standard Bank initiatives is a smallholder Risk Sharing Agreement, which is to work in support of the Agriculture Guarantee Fund Scheme that the Bank launched

in partnership with the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), Kilimo Trust, Millennium Development Agency, Ghana and the Millennium Challenge Account Mozambique (First Loss partners).

AGRA is an African-led partnership working across the continent to help millions of small-scale farmers and their families lift themselves out of poverty. The alliance's Board of Directors

is chaired by Mr. Kofi Annan and it has thus far received support from the Rockefeller Foundation; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; the UK Department of International Development and other donors.

The objective of the smallholder scheme is to make agricultural finance more accessible to smallholder farmers and SME agricultural producers through cooperative mechanisms.

Fidson raises N2bn bond

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

FIDSON Healthcare Plc said it has concluded arrangement to raise additional N2 billion bond in addition to N3.2 billion raised through the Nigeria stock market. It is also negotiating international merger with foreign pharmaceutical firms. According to the company's chief operating officer, Fidelis Ayebae, the N3.5 billion raised in 2008 through private placement has contributed immensely towards achieving expansion plan programme of the company. He said over N1 billion out of the fund went into biotech plant. "I want to say that the

fund has assisted us to grow. For instance, N2 billion of the fund went into building of a seven-floor ultra modern corporate office which will be commission on March 11, N1 billion went into Fidson products, N200 million was spent on World Health Organisation GMP pharmaceutical factory upgrade while N500 million was used as a working capital", he said

Ayebae said the millage the company got on the construction of the office was over N5 billion due to the fact that the project was managed by them adding that there was no case of insider dealings, over invoicing or other unethical business practices.

'Oceanic ready to pay staff who wish to quit'

By Sunday Williams

OCEANIC Bank has said that it is willing to pay staff who wish to withdraw their service. "The Bank's management has made it clear that staff who wish to withdraw their services will be paid their terminal benefits in line with their grade levels and number of years of service," a statement from the bank said.

It also described as illegal activities of a faction of junior staff cadre, mainly drivers and dispatch riders. "It is on record that the new management of Oceanic Bank has been working closely with the local and national executives of NUBIFIE in respect of sundry issues bor-



MD, Oceanic Bank Mr. John Aboh

dering on staff welfare. This has been commended on several occasions by the officials of NUBIFIE, at local and national levels of the union," the statement said.

Don advocates currency reforms

By Yunus Abdulhamid

THE Central Bank of Nigeria has been urged to avail the Nigerian public its statistical information and lead the debate to convince political authorities that currency reform is a preferred policy option for stimulating the national economy. This call was made by Professor Walter Ollor at the 2nd University lecture of Igbinedion University Okada, Benin City.

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- Mal. Ahmad Shehu



ASO SAVINGS & LOANS PLC., ESSAY COMPETITION SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

ASO Savings and Loans Plc., in support of our beliefs and corporate values, are pleased to announce THE ASO COMMUNITYWORKS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS. This is an essay competition designed to encourage students and teachers across the nation to critically reflect on how they contribute to their immediate community. There will be three categories of scholarship awards granted to two pupils, two students and a teacher who consistently excel and play a major role in promoting and motivating their peers and the community. **Here are the details**

SCHOLARSHIP NAME: ASO SAVINGS SECONDARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

- a. Award Amount: N250,000 (x2)
 - b. Number of Awards: Two* awards per year for four (4) years.
 - c. Eligibility
 - i. Primary 4 to 6 pupils (eligible for the common entrance examination)
 - ii. Participants must be in accredited schools registered with the appropriate regulatory bodies e.g. Ministry of Education
 - iii. Must have demonstrated academic excellence in primary school
 - iv. Two letters of recommendation from the Teachers, School Head, Head Masters/Mistresses or Principals of the respective schools
 - v. Must be a Nigerian citizen
 - vi. Parents/Guardians of participants must earn less than N50,000.00 monthly proof of income earned is required
 - vii. Provide a 1000-word essay on the following question: What ideas would you implement to enhance the reading culture in schools to help your classmates (and peers) counter the rising distractions of Cults, the Internet and Videogames?
- *At least one (1) scholarship will be awarded to a female

(Please note that this scholarship will only be awarded when the participant has proof of passing his/her Common Entrance Exams).

SCHOLARSHIP NAME: ASO SAVINGS UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

- a. Award Amount: N300,000 (x 2)
- b. Number of Awards: Two* awards per year for four (4) years
- c. Requirements
 - i. Secondary school students graduating to University from SS2 or SS3
 - ii. Participants must be in accredited schools registered with the appropriate regulatory bodies e.g. Ministry of Education.
 - iii. Must have demonstrated academic excellence in secondary school
 - iv. Two letters of recommendation from Teachers, School Head, Head Masters/Mistresses or Principals of the respective schools
 - v. Must be a Nigerian citizen
 - vi. Parents/Guardians must be earning less than N50,000.00 monthly proof of income earned is required
 - vii. Provide a 3000-word essay on the following: Develop an extra-curricular programme that can effectively engage and encourage University students in Nigeria, to graduate with excellent grades, despite the challenges and distractions they encounter in the University

(Please note that this scholarship will only be awarded when the participants has proof of passing his/her West Africa Senior Secondary Certificate Examination (WASSCE), National Examination Council (NECO) and the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board Examination (JAMB)

AWARD NAME: ASO SAVINGS TEACHING AWARD

- a. Award Amount: N250,000
- b. Number of Awards: One
- c. Requirements
 - i. Primary and Secondary School Teachers
 - ii. Participants must be nominated by either the UBE Director/Coordinator in the participant's region, School Principals or Head Teachers/Masters or Mistresses
 - iii. Two letters of recommendations, ONE from the principal of the respective schools and ONE from a parent or student in the school
 - iv. Must be a Nigerian citizen
 - v. Provide a 2000-word essay on the following question: As a teacher and role model in the community, what impact have you made in the development of the students / pupils in your class and/or children in the community?

SUBMISSION FORMAT/REQUIREMENTS

1. All essays must be typed in a legible font like Arial or Times Roman typed in Microsoft Word.
2. Please attach a separate cover page to each essay with the following information:
 - a. Name (First, Middle, Last)
 - b. Date of Birth (Year, Month, Day)
 - c. Phone number
 - d. Detailed address of School/Institution
 - e. Class/Level of education
 - f. State of origin

** Please note that all entries will be anonymized prior to being submitted for evaluation by the Panel of Judges. It is therefore important that your name and contact information only appear on the separate cover page and not in the body of your submission

** Entries will not be considered if all or part of the essay is illegible or if it is incomplete. ASO does not take any responsibility for late, lost, damaged, incomplete, illegible, postage due or misdirected entries.

- Pages must be numbered consecutively.

2. REFERENCES AND DOCUMENTATION

- a) All valid references from school head teachers, Head Masters/Mistress or Principals
- b) Proof of Income level of Guardians (for students)
- c) Level of Service (for teachers)

d) Nigerian citizens (proof of birth certificate and certificate of indigenization)

3. SUBMISSIONS

Submissions will be accepted electronically or by mail. Please forward submissions to:

CSR@asopl.com Or

Corporate Management Department
ASO Savings & Loans Plc
P.O. Box 332
Abuja

Please note that essays submitted will not be returned

All submissions must be the author's own original, unpublished work. Each submission must provide references to all sources relied upon and must be properly cited. Improper attribution will result in the disqualification of the submission.

4. DEADLINE

In order to be eligible, essay submissions must be received by the: Midnight of March 31st 2010

5. WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT: The winner will be announced by April 30th

6. SELECTION PROCESS:

Eligible essays will be forwarded to a panel of judges selected

and approved by the Corporate Management Department for adjudication the panel will be comprised of select ASO Staff and officials of the Ministry Education.

Entries will be judged according to the following criteria:

- originality of contribution
- articulation / development of Essay
- quality and clarity of prose
- persuasiveness
- style / insight

ASO reserves the right not to award a prize where none of the submissions meet contest standards or criteria. The decision of the Panel of Judges is final.

7. PERSONAL INFORMATION

By entering this contest, you authorize ASO to use the personal information you provide for the purpose of administering the essay competition and announcing the winning essay.

8. WINNERS

Two winners each from the Primary & Secondary categories and one Teacher will be selected for each award. All winners of the essay competition will be published in at least one National daily after all necessary background checks and verifications to confirm legitimacy have been made.

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT :

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PARTNERSHIP (3)

There's an assumption by many partners that no matter what happens to their business, they'll be partners forever. That however, is not always the case. We have looked at five of the seven business partnership killers and how you can avoid them. Let's now look at the other two.

Never expect friendship to outlast the breakup of a partnership:

Don't go into any partnership with a friend expecting to remain friends after a partnership breakup. That is why you must invest your resources and patience to ensure it works.

It may sound great to do business with your friends, but remember, in the business world, it's always business first and friendships second.

Having a 50/50 partnership:

Every business, including partnership, needs a boss. If you decide to go the partnership route, make it a 60/40 or 70/30 split. Then you and the business have a point person for accountability and overall operational control.

The seven business partnership killers can be rephrased into seven "don'ts" in business partnerships:

1. Don't share capital instead of expenses
 2. Don't partner with someone because you can't afford to hire
 3. Don't go into partnership without a written and signed partnership agreement
 4. Don't overlook a limited partnership
 5. Don't lack an exit strategy
 6. Don't expect the friendship to outlast the breakup of the partnership
 7. Don't have a 50/50 partnership
- You might ask, then why partner with others?

Meaningful partnerships are the foundation for success.

Partnerships are what enables many companies make continuous improvements. By Sharing with others, you can direct your resources and capabilities to projects you consider

most important. The 80/20 Principle asserts

That 80% of results come from 20% of effort. To achieve more with less, you must be selective, not exhaustive. In every important sphere, work out where 20% of effort can lead to 80% of returns. Strive for excellence in the few key areas, rather than for good performance in many.

Focus your company's resources on what you do best and what creates sustainable competitive advantage and tap to the resources of others for the rest.

To decide why, when and how to partner with others for complementary resources, weigh the small amount of cost savings that doing non-core-competence tasks might bring against the distraction and investment that will be required to stay up-to-date over time.

Another kind of partnership you may want to look at is **customer partnership**.

The customer is the foundation of your organization's success. In today's turbulent times of rapid and chaotic change, "no force is more grounding and stabilizing than a partnership with customers".

Customer partnership is more than "putting customers first", or finding mutually satisfactory solutions to shared problems, or a dedication to excellence in every sale or service encounter.

It also requires commitment to forging long-term relationships that create synergies of knowledge, security, and adaptability for both parties. Think of the company-client relationship as a partnership rather than two ships passing in the night.

Two good and committed heads are indeed better than one. Partnerships are great it just requires integrity and focus.

Skye High is also on Radio presently:

| RADIO STATIONS | TIME | RADIO STATIONS | TIME |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| • Ray Power Network | 6:15am [Mon - Fri] | • Radio Continental Lagos | 6:35am [Mon - Fri] |
| • Rhythm FM Lagos | 9:00am [Mon - Fri] | • Inspiration FM Lagos | 8:00am [Mon - Fri] |
| • Rhythm FM Abuja | 6:30am [Mon - Fri] | • Edo Broad Svc [EBS] | 7:55am [Mon - Fri] |
| • Love FM Port Harcourt | 8:25am [Mon] & 8:00am [Tue - Fri] | • Coemo FM Enugu | 6:20am [Mon - Fri] |
| • Kiss FM 99.9 Abuja | 6:30am [Mon - Fri] | • Pyramid FM Kano | 6:55am [Mon - Fri] |

E-mail: skyehigh@skyebank.com or SMS 07030000255



Business

Unapproved adverts: APCON queries 10 media houses

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

ADVERTISING Practitioners Investigating Panel (APIP) has summoned six (6) media houses, ten advert agencies and a corporate organisation over the exposure of unapproved advertisements.

APIP is a statutory organ of Advertising Practitioners Council of Nigeria (APCON) charged with the responsibility of investigating professional misconduct in advertising practice in Nigeria.

A statement signed by Charles Obasi of the corporate affairs department said the "organisations were summoned to appear before the panel following reports by Advertising Standards Panel (ASP) bordering on exposure of regulated products prior to approval by APCON."

The statement didn't name the culprits but they are to appear before the panel tomorrow (Thursday) at the APCON secretariat in Lagos.

It noted that if they are

found guilty, they would also be made to face the APCON disciplinary committee which adjudicates on cases brought to it by APIP.

The statement quoted APIP chairman Mr. Kole Ademulegun as saying that any organisation that fails to appear before the panel will face whatever penalty the panel arrives at.

It also noted that ASP would commence visits to media houses and sensitising them on the need to get adverts cleared before publication.

CAC unfolds 4-point agenda

By Sunday Williams

THE new Registrar General of Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) Alhaji Bello Mahmud has unfolded a 4-point agenda to further reposition the Commission.

The 4-point agenda include: Enhanced ICT infrastructure, decentralization of operations, sensitization of the public and development of human resources.

He said his immedi-

ate focus is to enhance the Commission's ICT infrastructure to ensure efficiency of the system and also high level of data integrity.

He said a robust ICT infrastructure will improve network availability and establishment of an effective e-payment system.

He said: "We want a situation where you can access us from your houses or offices and even submit your documents and get your certificates online.

That will make it easier for us and our customers."

He said the Commission will take practical steps to decentralize its operations to make the zonal offices more functional and at par with the head office.

He said they want to empower the zonal offices at strategic geographical locations starting with four centres: Kaduna, Kano and two in Lagos where they can print registration certificates.

N200bn agric loan: 'Conditions are too stringent'

By Tina A. Hassan

CONDITIONS given by banks to farmers to access the N200 billion agricultural loans are too stringent, a group has said.

The African foundation for Agricultural Development (AFADDEV) said out of its 25, 000 members, no one has been able to access the N200 billion loan that the Federal Government claimed it is availing to farmers to boost the sector because they cannot meet the stringent conditions given by the banks.

Speaking to newsmen in Abuja yesterday, International Coordinator of the group Dr. Ugo Shallom

accused the Federal Government of intentionally making it difficult for farmers to access the money by giving them conditions they know they cannot meet.

"If they are saying that they gave loans to local farmers, let them show us one person that has

accessed the loan and we would ask them to tell us where they got it from," he said.

All banks can participate in the disbursement.

One of the conditions is that corporate bodies must have a capital base of N350 million with prospect of growing it to N500 million.

If they are saying that they gave loans to local farmers, let them show us one person that has accessed the loan and we would ask them to tell us where they got it from

Business/Energy

NNPC groans under N387.5bn liabilities, losses – Minister

Stories by Hamisu Muhammad

THE Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) might be heading towards insolvency unless a complete transformation process of the corporation is taken to address the problem, the Minister of the Petroleum Resources Dr Rilwanu Lukman has warned.

Lukman who raised the red flag over the company's finances warned that unless the NNPC remained a viable company, the Federal Government's oil and gas industry reforms were in danger of failing even before they start.

"Corporation is currently running at a loss of more than N200bn, with contingent liabilities of more than N146bn and \$277 million (N41.5 billion), respectively," Lukman told the 'Transformation Town Hall Meeting' of the NNPC in Abuja.

He called for urgent transformation of the Corporation to save it from going under, pointing out that the first phase would require the stabilization of the company's financials and operations.

"Without NNPC's transformation, the vision and aspiration behind the Petroleum Industry

Bill (PIB) will remain theoretical. NNPC is the delivery engine for the execution of the PIB when passed into law and the NNPC transformation programme lies at the heart of the energy sector reform," he added.

At the event also, the Group Managing Director of the NNPC Dr Mohammed Sanusi Barkindo presented a 12-point agenda to the forum, which outlined a number of reasons why the transformation of the corporation has become imperative.

The Corporation's performance had been impeded by a motley of extraneous factors, chief among

which was the insurgency in the oil-producing Niger Delta where militants say they are fighting for larger control of oil resources.

"For instance in 2009, capacity utilization of the refineries was 13 percent. This was compounded by actual pms yield of 18 percent which was below the planned 30 percent," Barkindo said.

"The main cause of the downturn is lack of crude supply leading to a loss of N25billion by the refineries. As a result of the downturn we have increased imports of fuel from 50 percent of demand

to 100 percent at a cost of N800billion."

In addition he stated that NNPC performance was not helped by the plethora of externally imposed obligations.

"We have 172 contingent liability cases with total value of N188billion naira as at January 2010. In 2008 alone N7.7billion was spent on legal costs while N7billion was spent on demurrage as a result of Customs and clearance delays."

The huge losses were exacerbated by reduced oil and gas revenue potential and this in turn led to potential project deferrals.

NNPC, Shell trade blames as power supply worsens

POWER supply in Nigeria is set to worsen in the weeks ahead as the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) squabble over whose job it is to clear condensate sediments that are blocking gas supply to the country's power generation plants.

SPDC had recently cut off gas supplies from its Utarugu and Oben gas plants saying the NNPC had failed to evacuate condensate deposits in the pipelines that transport dry gas to different power plants in the country.

But the NNPC fired a sharp riposte to the Anglo-Dutch oil giant, saying it was not its job to clear pipelines for the Shell.

With the recent resumption of refining at the NNPC's Warri Refinery and Petrochemical Company (WRPC), the Corporation's Group Managing Director, Mohammed Sanusi Barkindo says "we can't afford to shut down production just to evacuate condensate for SPDC."

He said it was not the NNPC's responsibility to continuously evacuate condensate for oil majors that produce it and only use its pipelines to transport it to the power plants.

SPDC had severally accused the NNPC of failing to evacuate condensate in the refinery as a reason behind their inability to supply gas to the nation's power stations, leading to massive drop in Nigeria's power generation in recent times.

Condensate also called lease condensate is a liquid hydrocarbon separated during gas production to get dry gas for power production.

SPDC is the largest fossil fuel company in the country with more than 1000 producing wells and 6000km of pipeline and flowlines network but in May last year the Company's gas pipeline was attacked by insurgents in the oil-producing Niger Delta.



GAS pipeline

Police powerless against pipeline vandals - Onovo

NIGERIA'S 21 fuel depots remain empty shells while the police continue to wing their hands helplessly, citing poor logistics and inadequate manpower as reasons for their failure to rise up to the challenge of protecting the country's pipeline network.

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) estimates that that the country has lost over N175 billion to broken pipelines between 2000 and 2009 following a total 15,685 breaks in the fuel pipeline network.

An official of the NNPC, Bello Rabi, who visited the Inspector General of Police, Mr Ogbonna Onovo recently to solicit the support of the police in dealing with the menace said rampant vandalism of the oil storage system has

now rendered most of the fuel depots useless.

Nigeria has over 5000 km of pipeline network that transport petroleum products to 21 depots in different parts of the country.

Rabi told IGP Onovo that Nigerians would not have to pay the current high rates for petrol if the depots had been functional.

Due to the damages to the pipeline network, supply of fuel from jetties in Lagos to different parts of the country is now done almost exclusively through 'bridging' or road haulage in fuel tankers, a process that costs the government billion of Naira in subsidies.

IGP Onovo said the Nigerian Police was ready to assist in protecting the pipelines but explained

that his men were seriously challenged in terms of logistics and equipment to fight the pipeline vandals.

"Truly, security is capital intensive, but I want assure you we can do it. The police are the most visible arm of government and we have the widest reach in this country," IGP Onovo said but added that unless the police were properly equipped, they could not do much.

Members of the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN) are disturbed by the high risks and cost involved in transporting fuel from the coastline southern states to the far north.

IPMAN President, Aminu Abdulkadir said they have no

option then to sell above the benchmark price of N65 for a litre of petrol due to high transportation cost incurred by his members.

Depots in Yola, Jos, Minna, Kano, Gusau, Aba, Maiduguri and Makurdi are now, quite literally, empty shells as a result of long period of lack of use, thanks to broken pipelines.

Other depots in this category include those in Enugu, Auchi, Benin, Suleja, Ore, Atlas Cove, Mosimi, Isiala-Ngwa, Ibadan, Satellite, and Ilorin.

Investigations at the depots show that they have since shut down and the usual scrum of tanker drivers, hawkers and auxiliary businesses have all disappeared.

Business/Finance



Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE)

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

| COMPANY Name | No of Deals | Quot. (N) | Quantity Traded | Value of Shares (N) |
|--|-------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 2ND-TIER SECURITIES | | | | |
| CAPITAL OIL PLC | 6 | 0.50 | 191,000 | 95,500.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 6 | | 191,000 | 95,500.00 |
| AGRICULTURE | | | | |
| FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC | 35 | 0.94 | 2,840,014 | 2,725,400.48 |
| LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC | 11 | 0.66 | 50,615 | 33,267.45 |
| PRESCO PLC | 10 | 5.32 | 528,200 | 2,810,024.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 56 | | 3,418,829 | 5,568,691.93 |
| AIR SERVICES | | | | |
| AIRLINE SERV. & LOGISTICS PLC | 10 | 2.37 | 898,950 | 2,129,391.50 |
| NIGERIAN AVIATION HANDLING COY. PLC | 81 | 8.59 | 490,236 | 4,222,769.44 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 91 | | 1,389,186 | 6,352,160.94 |
| AUTOMOBILE & TYRE | | | | |
| DNTYRE & RUBBER PLC | 6 | 0.50 | 58,710 | 29,355.00 |
| INCARN NIGERIA PLC | 2 | 1.97 | 4,020 | 7,557.60 |
| R.T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC | 47 | 5.45 | 748,082 | 4,079,540.47 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 55 | | 810,812 | 4,116,453.07 |
| BANKING | | | | |
| ACCESS BANK PLC | 214 | 9.71 | 8,129,184 | 78,264,330.94 |
| AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC | 99 | 2.30 | 5,900,433 | 13,174,733.35 |
| DIAMOND BANK PLC | 161 | 8.75 | 17,222,848 | 150,236,559.17 |
| ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC | 81 | 5.40 | 2,118,666 | 11,682,385.82 |
| FIRST CITY MONUMENT BANK PLC | 95 | 9.37 | 4,710,621 | 43,321,649.39 |
| FIDELITY BANK PLC | 132 | 2.63 | 21,360,595 | 55,511,098.35 |
| FIRST BANK OF NIGERIA PLC | 971 | 14.68 | 18,710,984 | 274,617,984.94 |
| FINBANK PLC | 62 | 0.66 | 11,216,502 | 7,410,145.72 |
| GT BANK PLC | 429 | 18.25 | 9,356,383 | 170,491,588.07 |
| STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC | 71 | 9.00 | 5,023,543 | 44,034,172.01 |
| INTERCONTINENTAL BANK PLC | 94 | 2.05 | 3,704,556 | 7,407,575.02 |
| OCEANIC BANK INTERNATIONAL PLC | 117 | 1.96 | 6,779,662 | 13,289,197.67 |
| BANK PHB PLC | 73 | 1.63 | 4,050,807 | 6,837,849.20 |
| SKYE BANK PLC | 296 | 7.00 | 10,643,473 | 74,759,374.26 |
| SPRING BANK PLC | 17 | 1.01 | 565,342 | 556,824.63 |
| STERLING BANK PLC | 44 | 1.93 | 1,270,393 | 2,406,657.18 |
| UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC | 308 | 13.50 | 15,285,794 | 205,036,355.97 |
| UNION BANK OF NIGERIA PLC | 142 | 5.63 | 3,413,950 | 19,169,070.95 |
| UNITY BANK PLC | 27 | 1.03 | 804,456 | 832,368.75 |
| WEMA BANK PLC | 43 | 1.12 | 1,374,301 | 1,552,336.57 |
| ZENITH BANK PLC | 338 | 15.86 | 30,251,256 | 479,866,815.21 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 3,814 | | 181,893,749 | 1,660,459,073.17 |
| BUILDING MATERIALS | | | | |
| ASHAKA CEMENT PLC | 59 | 15.90 | 388,253 | 6,146,847.15 |
| BENUE CEMENT COMPANY PLC | 58 | 50.80 | 771,033 | 38,739,623.23 |
| CEMENT CO. OF NORTHERN NIG. PLC | 30 | 16.50 | 161,456 | 2,653,282.93 |
| LAFARGE WAPCO PLC | 14 | 33.25 | 672,076 | 22,346,527.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 161 | | 1,992,818 | 69,886,280.31 |
| CHEMICAL & PAINTS | | | | |
| BERGER PAINTS NIGERIA PLC | 8 | 4.06 | 66,543 | 283,473.18 |
| CHEMICAL & ALLIED PRODUCTS PLC | 5 | 28.26 | 2,600 | 73,116.00 |
| DN MEYER PLC | 6 | 2.95 | 17,943 | 53,473.30 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 19 | | 87,086 | 410,062.48 |
| COMMERCIAL SERVICES | | | | |
| AFROMEDIA PLC | 1 | 0.51 | 1,000 | 530.00 |
| COURTVILLE INVESTMENTS PLC | 1 | 0.50 | 40,000 | 20,000.00 |
| RED STAR EXPRESS PLC | 6 | 2.61 | 10,229 | 26,363.95 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 8 | | 51,229 | 46,893.95 |
| COMPUTER & OFFICE EQUIPMENT | | | | |
| OMATEK VENTURES PLC | 32 | 0.55 | 5,510,508 | 2,916,338.56 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 32 | | 5,510,508 | 2,916,338.56 |
| CONGLOMERATES | | | | |
| A.G. LEWIS NIGERIA PLC | 9 | 3.00 | 177,590 | 534,996.50 |
| JOHN HOLT PLC | 3 | 9.28 | 5,500 | 48,510.00 |
| PZ CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC | 48 | 25.90 | 718,663 | 18,554,179.70 |
| SCOA NIGERIA PLC | 1 | 8.71 | 100 | 828.00 |
| TRANSNATIONAL CORP. OF NIG. PLC | 66 | 0.57 | 16,679,491 | 9,167,391.65 |
| UAC OF NIGERIA PLC | 85 | 46.00 | 1,499,933 | 68,113,752.99 |
| UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC | 79 | 25.01 | 1,539,679 | 38,569,463.51 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 291 | | 20,620,956 | 134,989,122.35 |
| CONSTRUCTION | | | | |
| COSTAIN (WA) PLC | 46 | 5.13 | 469,998 | 2,418,001.42 |
| JULIUS BERGER NIGERIA PLC | 22 | 27.95 | 262,523 | 7,077,528.70 |
| MULTIVERSE RESOURCES PLC | 5 | 0.50 | 290,000 | 145,000.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 73 | | 1,022,521 | 9,641,130.12 |
| ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY | | | | |
| CUTIX PLC | 2 | 2.98 | 16,000 | 45,540.00 |
| NIGERIAN WIRE & CABLE PLC | 4 | 0.75 | 550,000 | 412,500.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 6 | | 566,000 | 458,040.00 |
| FOOD/BEVERAGES & TOBACCO | | | | |
| 7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC | 12 | 30.60 | 12,318 | 395,777.34 |
| BIG TREAT PLC | 21 | 0.79 | 592,257 | 467,537.89 |
| CADBURY NIGERIA PLC | 92 | 16.00 | 2,853,485 | 45,856,381.95 |
| DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC | 168 | 12.90 | 2,651,369 | 34,108,169.09 |
| DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC | 130 | 17.19 | 3,386,143 | 57,580,063.35 |
| FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC | 68 | 45.01 | 603,644 | 27,188,699.02 |
| HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC | 30 | 8.80 | 317,452 | 2,757,810.10 |
| P.S. MANDRIDES PLC | 3 | 5.66 | 199,950 | 1,131,717.00 |
| NATIONAL SALT COY. NIG. PLC | 49 | 6.07 | 2,636,233 | 16,043,561.71 |
| NIGERIAN BOTTLING COY. PLC | 24 | 25.65 | 141,476 | 3,629,286.40 |
| NESTLE NIGERIA PLC | 61 | 270.00 | 168,515 | 46,101,837.46 |
| NORTHERN NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC | 10 | 23.00 | 45,670 | 1,015,477.00 |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
| TANTALIZERS PLC | 7 | 0.91 | 258,050 | 233,896.50 |
| UTC NIGERIA PLC | 9 | 0.72 | 129,986 | 89,690.34 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 684 | | 13,996,548 | 236,599,905.15 |
| HEALTHCARE | | | | |
| EVANS MEDICAL PLC | 10 | 1.00 | 96,000 | 93,475.45 |
| FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC | 29 | 2.37 | 1,356,252 | 3,187,449.64 |
| GLAXOSMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC | 21 | 26.50 | 220,815 | 5,876,292.40 |
| MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC | 13 | 5.05 | 18,173 | 92,444.22 |
| NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARM. PLC | 15 | 1.38 | 250,400 | 340,574.23 |
| UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERV. PLC | 13 | 0.63 | 1,326,877 | 821,888.97 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 101 | | 3,267,517 | 10,412,121.85 |
| HOTEL & TOURISM | | | | |
| CAPITAL HOTEL PLC | 2 | 3.37 | 10,500 | 34,750.00 |
| IKEJA HOTEL PLC | 2 | 1.43 | 2,120 | 2,883.20 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 4 | | 12,620 | 37,633.20 |
| INDUSTRIAL/DOMESTIC PRODUCTS | | | | |
| ALUMINIUM EXTRUSION INDUSTRIES PLC | 1 | 13.04 | 1,166 | 14,446.74 |
| ALUMACO PLC | 1 | 15.01 | 50,100 | 752,001.00 |
| B. O. C. GASES NIGERIA PLC | 4 | 9.88 | 3,570,746 | 35,292,638.48 |
| FIRST ALUMINIUM NIGERIA PLC | 3 | 0.50 | 30,000 | 15,000.00 |
| VI T AFOAM NIGERIA PLC | 28 | 4.80 | 408,086 | 1,981,770.10 |
| VONO PRODUCTS PLC | 1 | 0.63 | 2,000 | 1,200.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 38 | | 4,062,098 | 38,057,056.32 |
| INFOMATION & COMM. TECH | | | | |
| CHAMS PLC | 9 | 0.67 | 290,150 | 196,130.50 |
| MASSTELECOM INNOVATION NIG. PLC | 1 | 0.50 | 10,000 | 5,000.00 |
| STARCOMMS PLC | 31 | 2.00 | 4,589,953 | 9,117,997.02 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 41 | | 4,890,103 | 9,319,127.52 |
| INSURANCE | | | | |
| AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC | 10 | 0.50 | 240,250,100 | 120,125,050.00 |
| AIICO INSURANCE PLC | 163 | 1.06 | 5,066,001 | 5,558,427.67 |
| CONTINENTAL REINSURANCE PLC | 5 | 0.95 | 452,760 | 430,204.80 |
| CORNERSTONE INSUR. CO. PLC | 17 | 0.52 | 167,700 | 88,158.00 |
| CUSTODIAN & ALLIED INSUR. PLC | 23 | 2.93 | 1,360,654 | 4,039,547.82 |
| EQUITY ASSURANCE PLC | 1 | 0.50 | 12,900 | 6,450.00 |
| GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC | 22 | 0.53 | 900,400 | 478,985.97 |
| GUARANTY TRUST ASSUR. PLC | 9 | 2.24 | 1,110,260 | 2,514,232.60 |
| GUINEA INSURANCE PLC | 1 | 0.50 | 3,000 | 1,500.00 |
| CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSUR. PLC | 3 | 0.50 | 24,000 | 12,000.00 |
| INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSUR. COY. PLC | 20 | 0.52 | 651,167 | 346,013.41 |
| LASACO ASSURANCE PLC | 26 | 0.50 | 1,633,703 | 818,641.50 |
| LAW UNION & ROCK INSUR. PLC | 14 | 0.50 | 586,006 | 297,421.68 |
| MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSUR. PLC | 6 | 0.64 | 47,480 | 30,387.20 |
| N.E.M. INSUR. CO. (NIG.) PLC | 40 | 0.51 | 2,159,687 | 1,114,296.87 |
| NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC | 19 | 0.70 | 1,989,783 | 1,365,017.44 |
| PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC | 3 | 3.43 | 60,000 | 195,600.00 |
| SOVEREIGN TRUST INSUR. PLC | 1 | 0.50 | 10,000 | 5,000.00 |
| STACO INSURANCE PLC | 5 | 0.76 | 41,650 | 30,404.50 |
| STANDARD ALLIANCE INSUR. PLC | 28 | 0.50 | 1,445,109 | 722,634.50 |
| UNIC INSURANCE PLC | 20 | 0.70 | 72,341 | 50,668.70 |
| UNITY CAPITAL ASSUR. PLC | 3 | 0.83 | 623,250 | 517,297.50 |
| UNIVERSAL INSUR. COY. PLC | 1 | 0.50 | 220 | 110.00 |
| INTERCONTINENTAL WAPCO INSUR. PLC | 24 | 0.88 | 1,191,000 | 1,060,150.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 464 | | 259,859,171 | 139,008,200.16 |
| LEASING | | | | |
| C&I LEASING PLC | 17 | 2.75 | 425,496 | 1,149,962.52 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 17 | | 425,496 | 1,149,962.52 |
| MARITIME | | | | |
| JAPALL OIL & MARITIME SERV. PLC | 101 | 1.24 | 3,759,648 | 4,555,365.70 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 101 | | 3,759,648 | 4,555,365.70 |
| MEDIA | | | | |
| DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC | 27 | 0.67 | 114,500 | 80,020.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 27 | | 114,500 | 80,020.00 |
| MORTGAGE COMPANIES | | | | |
| ASO SAVINGS & LOAN PLC | 23 | 0.73 | 1,204,477 | 859,243.34 |
| RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC | 10 | 0.50 | 4,123,000 | 2,061,500.00 |
| UNION HOMES SAVINGS & LOANS PLC | 76 | 0.82 | 9,729,498 | 8,154,973.79 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 109 | | 15,056,975 | 11,075,717.13 |
| OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS | | | | |
| CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC | 8 | 0.95 | 343,443 | 329,254.85 |
| ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC | 3 | 0.59 | 91,900 | 54,183.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 11 | | 435,343 | 383,437.85 |
| PACKAGING | | | | |
| NIG. BAG MANUFACTURING COY. PLC | 259 | 2.22 | 1,173,527 | 2,581,648.39 |
| BETA GLASS CO. PLC | 1 | 12.88 | 600 | 7,344.00 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 260 | | 1,174,127 | 2,588,992.39 |
| PETROLEUM (MARKETING) | | | | |
| AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC | 107 | 42.58 | 1,413,170 | 59,980,367.64 |
| MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC | 12 | 69.79 | 18,033 | 1,269,848.36 |
| CONOIL PLC | 45 | 39.54 | 147,408 | 5,850,107.00 |
| ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC | 67 | 6.82 | 800,232 | 5,345,866.32 |
| MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC | 28 | 97.65 | 63,256 | 6,125,510.17 |
| OANDO PLC | 19 | 93.99 | 20,755 | 1,853,421.50 |
| TOTAL NIGERIA PLC | 9 | 142.50 | 6,784 | 986,314.46 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 287 | | 2,469,638 | 81,411,435.45 |
| REAL ESTATE | | | | |
| UACN PROPERTY DEV. CO. PLC | 29 | 20.80 | 1,507,141 | 30,845,904.28 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 29 | | 1,507,141 | 30,845,904.28 |
| ROAD TRANSPORTATION | | | | |
| ASSOCIATED BUS COY. PLC | 30 | 0.97 | 1,429,394 | 1,386,712.18 |
| SECTOR TOTALS | 30 | | 1,429,394 | 1,386,712.18 |
| OVERALL TOTALS | 7,067 | | 534,459,047 | 2,685,840,514.48 |

What is a Warrant?
A long-term security, which is similar to an option. A stock warrant usually allows a trader to purchase one share of stock at a fixed price for a certain period of time.

Google

GAINERS

| | |
|----------|------|
| MOBIL | 4.65 |
| AP | 2.02 |
| UACN | 1.50 |
| GUINNESS | 1.00 |

LOSERS

| | |
|------------|------|
| WAPCO | 1.75 |
| NBC | 1.35 |
| GLAXOSMITH | 0.80 |
| ALUMACO | 0.79 |



NIGERIAN TURKISH INTERNATIONAL COLLEGES

"... a right environment for learning"

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

Into JS 1 2010-2011 Academic Session

Date: 20th March 2010, Time: 10:00 AM

Admission is in progress for
2010-2011 Academic Session

SUMMARY OF INTERNATIONAL MEDALS WON

18 GOLD MEDALS

17 SILVER MEDALS

21 BRONZE MEDALS

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION CENTRES AND FORMS AVAILABLE AT

- Abuja**
 - * Nig Turkish Int'l College, Ahmadu Bello Way by Kashim Ibrahim Way, Wuse II Abuja Tel: 09-413 47 31
- Ogun**
 - * NTIC, Isheri: Ogd Drive, Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, Isheri, 01-7400915
- Kano**
 - * NTIC, Hadeja Road By Pass By Ring Road, Yankaba-KANO. 07034988405
- Jigawa**
 - * Dutse Capital School, PMB 7072 Dutse. Tel: 0803689487/08036512217
- Katsina**
 - * Hazel Int'l Sch. Hassan Usman Way KATSINA. Tel: 08036373805, 08036871266/08035678258
- Zamfara**
 - Federal College of Education Staff School, GUSAU. TEL: 07036546997
- Sokoto**
 - Sultan Muhd Machido Inst. for Quranic & G.S. El-Sudais road. 08033528040
- Kebbi**
 - Abdullehi Fodiyo Islamic C. Ahmadu Bello W., BIRNIN KEBBI Tel: 08026496658, 08033318632
- Kaduna**
 - * NTIC, Rigachukun 15km along Kaduna-Zaria Road. Tel: 08033181711.
 - * Zaria Children's S. Queen Elizabeth Road. 08036301619/08025267352
- Bauchi**
 - * Saadu Zungur Primary School, Bauchi. 08022607711
- Plateau**
 - * Obasanjo Model Primary School, Opp. Platzau Polytechni. 080338436218
- Yobe**
 - * NTIC Yobe, Potiskum-Damaturu Express Way, Mamudo. 08037434060
- Borno**
 - * Federal Government College. Tel: 080 65459044.
- Rivers**
 - * Montessori International School GRA Port Harcourt.
- Lagos**
 - * NTIC Nur & Pry. Sec., 4a Agbaoku St. off Opebi Rd, Ikeja. 017749545
 - * Crescent School: 1004 Housing Estate Victoria Island 08023196227
 - * St Leo's Catholic School: Off Toyn Street, Ikeja, 08053247514
 - * St Bernadette College: Federal Housing Estate, Ipaja, 08033546237
 - * Nazareth School: 3rd Avenue H Close, Festac Town, 07033383839
- Oyo**
 - * The West Prime Model School: Old Bodija, Ibadan, Oyo, 08053052568
- Ogun**
 - * King Kiddies: 101, Obafemi Awolowo Road, Ibara, Abeokuta, 8033879194
- Osun**
 - * Saint Clare's N/P School, Isale Aro Osogbo, Osun.
- Ondo**
 - * St Louis N/P School: Ondo Road, Akure, Ondo, 08073624460
- Anambra**
 - * Central School Awka. 08052120399
- Kogi**
 - * Holy Trinity Primary Sch., Lokoja. 08036784925
- Kwara**
 - * St. Joseph Nur. & Pry. School, Ilorin. 08058746733
- Nasarawa**
 - * Government Science School, Lafia
- Niger**
 - * Ahmadu Bahago S. S., Minna. 08036318319
- Gombe**
 - * Family Support Primary-Nursery School.
- Adamawa**
 - * Gen. Murtala Moh'd College GMMC, Yola.
- Abia**
 - * Amuziike Comm. Primary School, Umuahia. 08037745641

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Time of examination: 10:00 AM Prompt
2. Entry form fee: 3000 Naira
3. Dead line for submission of entry forms: 18th March, 2010
4. Nature of examination: Objective type, examination covers primary school curriculum.
5. Eligibility: Entries are open only to primary 5&6 pupils
6. For further information:
 - (I) Visit our WebSite www.nticnigeria.com, E-mail: info@nticnigeria.com
 - (II) Any branch of Nigerian Turkish Int'l College
 - (III) HeadMaster/Mistress of your school
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SAVE NIGERIA COALITION (SNC)

Working to strengthen genuine Democracy

AS THE SAVE NIGERIA GROUP GOES MARCHING...

On Wednesday 10 March, 2010, the Save Nigeria Group (SNG) will be staging a protest rally in Abuja under an apparent grand, harmless theme but most probably to sustain the pressure begun several weeks ago and to press ahead with their never ending demands but the major one being that the campaign for the Executive Council of the Federation should declare President Yar'adua permanently incapacitated to hold his office and that Acting President Dr. Goodluck Jonathan should be sworn in as substantive president.

The swearing in of Dr Goodluck Jonathan would mean that a new Vice-President should be procured from the ready ranks of any of the squabbling factions within the PDP; that the Executive Council itself should be dissolved and re-constituted from the army of political jobbers stalking the nation; and that the headship of several choice Federal parastatals should be changed and new heads appointed from the retinue of influence peddlers that the elite class is blessed with. Indeed, that the political merry-go-round should continue ad nauseum.

The Save Nigeria Group is made up of some very credible patriots and democrats but on Wednesday, March 10, they will be marching for the wrong reasons!!!

According to the adage; 'the truth is bitter' but Save Nigeria Coalition (SNC) is forced to state the truth.

Save Nigeria Group (SNG) will be naively rallying for the most reactionary wing of the ruling political establishment, local and international cabals in the polity and the gang of yesterday's men whose misconduct in office have impoverished, debased and dehumanized the people.

During the march, minimal concessions will be made, in name only, to those issues and ideals that concern the people. These will be rationale to gather public sympathy and support in order to hide possible links to various cabals which may be unknown to some members of Save Nigeria Group (SNG) and Nigerians in particular.

The Save Nigeria Coalition (SNC) have thus decided to march for PEACE and PRAYERS in the land not political tension and differences at this volatile political period in our history.

Nigerians should join us in saying ENOUGH IS ENOUGH to the SAVE NIGERIA GROUP (SNG).

We have just lost brothers and sisters in the Jos riots at the weekend so there is potential danger when Save Nigeria Group (SNG) descends on Abuja led by a

prominent Christian Pastor for a rally against a Northern Muslim President or if a group opposed to the SNG stance is led by a prominent Muslim cleric.

PLEASE ALLOW PEACE TO REIGN IN NIGERIA!

By marching for the above wrong reasons, the Save Nigeria Group may be unwittingly and inadvertently, setting back the hand of progressive, principled and pro-people politics in Nigeria. By subsuming their ideological and class platform to the overweening determinations of reactionary political careerists, they will be compromising the modest gains made in the past few years, in the area of good governance, rule of law, anti-corruption crusade, and accountability in government, poverty reduction and sustainable means of livelihood.

The Save Nigeria Group (SNG) is not a mass democratic organization. It is an elitist club made up of some genuine patriots but also strange bed fellows with parallel ideological and political orientation. How do you explain visits to the Acting President last week as reported in Thisday? Did they not present the demands of the group to him at the time? Who is to implement their latest demands for electoral reforms and whatever else they may desire as they shift the goal post regularly? For record purposes, Dr Goodluck Jonathan was the running mate to Alhaji Umaru Yar'adua and is not a new duly elected President with a new mandate.

To have a successful rally, leaders of Save Nigeria Group (SNG) will fly into Abuja, 'mobilise' support, from churches, motor parks, and other parts of Abuja, possibly; Nyanya, Karu, Mararaba, Masaka, in the FCT. They will provide them with token transport allowance, dole out T-shirts, posters and banners and herd them into hastily procured vehicles for the march. This will create a semblance of mass organization and mass action. But in truth no mass has been organised, nor has any genuine mass action taken place. It's all make believe.

Nigerians, recall that no march took place when Obasanjo breached the constitution countless times, locked up Vice-President Afiku's office for nearly a year, literally chased him out of the Villa, took away his security details, de-registered him from the party he helped form; unleashed Ribadu's EFCC on him and virtually stopped him from contesting the 2007 Presidential election.

Is there more to SNG's campaign for President Yar'adua's removal? **Nigerians Shine Your Eyes!**

Prince George Wanboko
President General

Fellow Nigerians, certainly you have been expecting us to make comment on the debate over the ill health of Mr. President.

Thank God for taking control over the rising tension in the land few days ago and gave us calm. May we never push ourselves to the brim of disorder again over intangible things.

Yes, our President has been ill. But who can tell us the fault of President Yar'Adua in all the controversies and political uproar that almost throw our Nation into unimaginable confusion. Even though, mistakes were made on all sides, is it sufficient for the political temperature generated in the nation?

How can we forget so soon especially his good works on the Niger-Delta crisis? How can some people be so insensitive and think that their simulated outcry could force the President of the biggest African country in the world to come out to them to be stampeded out according to the wishes of his greatest known enemies. This should never happen.

But the political jobbers were not satisfied, they must cause a permanent friction between the Acting President Jonathan and his boss, President Yar'Adua of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Raw, unprintable statements are being published in prints and aired on the radio and television. Everybody determined that his or her point of view must win. They dragged the amiable Minister of Information and Communications into the fray. A woman known for her due deference to constituted authorities, she went over her top, making unnecessary statements that were unsuitable for her high office. Yes, she did her memo in protest with what was going on, forgave her colleague, Aondoakaa for his utterances against her during the mill, and yet came back to launch unnecessary attacks against the boss. Oh!! So sad. But madam minister has served Nigeria so well and the Nigerian people still needs her services. Mr. Acting President sir, may be you give her a job of her discipline where she has made Nigeria proud before or something higher. Oga, sir. Acting President, we say sorry to you, and to all Nigerians who got offended by some of her recent pronouncements. Please note that she is our darling and our big boss in the Press.

And to the Press. Please let us exercise very deep restraint in our country. Please always remember the event of 1966 in Nigeria and never push us to that part again. Let the press moderate their stand after they have made their points. For Publishers to come together to take a stand on any issue in the country is unprecedented in Nigeria. What is unacceptable is over



THE THIRD EYE NEW NIGERIA EDITION 5

flogging the issue. Let us devote our time to educating Nigerians on how to move Nigeria forward and make their votes count in elections.

THE NIGERIAN ARMED FORCES

We must thank the Nigeria Armed forces for their steadfastness in the face of provocation. They stood solidly behind our democracy like a rock of Gibraltar. If we know what they called military discipline, you will not blame an officer for doing his job. Service order in the military allows the Commander of the Brigade of Guards to do anything legitimate to protect his bosses the President and the Vice President – without recourse to anybody, even his Chief of Staff or the President. Protecting, the No 1 and No 2 citizens of a country is not a tea party. Security of the nation can never be run on the pages of newspapers. So we must continue to be ever grateful to our Armed forces for their professionalism. Members of our Armed forces we salute you for your brilliance and democratic support. The nation is grateful to you all!

OUR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

We marvel at the sheer way our National Assembly piloted us out of chaos. We thank the President of the Senate, Senator David Mark and all the other distinguished members who brought their huge experiences to bear in their in-depth handling of the situation throughout this difficult period. And we thank our Hon. Speaker of the of House Representative, Hon. Dimeji Bankole and all the honorable members for their deep knowledge of the perilous situation the nation found itself. We thank God for you all and now believe that we are more serious in upholding our democracy.

It is not that we should not quarrel, but we must settle within ourselves. International do gooders should not have a place in our political economy neither should they direct Nigeria at their whims and caprices. United States of America has more to deal with at home. Obama is facing a major crisis in his health care programme for United States that formed major plank of his promise to his people. President Obama should face that, squarely and we wish him luck.

And in Britain, Brown is also facing an election that constitutes a threat to his job which is the worst point of his political career. So it is divisionary, if not down right mischief for these leaders to be using Nigeria as their diversionary outlet to cool off on their own hot time at home. All these leaders are facing real fire at home and should leave our country alone. Let them allow Nigeria for Nigerians to develop our country. We however wish them well in their various undertaking in their countries.

THE NIGERIA GOVERNORS' FORUM

We also seize this opportunity to thank our governors for their prompt action at the nick of time during the constitutional crisis. The way our political actors moved consistently to resolve the problem is praise worthy. We thank you all and recognize what you all have done to protect our democracy and government of the people, by the people and for the people.

ALL FORMER HEADS OF STATE AND ALL NIGERIANS

We must also recognize our former Heads of State, especially former President Shehu Shagari, Former Head of State, Chief Ernest Shonekan and former indefatigable pillar of Nigeria, Lt. Gen. Theophilous Danjuma rtd. and other notable statesmen, and people of the Niger-Delta. We cannot be tired of thanking the critical masses of Nigerian people whom we represent for their patience and understanding throughout the period of the constitutional crisis. May God bless us all.

In conclusion, we want to appeal to our fellow Nigerians to let President Umaru Yar' Adua be, so that he can continue to recuperate in God's speed and so that our prayers to God about him would not be diluted with evil wishes. We must remember that when a man is sick, you give him all the peace he can get for his recovery efforts. So let these all bad wishes stop and let the genuine prayers continue.

And let us continue to give the Acting President Dr. Goodluck Jonathan our love and best wishes in his efforts to give us a better life. He has a lot of issues to deal with before him, like the issue of electoral reform, credible election, unresolved issues on the Niger/Delta militants, roads, education, unemployment, power supply and most especially the hunger in the land. Let all of us give him the peace he needs to manage these intricacies. May God help us all.

CHIEF AKANNI ALUKO
CHAIRMAN/PUBLISHER

GBOLAHAN RAFIU FASHOLA
SECRETARY

For Comments; 08137401550,
07051133354, 08125279966 SMS ONLY.
EMAIL; thirdeye0138@yahoo.com

Sign Language



Wouldn't a "No swimming" sign do?
 Photo location: Westfield, New York, USA, by Rod Nevin
 Culled from www.signspotting.com

SUDOKU

The Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 square grid made up of smaller 3x3 square grids (regions). The numbers already present within the puzzle are "given"- these are there to start you off. The aim is to complete the puzzle by filling the empty cells. Every digit from 1-9 needs to fit in each row, column and region of 9 squares. Each row, column and region must contain just one instance of each number, 1-9.

103

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

Solution to Sudoku 102

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

EASY CROSSWORDS

7

ACROSS

- Deli bread
- Priest's pulpit
- Barnyard pen
- Receive the news
- Vocalist Ross
- Ripped
- Grimm intro
- Chose (to)
- Public fight
- Lake insect stockings
- With good judgment
- White of game-show fame
- "Ew!"
- More timid
- and downs
- Japanese city
- Does some paving
- Hembrandt or Whistler
- Highway hotel
- Ms. Gardner
- Possessive pronoun
- Set ablaze
- Citified rodent
- Actor Cariou
- Rock gently
- Guns (the engine)
- Fork's mate
- Jacinto
- Mudville man
- Type measures
- Express audibly
- Stops briefly
- Ocean slowly
- Lascivious
- Tripoli site
- Oceans
- Rowing gear

DOWN

- Greek letter
- Strong carpet
- Every one of
- Ornament
- Mouth border
- Create lace
- Freshly
- Spokes
- Potting mix
- 2004 epic film
- Still
- Municipal official
- Engage in a chat
- Distorted
- Church cries
- Hawaiian gift
- Hollywood's Keanu
- Journeys
- Crow's quest
- "Great ...!"
- Ward regulars
- Pertinent
- Plant stem
- Safe harbor
- Tehran native
- Very quiet
- Buenos chaser
- Tricky rascal
- Impatient slang
- Had lasagna
- English title
- Entries on a list
- See 1-Down
- Least common
- Bitter, prolonged quarrels
- Average mark
- Alabama town
- Russian despots
- Juicy fruit
- Off letter
- Thailand, formerly
- Rebound, as laughter
- Store event
- Plunging
- Short farewell
- Over there
- Run a slalom

Solution to Easy Crosswords

6

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | O | E | | C | A | W | | S | I | N | | | | | |
| C | O | B | S | | O | R | R | | H | O | O | P | | | |
| M | I | M | I | C | | V | I | E | | O | U | T | E | R | |
| R | A | M | | H | I | E | | N | E | W | | E | T | A | |
| S | O | Y | B | E | A | N | | B | U | R | D | E | N | | |
| | | | | O | W | N | | S | C | O | P | E | | | |
| G | R | I | P | S | | T | O | R | N | | K | R | A | P | Y |
| A | I | D | | A | R | R | A | Y | | A | L | E | | | |
| S | O | A | P | | N | O | R | M | | C | H | E | A | P | |
| | | | | S | A | N | D | Y | | D | U | O | | | |
| T | A | H | I | T | I | | | O | I | L | W | E | L | L | |
| A | H | A | | W | E | E | | W | E | T | | D | E | E | |
| B | A | N | J | O | | G | E | L | | U | N | I | T | E | |
| | B | O | A | R | | A | G | E | | R | U | T | S | | |
| | I | R | K | | D | O | T | | E | N | S | | | | |

News Extra

Winnie Mandela accuses Nelson of 'betraying' the blacks of South Africa



NELSON and Winnie Mandela in 2004

Nelson Mandela has been accused by his former wife of betraying South Africa's black population.

In a savage attack, Winnie Mandela said he had done nothing for the poor and should not have accepted the Nobel Peace prize with the man who jailed him, FW de Klerk.

The 73-year-old said her ex-husband had become a 'corporate foundation' who was 'wheeled out' only to raise money for the ANC party he once led.

She said Archbishop Desmond

Tutu was a cretin and claimed the sacrifices of Steve Biko and others in the fight against apartheid were being overlooked.

The comments were made in an interview on Monday with Nadira Naipaul, the wife of novelist V S Naipaul.

Mrs Mandela became notorious in 1991 when she was jailed for six years for the kidnap of Stompie Moeketsi - a sentence later cut to a fine.

Stompie, 14, had been murdered three years earlier by members of Mrs Mandela's bodyguard, the Mandela United Football Club.

She also caused outrage by

“Mandela let us down. He agreed to a bad deal for the blacks”

endorsing the punishment of apartheid collaborators with 'necklacing' - putting burning tyres around their necks.

On Monday she said: 'This name Mandela is an albatross around the necks of my family.'

“You all must realise that Mandela was not the only man who suffered. There were many others, hundreds who languished in prison and died.

'Mandela did go to prison and he went in there as a young revolutionary but look what came out.

'Mandela let us down. He agreed to a bad deal for the blacks.

Economically we are still on the outside. The economy is very much "white".

'I cannot forgive him for going to receive the Nobel with his jailer de Klerk. Hand in hand they went. Do you think de Klerk released him from the goodness of his heart?

'He had to. The times dictated it, the world had changed.'

The Mandelas, who divorced in 1996, were married for 38 years - although together for only five.

Mrs Mandela criticised her country's Truth and Reconciliation Committee - which she appeared before in 1997 and which implicated her in gross violations of human rights.

She said: 'What good does the truth do? How does it help to anyone to know where and how their loved ones are killed or buried?

'That Bishop Tutu who turned it all into a religious circus came here. He had a cheek to tell me to appear.

'I told him that he and his other like-minded cretins were only sitting there because of our struggle and me. Look what they make him do. The great Mandela. He has no control or say any more.

'They put that huge statue of him right in the middle of the most affluent white area of Johannesburg. Not here [in Soweto] where we spilled our blood.

'Mandela is now like a corporate foundation. He is wheeled out globally to collect the money.'

She said her daughters, Zenani, 51, and Zindzi, 50, had to struggle through red tape to speak to their 91-year-old father, who led South Africa from 1994 to 1999.



NELSON Mandela and wife Winnie walk hand-in hand after Mandela's release from prison



THE pair pictured together in 1990

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GOD BLESS YOU SIR.

ALH. ABUBAKAR B. JIJIWA

CAN, ARPA, CIT (SARDAUNA RIBADU)
DIRECTOR GENERAL, VOICE OF NIGERIA

SIGNED
MEDICAL DIRECTOR
VIXION HOME EYE CLINIC

News Extra



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BIZARRE: Zhang Ruifang began growing a horn last year.

Chinese grandma, 101, grows mystery horn on forehead

An elderly Chinese woman has stunned her family and fellow villagers by growing from her forehead a horn that resembles a goat's.

Grandmother Zhang Ruifang, 101, of Linlou village, Henan province, began developing the mysterious protrusion last year.

Since then it has grown 2.4in in length and another now appears to emerging on the other side of the mother of seven's forehead.

The condition has left her family baffled and worried.

Her youngest of six sons, Zhang Guozheng, 60, said when a patch of rough skin formed on her forehead last year 'we didn't pay too much attention to it.'

'But as time went on a horn grew out of her head and it is now 6cm long,' added Mr Zhang, whose eldest brother and sibling is 82 years old.

'Now something is also growing on the right side of her forehead. It's quite possible that it's



HORN is 6 cm long

another horn.'

Although, it is unknown what the protrusion is on Mrs Zhang's head, it resembles a cutaneous horn.

This is a funnel-shaped growth and although most are only a few millimetres in length, some can

extend a number of inches from the skin.

Cutaneous horns are made up of compacted keratin, which is the same protein we have in our hair and nails, and forms horns, wool and feathers in animals.

They usually develop in fair-skinned elderly adults who have a history of significant sun exposure but it is extremely unusual to see it form protrusions of this size.

The growths are most common in elderly people, aged between 60 and the mid-70s. They can sometimes be cancerous but more than half of cases are benign.

Common underlying causes of cutaneous horns are common warts, skin cancer and actinic keratoses, patches of scaly skin that develop on skin exposed to the sun, such as your face, scalp or forearms.

Cutaneous horns can be removed surgically but this does not treat the underlying cause.



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PROPERTY

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Residents decry illegal sale of estate

From Mahmud Lalo and Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

THE Residents Association of Federal Low Cost Housing Estate Phase one have decried the illegal sale and forceful ejection of some selected occupants of the estate in Jos Plateau State by the Plateau Investment Property Development Company (PIPC).

Vice Chairman of the association, S.O Akintola, told newsmen yesterday in Jos that for over twenty years they have been "battling to own the houses that were duly allocated to them 33 years ago (since 1977) under the federal government owner - occupier low cost housing scheme".

Mr Akintola accused PIPC of not following the order given by the then Minister of Housing and Urban Development in 2006 who wrote a letter to them informing PIPC who are only managing agents of the estate that the estate is and remains the property of the federal government, "and directing the non ejection of allottees from the state, nor the sale of such properties occupied by them to any other person".

Reacting to the allegation, the Acting Managing Director of PIPC, Mr. Sylvester Dasak said the case has been disposed by the Supreme High Court in favour of company adding that the court supersedes any decision in

the nation.

He also debunked the allegation that the houses were only sold out to indigenes in the stressing that the selling of the forms for the estate for interested buyers was done regardless of one's affiliation.

Mr Dasak further maintained that the estate remains the property of the state as the ownership was since transferred to the state as done in many other states of the federation. He also decried the effort of the resident association for capitalizing on the recent crisis in the state to bring up an issue that has been resolved many years ago.

Kwara bureau explains new land rules

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

THE Director-General of Kwara State Bureau of Land, Barrister Kamaldeen Ajibade, has appealed to property owners in the state to embrace the new regime of land charges introduced by the state government.

The Director - General renewed the call while speaking on NTA programme, 'Morning Safari'.

Barrister Ajibade pointed out that the gesture was part of efforts by the state government to boost its Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) needed to ensure the provision of infrastructural facilities to improve the standard of living of the generality of the people.

He explained that the land charge, which is payable once in a year replaces the old system of annual ground rent.

Barrister Ajibade said demand notice will soon be issued to property owners whose buildings are on title or untitled land, adding that will be followed with a special court to check any defaulters.

Barrister Ajibade said that under law failure to respond to demand notice within 45 days would attract five percent increase, between 46 and 105 days, 15 percent while refusal to pay between 106 days to 135 days would attract 30 percent increase. He said that for property owners that refuse to respond to the demand notice for between 106 days to 180 days, 50 percent increase would be paid, while any over 180 days would attract 100 percent increase.



THE new corporate headquarters of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria, located at Addis Ababa Crescent, Zone 4, Abuja

Ports, refineries access roads gulp N18.7bn - FG

By Nasir Imam

THE Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development, Dr. Hassan Muhammad Lawal, has disclosed that the total value of the contracts awarded in respect of access roads to the ports and refineries stood at N18.7 billion.

Addressing the Quadrennial Delegates Conference of the Petroleum Tanker Drivers under the Nigerian Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers Union (NUPENG), which opened on Friday at the main auditorium of the Shehu

Musa Yar'Adua Centre, Abuja, the Minister assured tanker drivers in the country that all roads leading to refineries and ports have been awarded for rehabilitation or reconstruction.

A statement from Lawrence Ojabo, Assistant Director (Press and Public Relations) in the ministry said the minister recalled that other contracts to rehabilitate federal roads had been earlier awarded, and were being adequately funded and effectively monitored and supervised to ensure quality and timely completion.

He urged the new leadership that will emerge from the delegates conference to maintain the patriotic vision and tradition of the union, and to eschew playing to the gallery. He stated that the union was a very vital and critical stakeholder and contributor to the national economy, describing them as livewire of the economy. He stated that any rash decision to embark on strike without exhausting all avenues for peaceful and amicable negotiation and settlement of issues will have profound and damaging consequences on the economy.

Stakeholders to discuss tenancy bill at forum

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

STAKEHOLDERS in the nation's property industry will be reviewing the relationship between property owners and tenants with a view to generating input into the Tenancy Bill currently before the Lagos State House of Assembly prior to its being signed into law.

The discussion, which is being organised by the Lagos

Chamber of Commerce and Industry, will take place at Commerce House, 1, Idowu Taylor Street, Victoria Island, Lagos, today, Wednesday, 10th March, 2010.

Dignitaries expected at the event include the Chairman and members of the Lagos State House Committee on Judiciary, members of Taxation and Law Committee of the Chamber, representatives of the Nigerian Institute of Estate Surveyors and Valuers as well as Real Estate Devel-

opers Association of Nigeria, President, Landlord and Tenant Rights Initiative, law firms and property firms. Banks and mortgage institutions are also expected at the event.

A statement obtained by DailyTrust said the discussion forum is part of the Advocacy efforts of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry in ensuring a conducive business environment for not only its members but business firms in Lagos and environs.

Property



property@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 07041632079

NAICOM to enforce compulsory insurance of properties

THE National Commissioner for Insurance, Mr Fola Daniel says the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) has assembled an enforcement team to ensure individuals and organisations take a policy for properties under compulsory insurance scheme.

Daniel on Tuesday in Lagos said that the enforcement team would initially identify properties and organisations nationwide in the next four weeks.

He said that the aim was to ensure that property under

the compulsory insurance scheme were insured.

"The team comprises Nigerian Police, Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria (CORBON), federal and states town planning authorities.

"Others are states traffic management agencies, Insurance Practitioners and Insurance Consumers Association of Nigeria.

"They are to ensure nationwide inspection of proper-

ties and organisations once a month to ensure they comply with the laws on compulsory insurance," he said.

The setting up of the team is in line with the Market Development and Restructuring Initiative (MDRI) project of the National Insurance Commission (NAICOM).

Besides, the initiative is to look at ways the industry will leverage on existing insurance laws to increase insurance premium. (NAN)

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Property



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Women want review of Land Use Act

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

WOMEN groups in Yobe State on Monday gathered in Damaturu and called on the state government to review its Land Use Act and other laws related to it in order to encourage mass production of food.

The women who are drawn from the Agricultural and Allied Employees Union of Nigeria (AAUEN) spoke under

the auspices of 'Voices for Food Security' (VFFS) and claimed that over seventy percent of women in the rural areas are farmers but do not have direct access to land.

The women argued that government always considers the interest of men when it comes to allocating lands for industrial, agricultural and residential purposes even though women equally need such privileges to empower themselves.

Aisha Dikko, the officer in charge of the community

development and gender issues of (AAUEN) said they used March 8th which was marked as the World Women Day to appeal to various stakeholders to consider the plights of women who are worse hit by gender inequality, poverty and early marriages.

"The Voices for Food Security is calling for improved support to women to have access to land, fertilizer, seedlings, credit and extension services", Dikko said.

Chinese granny buried alive by property developers

A 70-year-old Chinese grandmother in the central province of Hubei was beaten and buried alive by property developers eager to get their hands on her land.

Wang Cuyun was attempting to prevent a demolition team from knocking down her house when she was allegedly beaten by a worker with a wooden stick and then pushed into a ditch that had been dug around the property.

A bulldozer then covered Mrs Wang with earth, burying her alive. By the time her relatives dug her up, she was dead. The incident occurred last Wednesday in Maodian village in Huangpi district.

Mrs Wang's case is the latest in a series of cases in China that have drawn widespread public condemnation of the behaviour of rapacious property developers and the government's failure to intervene. Last year, Tang Fuzhen, a woman in Sichuan province, climbed on to the roof of her three-storey house and set herself on fire to protest against being evicted.

With house prices rocketing across the country, developers often team up with local governments to force homeowners out of their property, according to a recent report by Chinese Human Rights Defenders (CHRD), an NGO based in Hong Kong.

Chinese law also does not require developers to agree a compensation fee before they demolish a property.

WALK AGAINST POLIO

NATIONAL PRIMARY HEALTH CARE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Plot 681/682 Port Harcourt Crescent, off Gimbiya Street, Area 11 Garki, Abuja, FCT

WALK AGAINST POLIO

Nigeria recorded tremendous progress in her effort to interrupt the transmission of the Polio virus and save innocent children from paralysis. Available records show that only 388 cases of Wild Polio Virus (WPV) were reported from January to December 2009 as against 798 for the same period in 2008. For the first time since Polio eradication was launched in 1988, Nigeria recorded 90% decline in the Polio virus type 1. Kano State which was hitherto the epicentre in Nigeria has not had any case of Polio since June 30, 2009. So far this year, only one case of Polio has been reported in Nigeria.

Join us as we

WALK AGAINST POLIO to END POLIO NOW

Saturday the 13th of March 2010 @ 7am

Flag Off

Old Parade Ground, Area 10, Garki, Abuja

Flag Down

Eagle Square Abuja

Flag-Off Ceremony by the Hon. Minister of FCT Alhaji Adamu Aliero.
Flag-Down Ceremony by Hon. Minister of Health Prof. Baharunde Osotimehin, supported by Hon. Minister of State for Health Dr. Aiyu Idi Hong.

Route

The Walk and Float will take off from The Old Parade Ground Area 10, Garki (UTC, Festival Road, International Conference Centre and Radio House), through Area 11 (Emeka Anyaoku, NTA and FCDA), through Asokoro District (POWA School and Force Headquarters) to Eagle Square.

Save the children
&
WALK AGAINST POLIO

END POLIO NOW!

END POLIO NOW

An initiative of Supported by

Appreciation



Ahmed Ibrahim Dandija
Secretary to the Bauchi State Government
Maidalan Misau

In the name of Allah the most Beneficent and the most Merciful

On behalf of myself and members of my family, I wish to most sincerely express my gratitude and appreciation for the great honour done to me by the multitude of people who attended my turbaning ceremony as Maidalan Misau and member of Misau Emirate Council by His Royal Highness, Alhaji Muhammadu Manga III (OON), the Emir of Misau on Saturday, February 27, 2010. Indeed, I lack words to express exactly how elated I was at the unprecedented gathering of people from different walks of life who were at Misau to witness the historic turbaning ceremony. My special appreciation goes to His Excellency, Malam (Dr) Isa Yuguda, FNIM (Matawallen Bauchi), the Executive Governor of Bauchi State for sparing his precious time to grace the occasion in spite of his overcrowded engagements. My gratitude also goes to their Excellencies, Malam (Dr) Ibrahim Shekarau (Sardaunan Kano), the Executive Governor of Kano State, Dr. Mu'azu B̄abangida Aliyu, (Talban Minna), the Chief Servant of Niger State, Alhaji (Dr) Muhammadu Danjuma Goje (Sarkin Yakin Gombe), the Executive Governor of Gombe State and Alhaji Sule Lamido, the Executive Governor of Jigawa State who were respectively represented at the occasion. I also wish to thank His Excellency, Rt. Hon. Babayo Garba Gamawa, the Deputy Governor of Bauchi State, Dr. Ibrahim Yakubu Lame (Santurakin Bauchi), Honourable Minister of Police Affairs for their presence at the occasion and Hajiya Aishatu Jibril Dukku, Honourable Minister of State for Education who was represented. My gratitude goes to Justice Ibrahim Tanko, Justice of the Supreme Court of Nigeria and Justice Hussaini Mukhtar of the Federal Court of Appeal, Lagos Division and members of the National Assembly that include; Senator Mohammed A. Mohammed, Honourable Abdul Ahmed Ningi (Walin Ningi), Honourable Tata Umar, and Honourable Adamu Gurai. I am grateful to Alhaji Abubakar Ahmed Faggo, the Honourable Speaker, Bauchi State House of Assembly and Honourable Members of the Bauchi State House of Assembly. I thank their lordships, Justice Sabo Suleiman Darazo and Alhaji Abdullahi Yakubu Marafa, the Chief Judge and Grand Khadi of Bauchi State respectively and other High Court Judges and Khadis. I also wish to appreciate the presence of Justice A.R. Mohammed of the Federal High Court, Lagos Division. I remain most grateful to my colleagues, the Secretaries to the Governments of Borno, Gombe, Jigawa, Kano, Niger and Sokoto States as well as members of the Bauchi State Executive Council, Special Advisers, Senior Special Assistants, Special Assistants and Personal Assistants to the Executive Governor of Bauchi State for being physically present at the occasion to rejoice with me.

I remain most appreciative to their Royal Highnesses, the Emirs of Bauchi, Alhaji (Dr) Sulciman Adamu, CFR, Kano Alhaji (Dr) Ado Bayero, CFR, Gombe Alhaji (Dr) Shehu Usman Abubakar, CFR, Katagum Alhaji (Dr) Muhammad Kabir Umar, CFR, Jama'are Alhaji Ahmadu Muhammad Wabi III, OON, who were ably represented and Alhaji (Dr) Yunusa Muhammad Danyaya, OON, the Emir of Ningi and Alhaji Usman Bilyaminu Othman, the Emir of Dass for being present at the occasion. My appreciation also goes to Alhaji Ibrahim Coomassie (Sardaunan Katsina), former Inspector General of Police, Senator Bello Maitama Yusuf (Sardaunan Dutse), AIG Jingi Mohammed, Force Headquarters, Abuja, Alhaji Baba Umar Farouq, Federal Permanent Secretary, Head of Civil Service Bauchi State, Alhaji Abdulkadir Ibrahim (Cika Soron Bauchi), all Permanent Secretaries, Chief Executives of Parastatals and Heads of Extra Ministerial Departments, Protem Chairmen of Local Government Councils in Bauchi State, District Heads/ Titleholders and Village Heads. I am also grateful to Group Captain Muhammed Gololo for gracing the occasion. Finally, I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to all my personal friends and associates as well as other individuals and organizations who were either in attendance or represented at the ceremony but their names could not be mentioned due to space constraint: May Allah (SWT) reward all and sundry abundantly, Ameen.

My special appreciation also goes to the Chairman of the Central Planning / Working Committee of the turbaning ceremony, His Excellency, Ambassador Umar Babaji Misau (Wazirin Misau), his deputy, Alhaji Garba Muhammed Noma (Jarman Bauchi) and all members of the committee and the various sub-committees for their commitment and dedication which made the ceremony a huge success. I thank all the State Security Chiefs and their ranks and file who were at the occasion to rejoice with us and to maintain peace and order. I am also appreciative to members of the Press Corps for their coverage of the event before, during and after. I wish to express my sincere gratitude to His Royal Highness, the Emir of Misau, Alhaji Muhammadu Manga III, OON, for the confidence and trust he has in me to warrant the conferment of the title of not only Maidala but permanent member of Misau Emirate Council on my humble self. I will by the grace of the Almighty Allah discharge the duties of the office of Maidala to the best of my ability and that of the permanent member of Misau Emirate Council.

CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513
email: citynews@dailytrust.com

Three die in auto crash at Yangoji

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

THREE persons lost their lives while 16 others sustained serious injuries Monday morning in a ghastly motor accident that occurred at Yangoji village, along the Abuja-Lokoja highway.

An eyewitness said the incident happened when a Daf truck with registration number XA 345 ALR wrongly overtook while at top speed and crashed into a ditch killing three persons on the spot.

Our reporter learnt that the incident became fatal, when the back of the Daf truck that had 21 passengers, mostly traders, sitting on their goods, pulled out instantly.

The Yangoji Unit Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Abdullahi Umar, attributed the accident cause to wrong overtaking, adding that he mobilized his men to the scene immediately and evacuated 21 injured victims to Kwali General Hospital.

He said the dead victims were conveyed to the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital's Morgue by his men.

In another development, two persons also lost their lives while two others sustained serious injuries on Sunday evening in an accident that occurred at Kwaita village.

The Yangoji unit commander said the accident involved a Toyota Camry car with registration number FJ 304 NIC that overtook wrongly and collided head-on with a Volkswagen Golf car with registration number AS 304 AGL, killing the Golf driver on the spot.

He said another person died later while being conveyed to Abaji General Hospital by FRSC officials, adding that the two corpses were identified and handed over to their relatives for burial.

The FRSC unit commander said two of the victims that sustained serious injuries are receiving treatment at Abaji General Hospital.

Motorists jailed for bribing FRSC officials

By Usman A. Bello & Romoke W. Ahmad

TWO motorists, Ogundale Abby and Femi Osunyomi were on Monday sentenced by an Abuja magistrate court to two weeks imprisonment each for attempting to bribe Federal Road Safety Commission officials (FRSC) after violating traffic rules.

FRSC prosecuting counsel, Barrister Rems Umeh told the court that, Ogundale

Abby was making a phone call while driving his Nissan Sunny with registration number XE 487 AKR, adding that when he was arrested by FRSC officials; he attempted to bribe them with money.

Barrister Rems further told the court that Femi Osunyomi was caught driving a Sunny Nissan car with registration number AX 787 KUJ without wearing seat belt and in the process attempted to

bribe FRSC officials.

The accused persons pleaded guilty and begged the court to temper justice with mercy, adding that they will not do it again.

After their confession, Magistrate Emmanuel Iyana sentenced Ogundale to two weeks imprisonment or to pay N14,000 as fine, while Femi was sentenced to two weeks imprisonment or to pay N12,000 as fine in the alternative.

Cleaner accused of stealing underwears

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 26-year-old cleaner was yesterday arraigned before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly stealing his master's underwears.

The cleaner, Usher Adula was accused of stealing 24 different types of underwears from the house of one Ogie Medonyi.

Police prosecutor, Abdul Alhassan, told the court that on March 3, 2010, Ogie Medonyi reported to the police that the cleaner he employed to take care of his house stole 24 underwears from his house.

"The accused dishonestly stole 24 underwears valued at N50,000 and thereby com-

mitted an offence punishable under Section 288 of the Penal Code Law," the prosecutor added.

He stated further that during police investigations, the accused was caught red-handed with some of the stolen underwears.

When the one count charge was read to the accused, he pleaded not guilty and requested for bail.

Magistrate Idayat Akanni granted the accused bail in the sum of N20,000 with a reasonable surety in like sum, who must swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned date.

The case was adjourned to March 22 for hearing.

DRTS extends deadline on vehicle documents encoding

By Ogechi Ohalee

THE FCT Directorate of Road Traffic Services (DRTS) has extended to April 1, 2010 the deadline for motorists in the federal capital to encode their vehicle documents.

This was disclosed by Mr Okereke Alex of the public relations unit of the directorate, who said the electronic-enforcement is important in FCT and its environs because FCT is ranked amongst the developed cities in the world.

He said motorists have been given an ultimatum of three months to embrace the encoding system with the charge of N2,000 for encoding of vehicle documents and N1,000 for the encoding of driver's license.

Mr. Okereke also maintained that there will be no room for any fake production of the newly introduced gadgets, adding that if such occurs, the electronic gun would detect it and the victim will be penalized based on the law.

He said the device is only meant for vehicles, while the ones for motorbikes would be introduced later.

While explaining the



DRTS official, Mr Okereke Alex holding samples of electronic encoded computer micro-chips and driver's license yesterday.

operations of the device, the DRTS officials said the device is a form of computer microchips that helps to get the information and the validity of driver's license.

He said enforcement of expired vehicle documents that are usually done manually would now be done electronically, adding that with the new device, traffic congestion that occurs as a result of manual checks will now be drastically reduced and conflict between road traffic officers and motor-

ists that usually occurs brought to an end.

When asked about the seizure of motorcycles littering DRTS premises, Mr Okereke said they belonged to recalcitrant motorcyclists that refused to adhere to the ban on their operations imposed by the FCT Administration.

He said the seized motorbikes will not be released because there is a policy statement regarding their release and it would be enforced later.



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) OF THE PROPOSED LANDFILL SITE BY NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT

In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act No. 86 of 1992, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major development activities to carry out Environmental Impact Assessment on their proposed projects, the Federal Ministry of Environment hereby announces a twenty-one (21) working days public notice for information and comments on the EIA report submitted by Nasarawa State Government.

Project Description

The proposed project would involve construction of sanitary landfill site of 102m by 64.67m to a depth of 2.55m below ground level, lined with clay material, equipped with leachate collection system and other associated facilities to handle municipal waste.

The Display Centres are:

- (i) Nasarawa State Ministry of the Environment, Lafia, Nasarawa State.
- (ii) FMENV Office, Games Village Surulere, Lagos State.
- (iii) FMENV Office, Plot 444 Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja
- (iv) Headquarters of Karu Local Government Area, Karu Nasarawa State.
- (v) FMENV Office, Lafia Nasarawa State.

Duration of Display

Date: 8th March - 5th April, 2010
Time: 8.00am - 4.00 pm daily.

ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT ON OR BEFORE 5TH APRIL, 2010

SIGNED
PERMANENT SECRETARY
FOR: HONOURABLE MINISTER.

Driver charged with assaulting master

By Usman A. Bello & Doris Afoma West

A 28-year-old driver, Anyagh Memorial, was yesterday arraigned before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly assaulting his employer, an offence contrary to Section 265 of the Penal Code Law.

Police prosecutor David Udeh told the court that on March 6, 2010, one Dr. Ihenseklien Paul

reported to the police that the accused, who resides at Mararaba in Nasarawa State, drove his ambulance to an unknown destination without his consent.

He said the accused assaulted the complainant and injured him on his hands and legs while he was collecting the car key from him.

When the charge was read, the accused pleaded not guilty

and requested for bail, which was not objected to by the prosecutor.

Magistrate Grace O. Oyamendan granted the accused bail in the sum of N5,000 with two sureties in like sums, who must be civil servants of any grade level as well as reside within the court's jurisdiction.

The case was adjourned to March 17 for hearing.

Motorist crashes into PHCN pole at Karu

By Tosin Omoniye, Nathaniel Jonah & Bunmi Omolehin

WHAT could have turned out to be a major tragedy was averted yesterday at Karu site when a brown coloured Honda Legend car crashed into a high tension wiring pole belonging to Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN).

A witness said the female driver was trying to avoid collision with some vehicles when she crashed on the pole that led to the collapse of two other poles.

The witness said one of the fallen poles narrowly missed crushed a telephone operator, who

sustained minor bruises.

When our reporter visited the scene of the incident, officials of the PHCN, policemen and concerned members of the public were seen milling around the place.

The driver, who was in a state of shock, did not answer journalists' questions, while a PHCN official disclosed that they responded to the distress call by cutting off power supply in the area.

He praised God that the accident happened during the time of power outage, adding that the consequences would have been disastrous for the lady driver and other persons around the vicinity if electricity was on.

Scavenger jailed for stealing air conditioner

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 20-year-old scavenger was yesterday sentenced to six months imprisonment for stealing an air conditioner belonging to one Peter Okafor.

The scavenger, Bala Yusuf of no fixed address was jailed for breaking into the shop of the complainant and making away with the said item on March 4, 2010.

Police prosecutor, Yilkudi Dungji, told the court that on March 4, Peter Okafor reported to the police that a friend of his alerted him that the scavenger had broken into his shop.

"The complainant quickly ran to the place and found out that his air conditioner valued at N40,000 had been stolen by the scavenger," the prosecutor added.

He stated further that the complainant quickly pursued the thief and apprehended him as he was trying to escape with the stolen air conditioner, adding that the scavenger committed an offence punishable under Section 288 of the Penal Code Law.

When the charge was read to the accused, he pleaded guilty and begged for leniency.

Based on the plea, the prosecutor asked the court to try the accused summarily under Section 157 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

In her ruling, Magistrate Omolola Oladipo sentenced the accused to six weeks imprisonment or to pay N2,000 as fine.

“The complainant quickly pursued the thief and apprehended him as he was trying to escape with the stolen air conditioner.”

(Form 1)
(Order 4 rules 1 and 2)
**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
IN THE ABUJA JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT ABUJA**

BETWEEN
ARCHITECT (ALH.) ZANNA BUDABE GANA } PLAINTIFF
AND
1. FEDERAL HOUSING AUTHORITY }
2. FEDERAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY } DEFENDANTS
3. PERSONS NAMES UNKNOWN }

TO:
1. FEDERAL HOUSING AUTHORITY } Julius Niyere
Crescent, Off Ecowas St } Asokoro, Abuja.
2. FEDERAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY } Administration Headquarters } FCT
3. PERSONS NAMES UNKNOWN } Asokoro, Abuja

MEMORANDUM TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE COURT
This Writ is to be served within seven calendar months from the date thereof, or if duly renewed, at the Registry of the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory in which the action is to be brought or by sending them to the Registrar by registered post.

ENDORSEMENT TO BE MADE ON THE WRIT BEFORE ISSUE THEREOF:
The Plaintiff claims against the defendants as follows:

- A DECLARATION** that the Plaintiff is entitled to the Statutory Right of Occupancy over all the landed property lying, being situate at and known as Plot No. 678A, A-close, 693 Road, Gwarinpa II Estate, Abuja for Residential Development Purpose covered by Allocation/Offer No. FHA/ES/GWA.II/P.678A of 11th April, 2003 under the hand and authority of Engineer Ibrahim Mustapha and Abuja Geographic Information System (AGIS) Recertification New file No. 15298 (Area Council: FCC) dated June 17, 2008, measuring approximately 2,500sqm covered by boundary beacons numbers: PB 1, 113 TO PB 2,189; PB3,30-PB4,293 captured on the Survey map by Land Survey Unit, Estate Services Division, Federal Housing Authority, Asokoro, Abuja.
- A DECLARATION** that it is unconstitutional, unlawful, illegal, ultra vires, null and void for the 1st and 2nd Defendants to Re-allocate the property to the 3rd Defendants or any other person whatsoever when the interests of the Plaintiff over the property is still subsisting in the tenor of relief 1 above.
- A DECLARATION** that the Plaintiff has better rights and/or title in law and equity against the 3rd Defendant(s) over all that property lying, being, situate at and known as Plot No. 678A, A-close, 693 Road, Gwarinpa II Estate, Abuja for Residential Development purpose covered by Allocation/Offer No. FHA/ES/GWA. II/P.678A of 11th April, 2003 under the hand and authority of Engineer Ibrahim Mustapha and Abuja Geographic Information Systems (AGIS) Recertification New File No. 15298 (Area Council: FCC) dated June 17, 2008, measuring approximately 2,500 sqm covered by boundary beacons numbers: PB1,113 TO PB 2,109; PB3,30 TO PB4,293 captured on the Survey map by Land Survey Unit, Estate Services Division, Federal Housing Authority, Asokoro, Abuja.
- AN ORDER** setting aside any purported Re-allocation of the interest of the Plaintiff in the said property to the 3rd Defendant(s) or any other person whatsoever.
- AN ORDER** of perpetual injunction restraining the Defendants whether by themselves, agents, privies or servants whatsoever and however defined from further acts capable of negatively interfering with the Plaintiff's subsisting interests over the property which is the subject of this suit.
- N25,000,000.00 (Twenty Five Million Naira), only damages** for Trespass.

Dated this 10th day of February 2010

JOSIAH DANIEL-EBUNE
PLAINTIFFS' COUNSEL
PP: PROFILE PARTNERS
(DANIEL-EBUNE, ABDULLAH & CO.)
Suite 3075 F, Fabled Plaza
Plot 2219, Constantine Street,
Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.

This Writ of Summons was issued by Josiah Daniel-Ebune, Esq, of Profile Partners (Daniel-Ebune, Abdullahi & Co.) Suite 3075F Fabled Plaza, Abuja, Legal Practitioners to the said Plaintiff who resides at House No. 124 Gwarinpa, Abuja.

ENDORSEMENT TO BE MADE ON COPY OF WRIT FORTHWITH AFTER SERVICES.

This writ was served by me at _____ on the defendant _____ On the _____ day of _____ 2010. The Registry, High Court of the FCT, _____ in the _____ Judicial Division.

A sufficient affidavit in verification of the endorsement on this Writ to authorize the sealing thereof has been produced to me (this) _____ day of _____ 2010.

REGISTRAR

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY
HOLDEN AT ABUJA**
BEFORE HIS LORDSHIP HON. JUSTICE BUCHUKWU, A. OGAKWU, JUDGE

BETWEEN
ARCHITECT (ALH.) ZANNA BUDABE GANA PLAINTIFF/APPLICANT
AND
1. FEDERAL HOUSING AUTHORITY }
2. FEDERAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY } DEFENDANTS/RESPONDENTS
3. PERSONS UNKNOWN }

COURT ORDER

UPON THIS MOTION EX PARTE dated and filed on the 10th day of February, 2010 praying the Court for the following:

- AN ORDER granting leave to the Plaintiff/Applicant to serve the Defendants/Respondents in this proceedings the Writ of Summons issued in this proceedings and all other processes by substituted means, to wit by publication in THISDAY NEWSPAPER or DAILY TRUST NEWSPAPER and/or delivery of same to any workman found on the property by the Plaintiff/Applicant and leaving the same in person, mail and proper service.
- AN ORDER of Injunction restraining the Defendants whether by themselves, their privies, agents, servants, whomsoever and however defined from further interfering and/or tampering with the subsisting interest of the Plaintiff/Applicant over the subject matter of this suit being, situate at and known as Plot No. 678A, A-close, 693 Road, Gwarinpa II Estate, Abuja for residential purpose covered by Allocation/Offer No. FHA/ES/GWA.II/P.678A of 11th April, 2003 and AGIS Recertification File No. 15298 (Area Council: FCC) dated June 17, 2008, measuring approximately 2,500sqm covered by boundary beacons numbers: PB1, 113 TO PB2, 189; PB3, 30 TO PB4, 293 captured on the survey map by land survey unit, Estate Services Division, FHA, Asokoro Abuja and which same plot is adjacent to, situated and connected with the plaintiff's residence House No. 124, 693 Road, Adkan Estate, Gahadina, Gwarinpa, FCT, Abuja pending the hearing and determination of the Motion Notice.
- AND for such further or other Order(s) as the Honourable Court may deem fit to make in the circumstances.

AND AFTER READING the affidavits in support of the motion experts sworn to by the Applicant, Architect Zanna Budabe Gana, professional Architect and Businessman, male, adult, Muslim, Nigerian citizen of House 124, 693 Road, Adkan Estate, Gahadina, Gwarinpa, Abuja Federal Capital Territory and filed at the FCT High Court Central Registry, Abuja.

AND UPON HEARING Josiah Daniel-Ebune, Esq., of counsel for the Plaintiff/Applicant move in terms of the motion paper.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

- The writ of summons and all other court processes in this matter are to be served on the 3rd Defendant by substituted means to wit: by publication in the THISDAY NEWSPAPER or DAILY TRUST NEWSPAPER and or by delivery of the same to any workman found on the property in dispute situate at and known as Plot 678A, A-close, 693 Road, Gwarinpa II Estate, Abuja and such service shall be good and proper service on the 3rd Defendant.
- The application for injunction is to be heard inter partes and it is fixed for hearing on the 16th March, 2010.
- Hearing notice is to be served on the Defendants.

ISSUED AT HIGH COURT NO. 14, ZONE 5, WUSE, ABUJA under the Seal of the Court and Hand of the Presiding Judge, this 1st day of March, 2010.

BAHA ADAMU
SENIOR REGISTRAR II

Sitting at High Court
No. 14 Wuse Zone 5 Abuja

FORM 2
JUD. CI
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE (FEDERAL COURT) OF
C.F.T. ABUJA OF NIGERIA
(Order 2 Rule 7)
HEARING NOTICE

Arch. (Alh.) Zanna Budabe Gana Plaintiff

Defendants: Federal Housing Authority & 2 others
Persons Unknown Plot No. 678A, A-close, 693 Road, Gwarinpa II Estate, Abuja.

This cause will be transferred from the General Cause List to the Hearing List on the 16th March 2010.

At 9:00am on the 16th day of March 2010, the Court will hear the Plaintiff/Applicant and will continue to be heard on that day if the business of the Court requires it.

If either party desires to participate in the hearing he must apply to the court as soon as possible for that purpose, and if the application is refused on any matter of fact, he must give proof of those facts.

The parties are warned that at the hearing they are required to bring forward all the evidence by witness or by documents which each of them desires to rely on in support of their case in connection with the issues in dispute. The proof will be required at the hearing, and on a subsequent day, and parties failing to bring their evidence forward at the proper time may find themselves precluded from adducing it at all, or at least only allowed to do so on payment of substantial costs to the other side, and on such terms as the court think fit to impose.

Parties desiring to withdraw the attendance of witness required, it is indispensable that the application should be made to the Court before the witness is called to the witness stand.

If the witness is required to bring books or papers, they must be produced to the witness stand in accordance with the order of the Court.

Any parties requiring a witness through the Court, thereby becoming liable to pay such witness a reasonable sum of money to be fixed by the Court, for his or her attendance.

The court may refuse to receive the attendance of a witness whose name has been first deposited in the cause.

If either party desires to use in evidence at the hearing any book or document in the possession or power of the other party, he must give the other party reasonable notice in writing to produce it at the hearing, failing which he will not be allowed to give any secondary evidence of its contents.

Dated at the High Court of Justice, Abuja, this 10th day of February 2010.

By order of the court



**BORNO STATE GOVERNMENT
MINISTRY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND
CHIEFTAINCY AFFAIRS
BORNO STATE**

**TENDERS FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF NEW LEXUS
JEEP L X 570 AND LAND CRUISER JEEP 4.7 LITRE
ENGINE (4-WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES)**

The Borno State Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs hereby invites tenders from suitably qualified contractors for submission of qualification documents for the procurement of the following vehicles:-

- 1. LEXUS JEEP L X 570 with the following features:-**
 - a. Fully loaded
 - b. Leather seat
 - c. Automatic transmission
- 2. LAND CRUISER JEEP 4.7 LITRE ENGINE with the following features:-**
 - a. Fully loaded
 - b. Leather seat
 - c. Automatic transmission

TENDER DOCUMENTS

The tender documents will be available for collection by all interested Contractors/Companies upon the payment of non-refundable fee of N25,000.00 per set with effect from Tuesday 9th March, 2010 in the office of the Permanent Secretary Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs. All completed tender documents should be accompanied with the following requirements:-

- (a) Evidence of Registration and Incorporation by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) or Borno State Ministry of Commerce.
- (b) Evidence of Registration with Borno State Government as a contractor or supplier.
- (c) Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years.
- (d) Evidence of Financial Capability.
- (e) Company Profile.
- (f) Experience.

TENDER CLOSING DATE

The closing date for the submission of all tender documents has been fixed for Tuesday 16th March, 2010 at 10:00am prompt.

TENDER OPENING:

All Contractors/Companies that have submitted their bidding documents should come for the opening at the office of the Permanent Secretary on Tuesday 16th March, 2010 by 2:00pm prompt.

Signed:

Zanna Ali Garga
Permanent Secretary
Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs,
Maiduguri, Borno State.



**BORNO STATE GOVERNMENT
MINISTRY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND
CHIEFTAINCY AFFAIRS
BORNO STATE**

**INVITATION FOR TENDERS FOR THE
PROCUREMENT OF NEW TRACTORS AND
IMPLEMENTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS**

The Borno State Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs hereby invites tenders from suitably qualified contractors/ suppliers for submission of qualification documents for the procurement of the underlisted:-

- a) **TRACTORS AND IMPLEMENTS**
 - i. Wheel Tractors 55 – 75 HP capacity
 - ii. Tractor Mounted Disc Plough (3 Points Linkage)
 - iii. Tractor Mounted Disc Harrow (Tandem or Offset)
 - iv. Tractor Trailer – 5 Ton capacity

b) **TENDER DOCUMENTS**

The tender documents will be available for collection by all interested Contractors/Suppliers upon the payment of non-refundable fee of N30,000.00 per set with effect from Wednesday 10th March, 2010 in the office of the Permanent Secretary Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs.

All completed tender documents should be accompanied with the following requirements:-

1. Evidence of Registration and Incorporation by the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) or Borno State Ministry of Commerce.
2. Evidence of Registration with Borno State Government as a contractor or supplier.
3. Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate for the last three (3) years.
4. Evidence of Financial Capability.
5. Company Profile.
6. Experience.

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Signed:

Zanna All Garga
Permanent Secretary
Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs,
Maiduguri, Borno State.



INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Zambezi Crescent Maitama District, P.M.B 0184 Garki -Abuja
Federal Capital Territory

JOB VACANCIES

Applications are invited from qualified candidates for the under-listed positions in the Commission:

A) Job Title: Asst Chief Registration Officer - (GL. 13)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

- i) Masters degree in Computer Science/Computer Engineering with at least 5 years cognate experience.
- ii) Bachelor's degree/HND in Computer Science/Computer Engineering with at least 10 years cognate experience.
- iii) Evidence of NYSC discharge certificate

B) Job Title: Registration Officer - (GL. 10 -12)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

- i) Bachelor's degree/HND in Computer Science/Computer Engineering with at least 6 years cognate experience.
- ii) Bachelor's degree/HND with formal post graduate Diploma in Computer Studies with at least 6 years cognate experience.
- iii) Evidence of NYSC discharge certificate

C) Job Title: Assistant Registration Officer I - (GL. 09)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

- i) Bachelor's degree with evidence of Computer literacy and at least three years cognate experience
- ii) Evidence of NYSC discharge certificate

D) Job Title: Assistant Registration Officer II - (GL. 08)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

Bachelor's degree with evidence of computer literacy

- i) Bachelor's degree with evidence of computer literacy.
- ii) Evidence of NYSC discharge certificate.

E) Job Title: Data Entry Operator - (GL.06-07)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

- i) OND/ND in Computer Science from a recognized Polytechnic/College of Technology depending on experience.
- ii) Evidence of NYSC discharge certificate.

F) Job Title: Legal Officer I - (GL. 09)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

- i) LLB/LB.

- ii) Evidence of NYSC discharge certificate.

- iii) Computer literacy is an added advantage.

G) Job Title: Admin. Officers - (GL.08-15)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

- I) At least a Bachelor's degree and cognate experience commensurate with the position applied for.

- ii) Evidence of NYSC discharge certificate.

- iii) Computer literacy is an added advantage.

H) Job Title: Executive Officer Cadre - (GL. 06-08)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

- I) HND, NCE, ND, OND from a recognized Polytechnic/College of Education.

- ii) Computer literacy is an added advantage.

I) Job Title: Store Officers - (GL.08)

Educational and professional Qualifications:

- I) A degree in Purchasing and Supply

- ii) A bachelor degree in Business Administration or other relevant fields.

- iv) Evidence of NYSC discharge certificate.

- lii) HND in Purchasing and supply

- ii) Computer literacy is an added advantage.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

1. Prospective candidates are expected to send their applications within 10 days from the date of this publication/advertisement attaching the following documents

- i) Curriculum Vitae;
- ii) Photocopies of Certificates; and
- iii) Two (2) passport photographs

2. All applications should be addressed to the: Secretary INEC, Zambezi Crescent, Maitama - Abuja.

3. All written applications to be deposited in a mail box at INEC State Office where the applicant resides.

4. FOR ONLINE APPLICATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www-inec.nigeria.org.

SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION



INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Plot 436, Zambezi Crescent, Maitama A5, P.M.B. 0184, Garki-Abuja

REQUEST FOR TENDER

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in pursuance of its statutory function and in compliance with Due Process requirement invites reputable firms for the supply of ink and toners for the printing of Register of Voters.

Ai. Project Description

| S/N | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLY | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| | | Supply of Hp 9000n Toner | Supply of Hp 9000n maintenance kit | Supply of Hp4700 color ink | Supply of Hp 460 ink Cartridges | Supply of Canon ip 1600 ink Cartridges | Supply of cold seal Laminates |
| 1 | South South Zonal Store | LOT 1 | LOT 7 | LOT 13 | LOT 19 | LOT 25 | LOT 31 |
| 2 | South West Zonal Store | LOT 2 | LOT 8 | LOT 14 | LOT 20 | LOT 26 | LOT 32 |
| 3 | South East Zonal Store | LOT 3 | LOT 9 | LOT 15 | LOT 21 | LOT 27 | LOT 33 |
| 4 | North Central Zonal Store | LOT 4 | LOT 10 | LOT 16 | LOT 22 | LOT 28 | LOT 34 |
| 5 | North West Zonal Store | LOT 5 | LOT 11 | LOT 17 | LOT 23 | LOT 29 | LOT 35 |
| 6 | North East Zonal Store | LOT 6 | LOT 12 | LOT 18 | LOT 24 | LOT 30 | LOT 36 |

Aii. LOT 37: Backup and processing of continuous voter registration data of 2009 & 2010 and integration of same into the State Server.

B. General Technical Requirement

The company/firm profile highlighting in details the following:

- Evidence of registration with Corporate Affairs Commission
- Immediate past three years Audit Account of the firm.
- Immediate past three years tax clearance of either the firm.
- Evidence of Financial capability and bank support.

- Details of experience / Technical qualification of key personnel
- List and Evidence of equipment and Technical capability to be utilized for the project
- Evidence of VAT registration and past VAT remittances
- Copies of current company bank statements, reference letter and consent to allow for verification with bankers.
- Registration with relevant professional body.

D. Financial Bids

- The unit cost for the supply of items bided for
- The bid validity period for the quoted prices

E. General Information

- All tender for lot 1 to 36 must be accompanied with non-refundable processing fee of N10,000.00 and tender for lot 37 must be accompanied with a non-refundable processing fee of N50,000.00.
- The closing date for submission of the tender shall be 14 days from the date of 1st publication of this advert in any national newspapers.
- Only firms that are technical responsive will be contacted after evolution of Technical bid and invite for opening of financial bid.

F. Submission

- Two copies of neatly bound technical proposal in separate envelopes clearly marked with the specific lot number Bided for.
- Two copies of neatly bound financial bid in separate envelopes clearly marked "Financial bid for the specific lot number Bided for".

All envelopes shall be sealed, addressed and submitted to:

The Secretary

INEC Headquarters

Plot 436, Zambezi Crescent,

Maitama A5, P.M.B. 0184,

Garki-Abuja.

Inside Politics

Why Kogi PDP must adopt consensus in 2011 – Tunde Ogbaha

SENATOR Tunde Ogbaha, from Kogi West Senatorial District, was in the National Assembly between 1999 and 2007 on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). In this interview with our correspondent, the former military administrator of old Bendel State bares his mind on Kogi politics. Excerpts:

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

COULD you give an insight into factors responsible for the recent mass exodus of opposition members to the PDP in Kogi State?

They must have been convinced that PDP is the best political party in the state. They must have been convinced by the good work the PDP government is doing in the state. They must also have been convinced that they stand a better chance for whatever they are looking for in the PDP-led administration. Nonetheless, with this development, I don't want to believe that Kogi has become a one-party state. I believe other political parties still exist in the state. We still have the All Nigerian Peoples Party (ANPP), the Action Congress (AC), the Labour Party (LP), the Peoples Progressive Alliance (PPA), and others. So, Kogi is not a one-party state and I don't hope it will ever become a one-party state. I believe that one-party system is not good for governance. Of course, there is a need for a viable opposition that would from time to time keep the government on its toes and set agenda for the government.

There are conflicting views on whether Governor Ibrahim Idris' tenure expires in 2011 or extends to 2012...

Well, my position is that the matter is still in the court. Let us see what the court will come out with. This is not peculiar to Governor Ibrahim Idris alone. There are other state governors that are involved in this matter. And once the court makes

“ Sometimes, primaries have the instrument of dividing a political party and that is why you find out that after primaries, dissatisfied candidates would leave to join some other parties to contest elections.

a pronouncement, we will know where to take it from.

You are presumed to be nursing ambition for the next political dispensation. Is it for governorship or third-term shot in the Senate?

Neither of the two! My political ambition is to be part of the group that will ensure good governance and be part of the group that will ensure the emergence of a right governor that would take Kogi State to the next level irrespective of where he comes from.

Does that in imply that you are looking forward to becoming a godfather?

You seem to be getting me wrong! Being part of a group that determines the emergence of a right governor in the state does not necessarily imply being a political godfather. What I mean is that I want to be part of a group that will ensure some form of equality in the leadership of the state by ensuring power shift. All along, we have been having power residing in the Eastern part of the state. I want to see a situation where the Eastern part of Kogi State will voluntarily encourage either the Central or the Western part of the state to have a shot at the leadership. So, I want to be part and parcel of that group that will ensure equity and fairness by having a power shift in the Kogi State.

Are you suggesting that there are no strong politicians from the West and Central areas that can challenge the East?

No, that is not the issue! You know politics, particularly election, is about numbers, not about how strong you are as an individual. You can make your noise, but at the end of the day, it is the numbers that talk. I will want to believe that a minority should have the opportunity to lead Kogi State, even the country as a whole just like we have seen it happen in the United States of America. In the USA, whether you come from the minority or the majority, if the people believe in you, they would put you in office. That is how democracy should operate in an ideal situation.

But the state chairman of the PDP, Mallam Hassan Salawu, has said there would be no consensus candidates in Kogi for the next general elections. Do you subscribe to this?

I don't know what he meant or in what context he was talking about consensus candidates. I bet to differ from him. Consensus is part of politics and democracy. There is no democracy or politics without consensus. It only depends on one's understanding of consensus. Consensus means that people come around to shift ground and agree on a common issue irrespective of various oppositions. That is what democracy is all about. You cannot start pushing for an agenda and hope that people would follow you through such an agenda. No. You have to keep an open mind and ensure that you dialogue with people. And at the end of the day, you get to a consensus. Even while having primary elections, the result is consensus. We can sit down without going into primaries and resolve that somebody should represent us and everybody would agree. Some people may not agree or be happy about such a resolution, but they must agree that the interests of the people and the state or the country, as the case may be, must be our utmost priority. And if the interest of the people is protected while arriving at a consensus candidate, it is good for democracy. Sometimes, primaries have the instrument of dividing a political party and that is why you find out that after primaries, dissatisfied candidates would leave to join some other parties to contest elections. What happened recently in Anambra State was an entirely different situation. You cannot say that the emergence of Professor Charles Soludo was as a result of a consensus arrangement in the PDP. No. The stakeholders did not agree. In a situation where party stakeholders agree that somebody would be their candidate, he/she becomes a consensus candidate.

How then would that guarantee a level playing ground for individual aspirants and candidates during primaries?

Don't get me wrong! When I talk about having a consensus, I don't mean the level ground is not playing. It is. What I am saying is



SENATOR Tunde Ogbaha

that, if you want to win an election, but you are better off being in government through consensus than being in opposition through a primary-conducted election. If you can avoid going into primaries, fine! But if you cannot, then you go into primaries and the outcome of the primaries is that it divides the party. It would create factions and there might not be enough time to smoothen out those factions.

What is your assessment of Governor Ibrahim Idris' administration in Kogi State?

He is doing well to the best of his ability. He has kept the state together, and that is why people are joining the party. Governor Idris has brought credibility to the party. As far as I am concerned, he has done well so far.

During your eight years in the Senate, what impact did you make either on your immediate constituency or the country as a whole?

The records are there. I did what I was constitutionally expected to do.

Like what?

I was a very strong voice for my senatorial district in particular and the Federal Republic of Nigeria as a whole. I was able

to influence certain projects that came to my state.

What and where are the projects specifically?

WE provided water and constructed roads, particularly the Ayetoro-Egan road which has gone half-way. We have been able to give the various communities water and to some extent, electricity in some areas.

But water scarcity is still a perennial problem in your constituency...

The problem is everywhere in the country, not only in my constituency, not even only in Kogi State. It is very unfortunate, but I do hope that the situation will change for better one day. For instance, the Kogi State government has awarded the Greater Lokoja Water Project which, if completed, will to some extent bring to an end this perennial problem of water shortage in the state capital. And I am sure the governor too has taken some bold steps in providing water in some communities. I hope it would be continued to such an extent where every community in the state will have potable water supply so that we would have a very healthy community where the incident of water-related diseases would be drastically reduced.

NORTHERN MEMO TO "JONATHAN PRESIDENCY" (1)

Recent events in the country have caused serious concern to all peace-loving citizens of this great country. Specifically, the brazen attempt to seize upon the health challenges of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua to create circumstances that would lead to far-reaching political changes in the Presidency and even disrupt the power-sharing equations that saw to the emergence of the Yar'adua-Goodluck Jonathan Presidency in 2007, have jolted the very foundations of our nationhood. For the majority of Nigerians who initially saw no harm in the Vice-President acting for the President until he is able to resume his duties, it was a rude shock to witness the series of schemes designed to undo the Yar'adua Presidency and install a "new" administration under Goodluck Jonathan. The ensuing shift in geo-political priorities and the rekindling of sectional sentiments by elements involved in the scheming pushed Nigeria to the very brink of civil unrest. That the worst scenario did not eventually unfold is attributable God Almighty and the courageous intervention of responsible people in government and other patriotic leaders.

In the aftermath of those tense moments, it has dawned on all Nigerians that the undesirable traits of ethnic championship and elitist power-mongering which once threatened the survival of Nigeria are still very much around and that, at the slightest opportunity, there are people in the country who will go to any length to gain undue advantage and even deny other people their legitimate rights in the process. So it came to pass that while the majority of peace-loving citizens were fervently praying for the full recovery of President Umaru Musa Yar'adua, a handful of "statesmen" in positions of power and influence had gone far in not only wishing him dead but even positioning themselves to take-over the reins of government. Thus the temporariness of an acting capacity was lost on those who would rather see themselves as ministers and they had no qualms as they went about instigating Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to sack the cabinet, to change the service chiefs, to abandon the 7 Point Agenda, to launch his own agenda..... in short to carry on as if President Umaru Musa Yar'adua no longer exists!

Any expectation that the looming possibility of a national crisis over the deliberate undermining of the Yar'adua Presidency will dissuade the power-seeking schemers has been dashed with the continuation of the sinister agenda by other means. Not being able to achieve their ultimate goal of replacing an elected President by undemocratic maneuvers, they have now resorted to cunningly chipping away the defining features of the Yar'adua Presidency and replacing them with pseudo-administrative contraptions such as the Presidential Advisory Council, peopled by the very characters whose false alarms and pretentious posturing paved the way for what has been rightly described as a civilian palace coup. From its terms of reference and its chairman's "doctrine of urgency", it is clear that the agenda is to hurriedly do as much irreparable damage to the Yar'adua Presidency as possible, in utter contempt of the recuperating President's prerogatives.

Then there is the surreptitious muck-raking committee ostensibly set-up to audit federal contracts in selected ministries but actually created to lend credence to the "Jonathan Presidency's" premeditated objective of giving the dog a bad name in order to hang it. From all indications, the acting President is intent on going ahead with his vendetta against the Yar'adua Presidency by changing tactics aimed at

targeting and eliminating Ministers who are now regarded as loyalists of President Yar'adua because disloyalty is the new name of the game. In the same way that Aondoakaa was singled out and sidelined for his principled vigilance in defense of the constitutional provisions relevant to the circumstances of President Yar'adua's absence on medical grounds, ministers and other top officials of the Yar'adua Cabinet, especially from the North-West geo-political zone are already being witch-hunted using the southern Press to publish concocted defamatory "petitions" against them as a prelude to removing them from the cabinet. Their "offence" is simply remaining loyal to the living President who appointed them as demanded by their oaths of office instead of sheepishly switching loyalty to get into the good books of the acting President. Meanwhile, Dora Akunyili who flagrantly leaked an official cabinet memo to the southern Press before it was presented, flippantly betrayed the ulterior motives of the southern pro-Jonathan ministers and finally earned a resounding rebuke even from her embarrassed kith and kin, all in her ignoble role as the queen of the cult, remains the heroine of the travesty of trust.

It is no longer a secret that the acting President who has usurped a permanent status to further a sectional agenda has already earmarked the most strategic positions in the Presidency for those who helped him on his road to perdition. We shall therefore be witnessing more callous acts of betrayal of trust against a leader who used to refer to his brotherly relationship with his deputy as a reference point in humility and human relations. The vindictiveness of the "Jonathan Presidency" contrasts sharply with the magnanimity that Yar'adua extended in the amnesty programme for the Niger Delta militants, pardoning their armed rebellion and deliberate sabotage of the nation's economic life-line and embracing them in Aso Villa. Today it is Yar'adua's people who are on the receiving end of man's inhumanity to man by a power-hungry clique who would bury him alive if they could. At the end of the day, it is the nationalistic commitment of President Yar'adua and his many trail-blazing policies and programmes that are already manifesting positively all over the country that will be lasting legacies, while the opportunists thriving on his health challenges hide their faces in shame.

If the so-called 12 wise men who told Acting President the bitter truth about the futility of his blind ambition have today been rendered mere fools, the vast majority of Nigerians, especially from the North, who have been disgusted by the doctrine of ethnic opportunism, cannot be fooled. Let it be known that we are very much aware of our political rights in Nigeria today and we shall bravely resist and reject all the crude, undemocratic, unconstitutional and illegal activities being perpetrated in order to impose a Niger Delta centered agenda through hand-picked stooges. The Yar'adua Presidency is not over and will not be over until 2011. All these schemes will only terminate the initial goodwill sooner than diminishing President Umaru Musa Yar'adua as Nigeria's President.

WATCH OUT FOR THE NEXT MEMO

**Baba Kura Ajiya
Madanni Dantala
Bashari Zango**

Coalition of Northern Political Youth Organisations

Headquarters :
Plot 2607, Sabon Gari Extension Kano

TRUST CLASSIFIED

FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTRE, AZARE, BAUCHI STATE
(OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION)
ADDENDUM
RE: SENIOR STAFF VACANCIES

We refer to our Senior Staff Vacancies Advertisement published in the Daily Trust and Nigerian Tribune Newspapers of Monday, February, 22nd 2010 and wish to make the following amendments:

1. CLINICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT:
a) Post: Assistant Medical Social Officer II
Requirements: Candidate must possess Ordinary National Diploma in Social Work from a recognized institution.
Salary: CONTESS 5/1 i.e. #224,196.00 p.a./CONHESS 5/1 i.e. #378,719.00 p.a. **NOT** CONTESS 6/2 earlier advertised.

b) Post: Medical Imaging Scientist I
Requirements: Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Radiography from recognized University and must have obtained registration of Radiographers Registration Board of Nigeria with NYSC discharge or exemption certificate.
Salary: CONTESS 8/2 i.e. #695,053.00 p.a./CONHESS 8/2 i.e. #1,141,189.00 p.a.

Please note also that the amounts indicated against each salary in the earlier advert was per annum and that the closing date for the submission of applications and method of application remain unchanged.

(SIGNED) KABIR M. LELE
HEAD OF ADMINISTRATION
For: MEDICAL DIRECTOR

MISSING DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public that the **DEED OF ASSIGNMENT COVERING** the property known and situate at No. J25 Ali Akilu Marafa Housing Estate Independence Way Kaduna dated the 6th day of June, 2002 issued by Kaduna state Property and Development Company Limited (KSPDC) to one **DR. ANDREW A. NKOM** is missing whosoever engages in any transaction involving the said property using the said missing **DEED OF ASSIGNMENT** by way of sale, purchase, rent, lease and or as collateral to obtain loan does so at their own peril. **CAVEAT EMPTOR.**

Signed:
Barr. Amos Ibrahim Ango
08069084043

KANKIYA DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The public is hereby notified that, the above named organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Alh. Musa Hassan Sada (Kankiya Katsina) Chairman
2. Alh. Yaku Kankiya (Dan Iman Katsina)
3. Ibrahim Bature Ahmed
4. Alh. Sada Ladan (Wakkyukan Katsina)
5. Alh. Lawal Kankiya Ibrahim
6. Alh. Gambo Magam
7. Alh. Aliyu Musa Dangwa
8. Alh. Yahaya Suleiman Gachi
9. Alh. Dalha Kankiya
10. Hajji Zainab Sula Kankiya
11. Alh. Sanusi Imam Kankiya

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To assist in enlightening the people of Kankiya local government area on all programmes and policies that boarder on social services, health, education/Youth training and skills acquisition to be implemented by the association.
2. To provide educational training skill acquisition and humanitarian services which are in the opinion of the association are calculated to empower youth, aged parents, orphans and vulnerable children.
3. To assist in the improvement of the human and materials resources, socially and economically for the development of the people of Kankiya local government area.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, P.M.B 196, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed: Barrister Murtala A Kankiya

ASSOCIATION OF HANDNEAT DESIGNER KWARA STATE

The General Public is hereby notified that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ARE:

- 1-Mr. Anafi Ganiyu Olobi
- Justice Alhaji Issa Yahaya
- Mr. Tayo Sadat
- Hajia Saku Folorunso
- Muntala Ajinkirun
- Elijah Adewale
- Malam Yisa Alabi Olorun-Oje

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE

- 1-To promote Nigerian image through creativities and research on Handneat design
- 2-To encourage and empower youths on self-reliance through Nigerian Handneat design
- 3-To ensure fairness between males and females in our society by visual of treating them equally through our profession.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC), Wuse zone 5, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed
Mr. Anafi Ganiyu Olobi

LOSS OF LAND DOCUMENT

The general public is hereby notified of the loss of Original Allocation papers Conveyance provisional approval of Plot No. 290 900m2 in Dawaki extension layout dated 15/10/2001 and plot No. 111 800m2 Gbanzago No. 111 layout Kubwa Abuja, also issued on 15/10/2001 by Bwari Area Council Abuja, belonging to Alh. Musa Ma 'aji ACP (Rtd) of Area 1, section II Block 8, flat 3, Kano Street Garki, Abuja, got missing. All effort made to trace the missing documents proved abortive. If found, please contact the nearest Police Station or call 08033114372, 07025133091, AGIS and Bwari Area Council Please take note.

LOSS OF C OF O FILE NO TR 10011
PLOT 470 CADASTAL ZONE B09 KADO

This is to inform the general public that the original certificate of occupancy aforementioned in the name of Saleh Abubakar is missing. All efforts to trace it proved abortive. Please if found contact the nearest police station or call, GSM No. 08034528003

SHEEP AND GOATS DEALERS ASSOCIATION POTISKUM

This is to notify the general public that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part "C" of the companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
To foster unity, progress and peaceful coexistence between members and the general public

TRUSTEES

- 1 Ibrahim Mai Jeni
- 2 Abdulhamid Alhaji Basharu
- 3 Mohammed Bello Garba
- 4 Haruna Jale

Any objection to the registration of the above named organization should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 565, Ndola Square, Wuse Zone 5, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

SIGNED
B.A Potiskum Esq

NURSE GOD GIFT FOUNDATION

This is to notify the general public that the above named CLUB has applied for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No.1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Ukodhiko Jonathan
2. Mrs. Ukodhiko Sarah
3. Prof. Emmanuel Emenayo

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To provide educational materials for the indigent students.
2. To provide assistance to the poor and the needy in the society.
3. To cater for the less privileged.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, PMB 198 Garki, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
OGUNBODEDE O. O.
Suite 42, Dansville Plaza, Behind AP Filing Station, Gudu, Apo, District, Abuja.

PROMOTION OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL MUM FOUNDATION

The General Public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Lilian Bola Bach
2. Mr. Johnson Davidson
3. Pastor Cynthia Okobi

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To encourage the general wellbeing of mothers in all areas of their livelihood.
2. To instill discipline in the physical outlook of mothers in their domestic homes.
3. To encourage high sense of integrity in the social, domestic and industrial endeavours of mothers generally.
4. To teach mothers that they should be role models to the oncoming mothers in the society.
5. To create awareness that there is reward in to mothers who live exemplary life of honesty, discipline, and dedication to duty and welfare of their household.

Any objection to the registration shall be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Tigris Crescent, Maitama Abuja within twenty-eight day of this publication.

Signed:
DANDI AKURUNWA & CO.
Legal Practitioners
Suite D5 Babbar Complex,
Area 11 Garki - Abuja.

ABSOLUTE CHRIST POWER MISSION
19B Shodeinde Street, Off Sanni Balogun Street, Abule-Egba, Lagos

This is to notify the general public that the above named ministry has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Rev. Solomon Adesoji Akinremi
2. Pastor (Mrs.) Sarah Anike Akinremi
3. Deacon Oluwasegun Omowo
4. Dr. Pastor Gideon D. Akinremi
5. Deaconess Stella Olowo
6. Mr. Daniel Oluwaseyi Akinremi

THE PRINCIPAL AIMS AND OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To preach Jesus salvation to all mankind.
2. To build up believers in Christ to maturity.
3. To train ministers to serve the Lord within and outside Nigeria.
4. To liberate the oppressed by the power of Jesus.
5. To prepare believers for heaven.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to The Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days (twenty-eight) of the date of publication.

Signed: Omoniye Olanrewaju
08023317670

CHANGE OF NAME

I formerly **KNOWN AS WILLIAMS ARAGAYE** now wish to be known and addressed as **EZEKEKE CHINEDU**. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

I formerly **MISS DEMIDE RUKEVWE BENEDICTA**; now wish to be known **EMEKEME RUKEVWE BENEDICTA**. NYSC and general public take note.

I formerly **BINTA IDRIS MAIGANA**, now **MRS. BINTA DAHIRU HAMBALI ABU**, NYSC and general public take note.

I formerly **MISS GBAMWUAN MAUREEN** now wish to be called **MRS IOREREBE MAUREEN**. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and General Public take note.

Formally called **SAJE IBRAHIM** now wish to be called **UMARANGWALIBE**. All documents remained valid. College of Agriculture Gujba and the public to note

Formally called **SARATU GABRIEL** now wish to be called **SARATU TIMOTHY HASSAN**. All documents remained valid. General public to note.

I, formerly known as **FATIMA SHUAIB**, now **FATIMA SHUAIB BARMA**. All former documents remain valid, NYSC and general public to note.

I formally called **CLEMENT AFAM ST. COLE** now wish to be called **CLEMENT EFE ST. COLE**. All documents remained valid. Federal Polytechnic Damaturu and the public to note.

I formerly known as **MISS OMOLE ADENIKE OLUWABUKOLA ESTHER**, now wish to be known as **MRS. ADEKUNLE ADENIKE ESTHER**. All former documents remain valid. Oasis International College, Abuja and general public to note.

I, formerly known as **MISS RAUTHA MARKUS BIDAS** now wish to be known as **MRS. FELIX RAUTHA MUSA GARKAWA**. All former documents remain valid. College of Education Gindiri and the general public should note.

Formerly **MISS NARIN SHIBES GWAJON** wish to be called **MRS NARIN SAMUEL ADUDU**. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and public to note.

I, formerly known and called **ELEOJO JOHN OYIBO**, wish to be known as **MRS ELEOJO AMANA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **FAITH LEYIRA IKPAMII**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS FAITH LEYIRA ASIA**. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS DIAKPOMRERE OGHENETEGA YVONNE**, now wish to be called **MRS OGHENETEGA YVONNE ENUJIOKE**. All former documents remain valid. Nigeria University Commission and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **SUNDAY ELOM OGE**, wish to be called **SUNDAY IDENIYI OGEY**. All former documents remain valid. The Presidency, University of Abuja and general public to take note.

I, formerly known as **AUDU ROSELYN EBI-OJO**, wish to be called **ROSELYN EBIOJO LUKE-ABU**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly called **MISS NANA HAWAWU JIMOH**, now wish to be known as **MRS NANA HAWAWU SADIKU**. All former documents remain valid. General public, FUT-Minna to note.

I, formerly **HALIMAT JOY SHUAIBU**, now wish to be known as **MRS HALIMAT KENNEDY GALADIMA**. All former documents remain valid. CMFB, and general public to take note.

I, formerly known as **HASHIMU DAHIRU GABAS**, henceforth wish to be called **HASHIMU DAHIRU ABDULLAH GABAS**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

GAMAWA AL-ANSAR WELFARE FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named organization has applied for registration to the Corporate Affairs Commission under Part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) Mallam Bala Mohammed Kurara Esq. | (2) Mallam Sani Mohammed |
| (3) Mallam Aliyu Mohammed Said | (4) Mallam Bappah Akawu |
| (5) Mallam Manza Dahiru | (6) Mallam Saghir Ibrahim |
| (7) Mallam Babagida Mohammed | (8) Mallam Muhammed Umar |
| (9) Mallam Dahiru Mohammed | (10) Alhaji Ahmed Rufai |

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- (1) Protecting the rights and dignity of weak and vulnerable in our community/society
- (2) Providing assistance to way fever
- (3) Assisting weak families in our community in matrimonial matters
- (4) Providing assistance to sick and elderly person and orphans and needy children especially in matter of their education including Religion education

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission Plot 420, Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maidama Abuja within 28 days of this publication

Signed:
Mallam Bala Mohammed Kurara Esq.

Public Notice

POPULATION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INITIATIVE

The general public is hereby informed that the above named organization has applied for Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Acts Cap 59 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990.

The Trustees are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Dr. Mairo Mandara | 6. Dr. Mohammed Abdul |
| 2. Prof. Oladapo Shitta | 7. Dr. Halima Ben-Umar |
| 3. Dr. Habib Sadauki | |
| 4. Dr. Clara Ejembi | |
| 5. Dr. Fatima Adamu | |

The Aims and Objectives:

1. To create awareness on health care system.
2. To enhance the capacity of graduate staffs of relevant departments in universities in the Northern State in areas of community based research operations in reproductive health.
3. To embark on enlightenment programmes towards improved preventive measures for the women population on maternal mortality.

Any objective to the proposed registration should be direct to the Registration-General Corporate Affairs Commission plot 420 Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Abuja, 28th days of this publication.

Signed:
F.M. Shitta

Public Notice

OJISA EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby informed that the above named organization has applied for Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Acts Cap 59 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 1990.

The Trustees are:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Saidu Onajite Ogedegbe | 4. Dr. Shehu Mahdi |
| 2. Mega Faith Oghoro | 5. Hadizatu Seidu |
| 3. Yvonne Asheshe | |

The Aims and Objectives:

1. To advocate for the development and effective implementation of policies that seeks the welfare of women and young people nationally and internationally.
2. To provide training and capacity building programs for indigent women and youths.
3. To provide acquisition of skills and training for women and youths to develop the right self esteem.
4. To promote human rights education among women and youths so as to enable them facilitate community access to justice in operational areas.
5. To training women and youths on economic empowerment as a means of wealth creation.

Any objective to the proposed registration should be direct to the Registration-General Corporate Affairs Commission plot 420 Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Abuja, 28th days of this publication.

Signed:
Saidu J.O & Co
No. 34 Gobarau Road, U/Pimi Kadun.

WINDING UP

SEAMARK MARINE SYSTEMS NIGERIA LTD

Notice is hereby given that a petition for the winding-up of the above named company by the Federal High Court holden at Abuja, was on the 18th day of January, 2010 presented to the said Federal High Court by the company.

And that the said petition is directed to be advertised and set down for mention before the Federal High Court sitting at Abuja on the 18th March, 2010; and any creditor or contributory of the said company desirous to support or oppose the making of an order on the said petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his counsel for that purpose; and a copy of the petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for same.

Signed:

Name: Chuks Udo-Kalu
Address: Ebenezer Obeya & Cp. Suite 1, AMMA House, CBD Abuja
(Solicitor to the Petitioner)

Note: Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said petition must serve on or send by post to the above-named, notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name & address of the person or, if a firm, the name & address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their solicitor (if any), and must be served, or if posted, must be posted in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than 48 working hours before the date the petition is for mention in court.

THIS SPACE IS FOR SALE

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly **EBERE JULIANA ENEJE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **EBERE JENNIFER ORJI NWOSU**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **OCHEJA NATHANIEL**, now wish to be called **OCHEJA NATHANIEL AKOR**. All former documents remain valid. Kogi State University and general public to take note.

I, formerly **MISS OGOCHUKWU NKECHI AGAJELU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS OGOCHUKWU NKECHI OKOLI**. All former documents remain valid. National Hospital, NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS FEMI RONKE**, now wish to be called **MRS RONKE JUDE ADEBOWALE .A.** All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly known as **MISS EZENWOSU STELLAMARIS C.** now wish to be known as **MRS UMEEVURUO STELLAMARIS C.** all former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I known as **GRACE JAMES** wished to be called **MRS. GRACE JAMES MBUK**, NYSC to note.

I formerly **HAJARA HASSAN** now wish to be called **MRS HAJARA HASSAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly **RAMATU SALAU** now wishes to be called **MRS. SALAU RAMATU**, former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly, **FRANCA ONYISI OSUOMOR** now wish to be called **MRS. FRANCA ONYISI VINCENT OKONTA**, former documents remain valid. Public take note.

I, formerly **MISS NNOHIRIM AUGUSTINA NDIDI**, now wish to be called **MISS NNOHIRIM MICHAEL AUGUSTINA NDIDI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I FORMERLY **RABI SANI** NOW WISH TO BE CALLED **RABI ILIYASU HUSEIN**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID NYSC AND BAYERO UNIVERSITY TO TAKE NOTE

PILGRIMS PREACHERS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (PIPAN)

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'C' of the companies and allied matters decree Act CAP. 59, Laws 1990;

Trustees are:

1. Dr. Akilu Sani Indabawa
2. Malam Ibrahim Umar Kabo
3. Malam Ibrahim Khalil
4. Kadi Muhd Umar Muhammad (RTD)
5. Dr. Muhd Adam Abubakar
6. Malam Fatima Tasalla Nabuluzi Bako
7. Malam Auwal Muhd Umar
8. Alhaji Yusuf Usman Ali
9. Shehu Ibrahim Maisalafi

Aims and Objectives:

1. Educating Pilgrims and explaining fully the basis/required principles governing Hajj & Umrah in accordance with Islamic norms and values.
2. Preaching to Pilgrims on faith to Allah and his prophet as being honest, dedicated, sincerity, love and affection to one another. These include rendering assistance and helping each other and devotion during the performance of their Ibadah that will lead to (Hajj Mabru) the extent of its consistency.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, wuse zone 5 Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

CAVEAT EMPTOR

The Certificate of Occupancy No. 12317 covering plot No. 22 Ahmadu Bello Way, Kaduna dated 12th November 1963 belonging to Gashash Brothers Nigeria Limited is missing. Please if found, kindly return to Director of Lands, Ministry of Lands, Survey and Country Planning, Kaduna.

Signed:
Alh. Mohammed Ibrahim Gashash

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known as **ANN CHIKA OSUJI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS ANN CHIKA OLOFU**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **MISS MELISSA SEBASTIAN MEDUGU**, now wish to be known as **MRS MELISSA SEBASTIAN ADESINA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly **MISS OGHECHUKWU FELICITA NWOSU**, now wish to be called **MRS ABUWA OGHECHUKWU FELICITA**. All former documents remain valid. NIHOTOUR and general public take note.

I, **MISS JIKHINI BITRUS DANJUMA**, now wish to be known as **MRS JIKHINI REJOICE SHISHI**. All former documents remain valid. University of Maiduguri and general public to note.

I, formerly **MRS OMOKOSE ANNABEL OMONIGHO**, now wish to be known as **MISS OKPIAIFO JULIET EBEHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly known as **LINDA NGUSEER AYILA**, wish to be addressed as **MRS LINDA NGUSEER BUBA SWANI**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS SANDRA EKUERHARE**, now **MRS SANDRA EZEKIEL**. National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (NAPTIP) note. All other documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly known as **MISS HELEN REMILEKUN OMOWAYE** now wish to be called **MRS. HELEN REMILEKUN OTEBOLA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly known as **MISS RAHILA WILLIAMS**, now wish to be called **MRS. RAHILA JERRY**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **FALAIYE FUNMILAYO SANDRA**, now wish to be known as **FUNMILAYO SANDRA RUFFUS-SAMUEL**. All former documents remain valid. Fidelity Bank, OSCOTECH and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **CHRISTY .O. JONAH**, now wish to be known as **TESSY (Baptismal Name) O.** and against **JEROME ABAH** as my biological father. Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps take note.

I, formerly **PATIENCE ALIGBA**, now wish to be called **PATIENCE EGBUFOR**. All former documents remain valid. UBA Plc, general public take note.

I, formerly known as **ASHI WAYO**, now wish to be called **ASHI TESE DZUNGWE**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS OSE EDITH AGBONKHESE** now wish to be known and called **MRS OSE EDITH EKATAH**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as **ONYEJA IYE AKUH** now wish to be addressed as **MRS ONYEJA IYE O. MADA**. All former documents remain valid.

I formerly **MISS. ARIT OKOKON IYANG**, now wish to be known as **MRS JANET DAVID AKPAN**. All former documents remain valid. Ramat Polytechnic Maiduguri and general public take note.

I formerly **MISS AYODELE GLADYS BUKOLA** now wishes to be addressed as **MRS. ADEBISI GLADYS BUKOLA**. All former documents remain valid. UNI-AGRIC Makurdi, NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **IBRAHIM SANI** now wish to be known as **IBRAHIM SANI JANGERU**. Shehu Shagari College of Education Sokoto and general public take note.

I, formerly known as **MISS REBECCA NKECHI ANI** now wish to be known as **MRS. AGBA REBECCA NKECHI** and general public take note.

SPORT

No nerves for Beckham on United's return

Page 56



PIC: IBRAHEEM A. FATAI



CYCLING for hope... After spending seven days touring Lagos, the Cycle for Hope Tour entered Abuja yesterday. The 15,000km journey which commenced last December in Tangier, Morocco will terminate in Cape Town, South Africa on June 10 ahead of the World Cup finals.

IOC gives Nigeria six months deadline ...to conduct polls

By Orkula Shaagee

THE International Olympic Committee (IOC) has granted Nigeria six months extension to conduct election into the board of the Nigeria Olympic Committee (NOC).

Former President of the Nigeria Cycling Federation, Rev.

Moses Illo, who disclosed this in an interview with Trustsports in Abuja yesterday, also informed that a meeting of the Nigeria Olympic family has been fixed for today to resolve all the issues hindering the election.

According to Illo, the panel set up last year to investigate the crisis in the Committee and bring

it to an amicable end finished its work, last January but could not submit it because of the pending court cases.

He however said with the withdrawal of the cases in court, the NOC will meet today and seek ways of conducting the election on time to escape IOC sanction.

"Our report is ready, it was

ready in January but we could not do anything because of the two court injunctions. We could not jeopardize or disobey the court orders and that is why we have been silent since then. We have to obey the court orders.

"But I was told the two cases have been withdrawn and by Wednesday, tomorrow we will

be meeting and if we get documentary evidence, we will submit our report to the NOC President, then we will decide on a convenient date for new elections into the NOC board.

"The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has given us six months grace within which to conduct the elections", Illo stated.

Eagles need experienced stars –Ikpeba

FORMER African Footballer of the Year, Victor Nosa Ikpeba has advised Super Eagles handler, Lars Lagerback to work with experienced players in the squad, if Nigeria is to do well at the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

The former AS Monaco of France star forward told bri-

lafm.net that he was disappointed that Japan/Korea 2002 Eagles handler, Chief Adegboye Onigbinde has eventually confessed that he was forced by The Glasshouse to drop some older players of the squad.

"We cannot make the same mistake we made in 2002. If we

are talking about dropping some few players, I know we will go for experience.

"I don't see why we can't do well at the World Cup with talented players, those who are doing well in their clubs. We shouldn't drop them, we need them.

"It's very sad that Onigbinde that I respect so much can come out to confess that he was forced to drop some certain players.

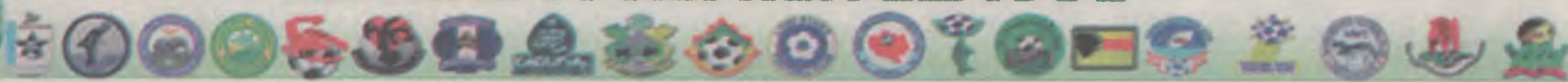
"It's very sad in Nigerian football and that's why we have been suffering for the last eight years," Ikpeba stressed.



NWANKWO Kano, Eagles Captain



NIGERIA PREMIER LEAGUE



Enyimba return to the summit

ENYIMBA returned to the top of the Nigeria Premier League courtesy of a home win over Ocean Boys after Kano Pillars temporarily led the standings a day earlier.

Enyimba on Sunday beat Ocean Boys 2-1 at the Enyimba International Stadium in Aba to record 40 points from 22 matches, two points ahead of Kano Pillars, who trounced vis-

iting Kwara United 3-0 at home with league hotshot Ahmed Musa grabbing his 12th of the campaign.

Magnus Iwuoha and Chinedu Udoji were on target for the Peoples' Elephant against Ocean Boys, whose consolation goal was netted by Enze Emmanuel.

The keenness of the competition this season could not be better underlined than with the

fact that four teams are tied on 35 points after 22 weeks of action.

Warri Wolves are fourth on the table with 35 points after a lone goal win over visiting Sharks, who as a result have slumped to the basement of the standings.

Wolves match winner was Tochukwu Mbachu, who found target after 53 minutes of action at the Warri City Stadium.

Rangers also have 35 points following a 1-1 draw at Ranch Bees of Kaduna. The hosts team took the lead before Fred Okwara rescued a point for the 'Flying Antelopes', who have now slipped a spot to fifth on the table.

Sunshine Stars of Akure and Niger Tornadoes also have 35 points each after home wins over Kaduna United and Gombe United at the weekend.

Champions Bayelsa United lifted their game to beat last season's runners-up Heartland thanks to a 14th minute goal by Mannir Ubale.

They could further improve their standings if they get a result away to Sharks in a rescheduled fixture.

Wikki eased their relegation worries with a 1-0 win at home against another struggling team, Lobi Stars, on Sunday.

However, the Bauchi club had to wait till two minutes from the end to score through Tunde Aremu. They are now 16th on the table with 26 points, while Lobi are second from bottom on 24 points.

Shooting Stars were turned back by two goals by Dolphins in Port Harcourt with coach Stanley Eguma saying his team deserved their victory.

"We expected a tough fight from 3SC even though we played well in the first half with no goal to show for all our efforts. But we got two goals in the second half through hard work," said Eguma.

Pillars coach dreams continental ticket

From Jaafar Jaafar, Kano

THE chief coach of Kano Pillars Football Club, Salisu Yusuf, has expressed optimism that the team could still repeat the 2007/2008 Nigerian league feat, given the radiant outing of his players this season.

Coach Yusuf said he was hopeful of the exalted CAF ticket.

Pillars last Saturday hammered the highly-rated Kwara United FC of Ilorin 3-0 in the week-22 league encounter at Sani Abacha Stadium, Kofar Mata, Kano, last Saturday.

According to him, the club's technical crew would continue to do their best to sustain the team's tempo both during home and away matches in order to actualise the set objectives.

The chief coach further explained that the technical crew members have been working round the clock to ensure that the team remain among the top three teams that can give them an upper hand in fighting for possible lead at the end of the league.

He expressed appreciation with the support and prayers of the team's teeming supporters, saying that the players would not disappoint them at the end of the football season.



ENYIMBA striker, Daddy Bazauaye

Tenger dismayed at Salihu's red card

KWARA United's handler Justin Tenger expressed dismay at the sending off of his goalkeeper Mustapha Salihu which, he said, cost his team the match.

Salihu was sent off the pitch close to the end of the first half for a rough tackle on an opponent.

United lost 3-0 to Kano Pillars in an action-packed match at the Sani Aabacha Stadium in Kano on

Saturday.

According to Tenger, the resultant deficit forced his boys to resort to a defensive game to enable them to survive the situation.

He commended Pillars for a good match, noting that the result of the match would not deter him from chasing the league title and playing in the CAF Cup Championship.

IGI insures Nigeria Premier League

INDUSTRIAL and General Insurance Plc (IGI) has emerged the official insurer for the Nigeria Premier League (NPL), Mr Eniola Ashaolu, IGI's Communication Manager, has said.

Ashaolu said that the contract for the endorsement was worth N38 million.

According to him, by the endorsement, IGI will provide insurance cover for all the participating teams, officials and players engaged in NPL.

"The contract made IGI the exclusive official insurance company for the NPL for the next three years, starting from the current football season.

"The contract was signed on behalf of IGI by the Compa-

ny's Deputy Managing Director (Operations), Mr Rotimi Fashola, while NPL Executive Secretary, Mr Alhassan Yakmut, signed on behalf of NPL.

"The Group Managing Director of Carrier Insurance Brokers Limited, Mrs 'Lola Oshiafi, signed as witness to the contract," Ashaolu said.

Fashola said that IGI's appointment as NPL official insurer reflected the recognition of the company's support for the development of sports, particularly football in Nigeria.

"IGI is widely reputed for support of sports in Nigeria and indeed, in Africa.

"Our partnership with NPL as the official insurer is a continuation

of our commitment to the development of sports and the youth in Nigeria," he said.

Ashaolu said that IGI had shareholders' funds in excess of N31 billion and asset base in excess of N45 billion.

"The firm has 45 branches spread across Nigeria and has subsidiaries in Uganda, Rwanda, Ghana and Gambia, with representative offices in London and Washington, DC.

"IGI has been the official insurer to all the Nigerian national football teams," he said.

Yakmut said that NPL decided to partner with IGI because of the company's robust programme for the league.

NPL STANDING

| Teams | P | W | D | L | GF | GA | Pts |
|-----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| ENYIMBA | 22 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 25 | 14 | 40 |
| KANO Pillars | 22 | 11 | 5 | 6 | 28 | 16 | 38 |
| KWARA United | 22 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 25 | 20 | 36 |
| WARRI Wolves | 22 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 30 | 20 | 35 |
| ENUGU Rangers | 22 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 20 | 10 | 35 |
| SUNSHINE Stars | 22 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 21 | 16 | 35 |
| NIGER Tornadoes | 22 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 24 | 21 | 35 |
| DOLPHIN FC | 22 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 23 | 24 | 30 |
| HEARTLAND FC | 22 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 20 | 19 | 29 |
| RANCH Bees | 22 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 15 | 28 | 29 |
| GOMBE United | 22 | 8 | 4 | 10 | 21 | 22 | 28 |
| OCEAN Boys | 22 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 18 | 23 | 28 |
| ZAMFARA united | 22 | 8 | 4 | 10 | 18 | 30 | 28 |
| KADUNA United | 22 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 20 | 24 | 27 |
| SHOOTING Stars | 22 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 13 | 18 | 27 |
| WIKKI Sharks | 22 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 21 | 24 | 26 |
| BAYELSA United | 21 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 20 | 23 | 26 |
| GATEWAY | 22 | 7 | 4 | 11 | 21 | 28 | 25 |
| LOBI Stars | 22 | 6 | 6 | 10 | 15 | 22 | 24 |
| SHARKS | 21 | 0 | 4 | 11 | 23 | 25 | 22 |

Nigeria Beach volleyball team excel in Niamey

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

NIGERIA Beach Volley ball team has emerged the overall winner of the Olympics qualifying series held in Niamey, Niger republic with 300 points.

The Nigerian team was closely followed by Niger Republic which scored 275.

Benin Republic came third with 250 points. Other countries that participated in the zone 3 qualifying series included Mali and Togo.

Speaking to Trustsports in Kaduna shortly after arriving from Niamey, the leader of the team, Mr. Efianya Tony said the success recorded by the Nigeria team during the competition showed that Beach volleyball

“It as the easiest way of winning gold in the Olympics.”

has come to stay in Nigeria.

He reiterated the commitment of the team to qualify for the 2012 London Olympics and urged Nigerians to always support the game describing it as the easiest way of winning gold in the Olympics.

“Though we participated in the competition for the first time, we won all the matches we played and that shows that the game has come to stay in Nigeria. While we were going, we promised not to disappoint the country and God has helped us,” he said.



PIC: IBRAHEEM A. FATAI

CYCLE for Hope team, on the tour of Nigeria, ride through Abuja yesterday.

ZENITH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Fireworks in the offing

IT will be all fireworks when the first phase of the 2010 Zenith Female Basketball League dunks off on March 22 in Kano.

Ten basketball clubs will take part in this year's championship.

The clubs have been putting finishing touches to their preparations in different parts of the country.

Defending champions, First Bank of Lagos, moved their training camp to Zaria and had been in the city for the past two weeks, according to the team's coach, Adewunmi Aderemi.

Aderemi said that they were working hard as he was aware the league had become more competitive.

The coach said he was planning to form two formidable teams for the competition and was perfecting strategies to seal all loopholes in the side.

First Deepwater, who made their debut last season and finished runners-up, resumed training on Monday, according to their handler, Lateef Erinfolami.

Erinfolami said his girls had been training individually, adding that their enthusiasm in training showed that they were battle ready.

The Deepwater girls dented the near 100 per cent record of First Bank last season, beating them in the last and final phase of the three-leg league.

The coach was optimistic of

surpassing their 2009 performance.

He said the loss of two of his players to the defending champions would not affect his team.

Andrew Isokpehi of Sushine Angels of Akure also expressed optimism that they would excel this year.

Isokpehi said his girls were training hard "and I know the outcome of hard work is victory, so I believe they will be among the best three".

First Bank, First Deepwater, Dolphins, Nigeria Customs, Nigeria Immigration, Delta Force, FCT Queens, Plateau Rocks, Sunshine Angels and AHIP of Kano are taking part in the championship.

Idahor: Blatter commiserates with Nigeria

FIFA President Joseph S. Blatter has sent a letter of commiseration to Abdullahi Sani, the President of the Nigeria FF, and to the Sudan FA concerning the terrible event. "On behalf of FIFA and the worldwide family of football, I wish to extend our condolences to you, to the Nigerian football community, to everyone at Al Merreikh club and, most importantly, to Endurance Idahor's families, friends and loved ones," it read.

"Please let them know that today the football community stands by their side. We would hope that in some way, our words of support may help bring a little bit of piece and solace in this time of sadness," it also read.

The former Julius Berger and Dolphin FC player moved to Al Merreikh in 2006 and became a star player for the club, one of the largest in Sudan. He helped lead the side based outside of Khartoum to their first continental final in almost two decades when he finished as their top scorer in 2007.

More tragedy as Opoku dies

MORE tragedy has struck African football with the news that Ghanaian defender Bartholomew Opoku has died after collapsing at the weekend.

The Kessben player fell to the ground in the 83rd minute of his side's 4-0 loss to Liberty Professionals in the Ghana Premier League on Sunday.

The 20-year-old was rushed to hospital and it appeared he had been stabilised, but club officials announced his death in the on Monday.

"It's a massive tragedy and the whole club is in shock. There was no hint he was unwell," Kessben spokesman Fred Acheampong said.

At this stage the cause of death is not known, but it follows the news that former Nigeria Under-23 international Endurance Idahor collapsed and died during a League match for his Sudanese side El Merreikh.

It was later announced that he had suffered a heart attack.



Atta Mills, Rawlings, Kuffour to grace event

THE 2009 Glo-CAF Platinum Award will be presented to the President of Ghana, Professor John Atta Mills, who is expected to head the long list of dignitaries at the awards ceremony scheduled for the State House Banquet Hall, Accra tomorrow. He is expected to lead a high-powered team of former Presidents and

GLO-CAF AWARDS COUNTDOWN

members of his cabinet to the awards which his country will be hosting for the second time.

Two former leaders of Ghana expected at the event are the immediate past President, John Agyekum Kuffour and his predecessor, Jerry John Rawlings. Kuffour received the 2006 Glo-CAF Platinum Award for his excellent support of sports in Ghana and Africa.

Expected in the President's entourage are other high rank-

ing members of the cabinet led by the Vice-President, John Dramani Mahama, members of the Legislature and the Judiciary.

The CAF President, Issa Hayatou arrived Accra yesterday at the head of the Confederation's delegation that also included the two Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Committee.

Globacom officials expressed delight that a good number of the nominees for the different award

categories have confirmed their attendance at the ceremony which has pitched Ivory Coast's Didier Drogba, Ghana's Michael Essien and Cameroon's Samuel Eto Fils in the race for the diadem.

It will also be a gathering of former African football greats including the three nominees for the African Legend Award, Stephen Keshi of Nigeria, Jules Bocande of Senegal and Mr. Oswaldo Oliveira Saturnino Jesus, who will be at the event with several former international stars including Abedi Pele Ayew, Victor Ikpeba, Austin Eguavoen, Samson Siasia, Tony Baffour, Osei Kuffour, Peter Rufai and Cameroon's Martins Etonge.

“It will also be a gathering of former African football greats”

RESULTS & FIXTURES

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Yesterday's Results
 *Arsenal 4 Porto 0
 Fiorentina 3 *Bayern 2

Today's Fixtures
 Man. Utd vs AC Milan
 Real Madrid vs Lyon
 *Qualified for q/finals

THE WEDNESDAY COLUMN

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Genocide on the Plateau: The way out

Predictably virtually all the major newspapers in the country gave last Sunday's horrible massacre of Beroms in a village on the outskirts of Jos, allegedly by some pastoral Fulanis, the front page headline coverage it deserved. Monday's editions of *Nation*, *Tribune*, *Compass* and *Sun* reported no fewer than 500 people killed. The *Guardian* reported 300, *Trust* and *Peoples Daily* reported 200 while *Punch* reported 150.

Whatever the casualty figure, this counter-genocide, allegedly by the pastoral Fulanis out on a revenge killing spree for their loss of about as many people as the Beroms and much more of their cattle in the crisis of January 17-19, must be condemned by all men of goodwill. It stands condemned not only because of its criminality but also because it is bound to escalate the vicious cycle of ethnic killings that has gripped the once peaceful Plateau State since at least 1994.

Condemnations are, of course, not enough. Those who carried out the massacre must be identified and be brought to justice. But even that won't be enough if we wish to have a lasting peace in the troubled state.

As trite as this may sound a lasting solution can only come from having a correct understanding of the nature of the crisis. Most analysts, including occasionally this reporter I must admit, have tended to highlight the religious dimension of the crisis. This is understandable because of the overlap between the ethnic and religious identities of the two warring camps, namely the Berom Christian "indigenes" and the Hausa Muslim "settlers."

However, in spite of this overlap, the crisis on the Plateau, as with all crises the world over, is essentially about the control of society's political economy. In the case of Plateau what has since degenerated into a blood feud between the Beroms and the Hausa has been about the control of Jos as the state's capital. As usual members of other ethnic groups resident in the city have found themselves caught in the cross-fire between the two.

Naturally each of the antagonists has tried to draw the sympathy and support of third parties with the Beroms having much greater success in the propaganda war by appealing to their minority status and, even more so, by appealing to their religious identity in a world dominated by media that is instinctively hostile to Muslims.

Nothing demonstrates this Berom success in the propaganda war better than a comparison of the media coverage of the January genocide and last Sunday's. For example, whereas last Sunday's made the front-page lead story of almost all the major national newspapers, last January's made it to the front page as lead of no more than five. Where it made the headlines it was to depict the so-called settlers as the aggressors, based on a claim by the state's commissioner of police that they attacked a Church during its Sunday worship unprovoked, a claim that has since been debunked in a Radio France International interview by the Catholic Archbishop of Jos and the President of the state's chapter of the Christian Association of Nigeria, Reverend Ignatius Kaigama.

Even more important than the media's comparatively scanty coverage of the January massacre compared to last Sunday's is the fact that the newspapers largely shied away from identifying the identity of the attackers and victims alike. *The Guardian* of January 20, for example, talked only of "rampaging youths in Jos" but mentioned neither their identities nor those of their victims. In contrast the newspaper's coverage of last Sunday's massacre left the reader in no doubt that the perpetrators were Fulani and the victims Berom. What was true of *The Guardian* was also true of virtually all the other newspapers.

As I said earlier if we want to get to the bottom of the bloody crisis on the Plateau, we must first of all accept that it is not a quarrel about religion even though the antagonists have each used it to good effect to drum up support

for their side.

The Catholic Archbishop of Abuja and the national President of the CAN, Reverend John Onaiyekan, I believe, got it just about right when he reportedly told Vatican Radio on Monday that the crisis on the Plateau is rooted not in religion but in social, economic, tribal and cultural differences. "Armed people, itinerant pastoralists..." yesterday's *Nation* quoted him as saying, "attacked the village of farmers of the Berom ethnic group. It is a classic conflict between pastoralists and farmers."

I say the Archbishop got it just about right because the crisis is by far more economic than social, tribal and cultural. After all until the late seventies when power hungry politicians began to use tribe and religion as their primary weapon in seeking for office, the religious and ethnic groups in the state have lived in harmony among themselves.

As I have said identifying and bringing the perpetrators of the killings in Jos to justice and also identifying the essence of the crisis are important as ingredients of the solution to the problem. But by far the most important ingredient is the character of the political - and traditional - leadership in the state.

This is what has made a difference in the return of peace to Kaduna State which, until recently, was worse than Plateau State. As a Muslim and "Hausa", its former governor, Senator Ahmed Mohammed Makarfi, eschewed belligerence towards the Southern Kaduna Christian minority groups that have felt marginalized in the political-economy of the state. Instead he did all he could to assuage those feelings.

It was also the character of leadership that made the difference in averting what could have easily turned into a religious crisis in Kazaure, Jigawa State, recently following the beating of a son-of-the-soil driver by a traffic police, a beating which resulted in the driver's death. But for the quick intervention of the Emir of Kazaure, Alhaji Najib Hussaini Adamu who, with his court in tow, physically stood between some rampaging youths and the non-indigenous residents of the police man's neighbourhood, only God knows what would have happened in the state.

You can hardly say the same of the character of Governor Jonah Jang who is fond of reminding anyone who would listen that he is an old soldier ready to fight his enemies, real or imagined. This, in a state that sorely calls for the language of reconciliation.

For instance only the other day in late February he used the occasion of commissioning some projects in Pankshin to remind those he called his enemies that they would be making a mistake if they think they can get away with making trouble in the state. "They do not know," he was quoted as saying by *Peoples Daily* of February 25, "I am an old soldier ready to fight to my last blood."

This cannot be the attitude of a leader who wants peace in his state. Jang must accept that he is the governor of all the residents in his state and not just of the Berom, his ethnic group. He therefore has the moral and constitutional responsibility to protect the lives, limbs and property of all the residents of his state regardless of their tongue or religion.

Unless the political - and traditional - leaders on the Plateau imbibe the spirit of tolerance that has worked the magic in the hitherto violence-prone Kaduna State, last Sunday's massacre can only lead to an ever escalating vicious cycle of bloodletting which may ultimately spell the end of Nigeria as we know it.

Of course tolerance must be a two-way street between antagonists. But the onus for ending the hostilities in any society lies with its leaders rather than with its followers because, with or without society's consent, its system of reward and punishment lies in their hands.

Surely it does not say much for the quality of Jang's governorship that under his watch there has been at least three well-known attempts at ethnic cleansing.

SPORTS REPORT



WAYNE Rooney

Rooney fit for Milan clash

Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney will be fit for today's Champions League second leg match against AC Milan, manager Alex Ferguson said.

Rooney, who has scored 23 Premier League goals this season, was a doubt after missing the 1-0 win at Wolverhampton Wanderers with a knee injury picked up on England

duty but Ferguson told reporters he will feature at Old Trafford.

United, who won the opening leg of their last 16 first knockout round tie 3-2 in the San Siro, are also without suspended midfielder Michael Carrick and injured duo Michael Owen and Ryan Giggs for the second leg.

United's England defender Wes Brown could also be out for up to six weeks with a foot injury.



DAVID Beckham

No nerves for Beckham on United's return.

While his starting place is uncertain, David Beckham's mere presence at Old Trafford could boost AC Milan's attempt to overturn a 3-2 deficit against Manchester United in the Champions League.

The 34-year-old Beckham hasn't played a club match at Old Trafford since his acrimonious departure in 2003.

"I'm not nervous, I'm happy because for the first time after seven years I will return to Manchester and go on the pitch," Beckham said. "If I play on Wednesday, I won't be frightened, but I will be excited in any case because I played in that stadium for many years and I know what it means to be a Manchester United player."

