

# DAILY TRUST



Monday, January 3, 2022  
Jumada Awwal 29, 1443 AH

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N200  
Vol. 54, No. 67

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BIRNIN YAURI

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PROTECT YOURSELF, PROTECT EVERYONE AROUND YOU.



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South African President Cyril Ramaphosa visited the country's parliament to inspect level of damage after a fire outbreak yesterday

Photo: BBC

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Shari'ah Council  
gets new president

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## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"A positive attitude is a person's passport to a better tomorrow"



- Jeff Keller

## AFRICAN SAYINGS

"A low-class man will just talk; deeds are the hallmark of a gentleman"

(African Proverbs)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

## WEATHER

ABUJA	KADUNA	KANO	MAIDUGURI	Jos	SOKOTO	IBADAN	ENUGU	P/HARCOURT	LAGOS
PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	THUNDER STORM	PARTIALLY CLOUD
36 21	35 18	34 16	37 17	31 15	36 19	36 23	36 24	26 19	33 25
MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN

Compiled by JAMIL H. SALIM

(Temperature in centigrade)

## PRAYERS TIMES

JUMADA AWWAL 29, 1443 AH

PRAYERS	ABUJA	ENUGU	KADUNA	KANO	KATSINA	LAGOS	MAIDUGURI	P/HARCOURT	SOKOTO
FAJR	5:31	5:30	5:34	5:33	5:39	5:48	5:13	5:29	5:49
DHUHR	12:41	12:41	12:40	12:37	12:40	12:57	12:17	12:45	12:50
ASR	3:54	3:54	3:53	3:50	3:53	4:10	3:30	3:58	4:03
MAGHRIB	6:22	6:24	6:20	6:14	6:16	6:43	5:54	6:29	6:28
ISHA	7:30	7:32	7:28	7:22	7:24	7:51	7:02	7:37	7:36

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna



**PHOTO OF THE DAY**

Members of the Kirat community dance during the Sakela festival in Kathmandu, Nepal yesterday

Photo: Shutterstock

## STOCK INDEX

AS AT FRIDAY 31, 2021

GAINERS	CHIPLC	MBENEFIT	REGALINS	UNITYBNK	WAPIC	LOSERS	FTNCOCA	VERITASKAP	ROYALEX	ETI	ARDOVA
OPEN	N0.77	N0.34	N0.47	N0.52	N0.53	OPEN	N0.37	N0.20	N0.80	N8.35	N13.00
CLOSE	0.07	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	CLOSE	-0.03	-0.01	-0.04	-0.30	-0.40
CHANGE	10.00%	9.68%	9.30%	8.33%	8.16%	CHANGE	-7.50%	-4.76%	-4.76%	-3.47%	-2.99%

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## IN-DEPTH

# Tortuous ascent to Olubadan throne



■ The remains of Olubadan of Ibadanland, Oba Saliu Adetunji, being carried to Mapo Hall, Ibadan for prayer and lying in state, in Ibadan yesterday (Inset is the late royal father)

### From Jeremiah Oke, Ibadan

The dream of the average male child of Ibadanland, the Oyo State capital is to ascend the throne of Olubadan because all the male children are potential Olubadan, because of the way it is structured.

Daily Trust reports that unfortunately, the structure did not give room for a young person to become Olubadan, as they usually emerged at their old age.

For an Ibadan chief to get to the throne of Olubadan, such a person needs to rise through the ranks of Mogaji to get promoted through two ruling lines, which are; Egbe Agba (civil) and Balogun (military), from where Olubadans are appointed on a rotational basis to occupy the stool on the death of a monarch, a journey of at least between 35 to 40 years in most cases.

Unlike other parts of Yoruba land, the system is indeed unique in the sense that a reigning Olubadan knows the next most senior member of the Olubadan in council that will succeed him after his demise.

Potential monarchs or aspirants to the Olubadan stool would have to climb a 22-steps ladder from Jagun Olubadan or 23-steps ladder from

Jagun Balogun to the Olubadan throne because there are two alternating lines (Otun and Balogun) to the Olubadan stool.

For enduring many years, climbing the ladder, many described it as torture stick to the throne.

According to the history of Ibadanland, any High Chief who makes an attempt to get rid of his senior on the ladder would not get to the throne of Olubadan before he dies.

The next to Olubadan and most senior on both lines are the Otun Olubadan and Balogun, who under the Western Nigeria Law are recognised as second class traditional rulers and who are included on the Nigerian equivalent of a civil list as a result.

Others are the Osi Olubadan, Asipa Olubadan, Ekerin and Ekarun, as well as Otun Balogun, Osi Balogun, Asipa Balogun, Ekerin and Ekarun Balogun, while the Seriki ("commerce minister" or "trade chief") and Iyalode, (i.e. mother of the town as "minister for women affairs" or "female chief") are also members of the Olubadan's Privy Council.

The 11 High Chiefs that formed the Olubadan-in-Council, apart from the Seriki and Iyalode, are

recognised as the traditional head of each of the 11 LGs in Ibadanland. It was learnt that the progenitors of Ibadan frowned at the involvement of the senior chiefs in partisan politics because of the salient neutral roles they were expected to play in their domains. For instance, they are appointed as presidents of customary courts, who are expected to adjudicate on matrimonial, land, boundary and other communal disputes.

Worried over the long time it takes before an Olubadan emerges, many families in recent times have started nominating their first sons in their 20s for the position of Mogaji, meaning before they have chances of becoming Olubadan in their 60s.

Things being equal, another 79-year-old former senator, Lekan Balogun will succeed the late Oba Saliu Adetunji who was announced dead on Sunday morning.

Lekan Balogun sits on the board of several companies with interests in oil and gas, distributive trade, management consulting, mechanised farming and export of non-oil items as well as travels and tourism.

A former senator, he was an administrator/head, industrial relations, recruitment and

scholarships, planning and development at Shell Petroleum Development Company.

He was also a Research Fellow with the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, a director with *Triumph Newspaper*, Kano; editor of the monthly *Magazine-The Nigerian Pathfinder* as well as a management consultant for multinational organisations such as Leyland, Exiat Battery and Nigerian Breweries.

He's a renowned technocrat, author and philanthropist.

He holds a Doctorate, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees in Public Administration; Public and Social Administration and Economics from Columbus International University, Brunel University and Manchester University all in the United Kingdom.

A former presidential aspirant on the platform of SDP, Senator Balogun was also a gubernatorial candidate for the PDP in Oyo State in the present political dispensation and a Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in the Fourth Republic.

He was chairman Senate Committee on National Planning and was a member of many Senate committees such as appropriations, security and intelligence, police affairs and defence (Army).

The soon-to-be 80-year-old Balogun has written and published widely. Many of his publications include but not limited to; *A Review of Nigeria's 4 years' Development Plan, 1970-1974*; *Nigeria: Social Justice or Doom*; *Power for Sale*; published in *Punch Newspaper*; *Arrogance of Power*; *Nigeria: The People Must Decide*, among other publications.

The soon-to-be-crowned Olubadan has not been without his own share of controversy. In 2018, he alongside other Ibadan high chiefs got into a long-drawn battle with the late revered king.

Speaking with Daily Trust, a Mogaji of Ibadan land, Mogaji Wale Oladoja advocated for indigenes of Ibadanland to install their male children as Mogaji at a tender age.

"It is good for our people to use their children rather than themselves. For instance; it is easier for a young man of 20 years old to become Olubadan than many of us who emerged Mogaji in the 50s.

"We mourn our father, Oba Saliu Adetunji. He was a great man. He had done well for Ibadanland. Ibadan will continue to be proud of our tradition. It is the most peaceful in Nigeria," he said.

# APC convention shaky as 'cabal' plots consensus

By Ismail Mudashir & Saawua Terzungwe

The much anticipated national convention of the All Progressives Congress (APC) slated for next month is shaky as various tendencies intensify efforts to hijack the party ahead of the 2023 general elections, *Daily Trust* reports.

Top chieftains of the party including aspirants lamented that six weeks after February was fixed for the exercise, the caretaker committee under the leadership of the Yobe State Governor, Mai Mala Buni, has not commenced proper preparations for the exercise.

Governor of Kebbi State and Chairman of the Progressive Governors Forum (PGF) Atiku Bagudu, had on November 22 announced the choice of February for the convention at the end of a meeting with President Muhammadu Buhari.

But six weeks after, the meeting with the president and fixing of the exercise for February, the committee has not kick-started arrangements for the exercise, thus fuelling suspicion among party chieftains on the commitment of the committee to conduct the convention.

The Buni-committee has been piloting the affairs of the party since June 2020 when the Comrade Adams Oshiomhole-National Working Committee (NWC) was sacked.

The February convention is expected to birth a new crop of NWC members to lead the party to the 2023 general elections.

## Preparations yet to begin

Despite their recent announcement that they would constitute a budget committee for the convention, the Buni-led Caretaker Committee is yet to do so.

The Caretaker Committee is also yet to constitute zoning, publicity and other sub-

committees for the convention.

Party chieftains and aspirants for various offices are also worried that the party has not fixed a specific date for the convention slated for February 2022.

*Daily Trust* reports that the party is equally yet to decide on the venue for the convention, thus, leaving party members in the dark.

The party is also mum on when specifically, the National Executive Committee (NEC) would meet to ratify a schedule of activities for the convention.

The Buni-led committee has consistently said it would resolve life-threatening crises in the party before organising the convention in order to have a strong and united front after the exercise.

There were fears among stakeholders that the delay in the conduct of the convention may affect the party's preparations for the 2023 elections, as political parties are expected to submit list of candidates for the February 2023 general elections by August this year.

## 'Cabal plotting consensus'

Sources in the party told *Daily Trust* that a section of the Presidency with the support of some of the APC governors are scheming to ensure the emergence of key members of the NWC especially the national chairman through consensus.

One of the sources said the arrowheads of the wing had perfected a plot to pick one of their allies as the national chairman.

"They are deliberately delaying the exercise because they want the national chairman to emerge through consensus. In the last six months, they have been plotting this. But what they do not know is that others are plotting too," he said.

Some of the prominent persons eyeing for the chairmanship seat include former Governor of Nasarawa State, Tanko Al-Makura;



■ Yobe State Governor Mai Mala Buni

former Governor of Zamfara State, Abdulaziz Yari; former Governor of Borno State, Senator Ali Modu Sheriff; former Governor of Bauchi State, Isa Yuguda and Minister of Special Duties and Inter-Governmental Affairs, Senator George Akume, who is also a former Governor of Benue State.

Others are former Deputy National Chairman of the defunct Congress for Progressive Change (CPC), Saliu Mustapha, Senator Mohammed Sani Musa (APC, Niger East), Sunny Moniedafe and Mohammed Saidu Etsu.

## Deadly landmines await party - Chieftain

An aggrieved chieftain of the party from the North West told *Daily Trust* that deadly landmines await the party.

He said only divine intervention would save the

ruling party from surviving the 'landmines' primed for it in form of litigations.

*Daily Trust* reports that the recently concluded ward, local and states congresses conducted by the caretaker committee had ballooned the crisis rocking the APC.

Crises are still raging in many of its state chapters such as Zamfara, Kwara, Osun, Ekiti, Rivers, Ogun, Oyo, Cross River and Kano, with different factions claiming legitimacy over the other.

Litigations are in various courts and stages.

The aggrieved member alleged that the committee has skeleton in its cupboard hence they are afraid to conduct the convention.

"As soon as they fix a date for the exercise, we will start striking the landmines one after the other. We will force them to do the right thing otherwise,

the house will collapse on all of us," the source said.

Last week a group within the APC under the umbrella of Progressive Mandate Movement (PMM) called on the caretaker committee to immediately release the convention timetable to allow for the process to commence.

The group in a statement signed by its National Coordinator, Hon. Abdullahi Mohammed and the Secretary, Comrade Adekunle Fijabi, said it would launch operation #Occupy APCNationalSecretariat for its leaders to do the right thing.

It also challenged the Buni-led caretaker committee to ensure that the party's national convention does not fail to hold by February 5, 2022.

A chieftain of the party and elder statesman, Chief Chekwes Okorie, who spoke with *Daily Trust* in a telephone chat said many party chieftains were in the dark.

"Many party chieftains are in the dark as to when NEC will meet and whether NEC will ever meet. These are some of the things. Even the convention date is not confirmed. They just said February. Even though a group is giving them a deadline, it is neither here nor there.

"There are so many things that require NEC approval that have never happened and the party is going ahead. So I don't understand. Honestly, I'm confused myself," Okorie said.

But the APC Deputy National Publicity Secretary, Yekini Nabena, told *Daily Trust* in a telephone chat that the party was planning to organise the convention in February.

"Well, everything still stands as planned. We are just entering the New Year.

NEC meeting will be called before the convention; whether to go on with the convention or if there is any adjustment or confirmation of the date.

"So after the NEC meeting everybody will know what is going to happen," he said.

# Nigeria not dumping ground for agrochemicals banned in Europe, others - NAFDAC

By Ojoma Akor

The National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) has countered reports that 40 percent of the registered brands of pesticide products used in Nigeria are either banned or restricted for use by the European Union and other places.

NAFDAC Director-General, Prof. Mojisola Adeyeye, stated this during a two-day top management committee meeting of the agency in Lagos.

A statement from the agency yesterday quoted Adeyeye as saying that the NAFDAC

is an ISO: 900: 2015 Quality Management System (QMS) certified organization.

She said NAFDAC had put in place procedures to enable it to take regulatory decisions and determine whether an active ingredient should be banned or restricted.

She said: "NAFDAC is a signatory to the international convention that banned chemicals and pesticides such as the Rotterdam Convention, an international treaty designed to facilitate informed decision-making by countries with regard to trade in hazardous chemicals and pesticides. "Chemicals banned by international

convention have been phased out and never entertained for registration or given import permits as raw materials for production.

"NAFDAC is responsible for ensuring that chemical products produced in Nigeria and those being imported into the country meet the prerequisite in-country approval as well as international standards."

She said the NAFDAC has a stringent requirement of ensuring that any pesticide imported into Nigeria is on the market in the exporting country, and that the current Free Sale Certificate is authenticated by the Nigerian embassy in the

exporting country.

She said to ensure only active ingredients approved by NAFDAC are allowed into the country, the agency appointed Testing Agents (CRIA) and laboratories to conduct tests and forward results to the agency before any pesticide is shipped from countries that are major exporters of agrochemicals into Nigeria.

She said adequate quality control tests were carried out by the agency before granting certifications for all products either imported or manufactured within the country.

She noted that the field trial evaluation is conducted

in collaboration with research institutes in Nigeria to determine the safety, quality and efficacy of new molecules as well as inspection of manufacturing facilities to establish Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP).

She said the EU uses much lower Maximum Residual Limits (MRLs) than most other CODEX member countries, adding that products with active ingredients that are accepted by other codex member countries including Nigeria are not allowed into the EU.

She called on investors to feel free and confident to invest in agricultural production in Nigeria.

# 19th **DAILY TRUST** DIALOGUE



Live Broadcast on  
**TRUST TV &  
Daily Trust  
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Instagram.**



**Gen Abdulsalami Abubakar, GCFR**  
Former Head of State

**CHAIRMAN**

**THEME:**  
**2023:**  
**THE POLITICS, ECONOMY  
AND INSECURITY**

## GUEST SPEAKERS



**Mal. Nasir Ahmad El-Rufai**  
Governor of Kaduna State



**Mrs. Ifueko Omoigui Okauru**  
Former Chairman, Federal Inland  
Revenue Service (FIRS)



**Engr. David Umahi**  
Governor of Ebonyi State

 **20  
JAN  
2022**

 **10  
AM**

 **NAF Conference Centre and Suites, Gwarinpa  
Express Way, near NEXT Shopping Mall, Kado,  
Abuja**

**ATTENDANCE  
IS FREE**

**THIS EVENT  
REQUIRES TO  
WEAR FACE  
MASKS.**



**Kadaria Ahmed**  
Executive Director, Daria Media Nigeria Limited

**MODERATOR**



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# Bandits kill 13 in Kaduna, Taraba, abduct 46

From Mohammed I. Yaba, Kaduna & Magaji Hunkuyi, Jalingo

It was a sad day for residents of Kaduna following a series of attacks by bandits in the early hours of Sunday that claimed 7 lives in different locations of the state. The criminals also abducted 46 people during the operations.

The communities attacked included Angwar Zalla Udawa in Chikun Local Government Area where one person was killed and 18 members of a family were abducted.

The incident happened around 12:30 am Sunday when the bandits stormed the village along Kaduna-Birnin Gwari highway.

A community leader in Udawa, Muhammed Umaru, who confirmed to *Daily Trust* gave the name of the deceased as Bala Jaja.

He said married women, adults and young ladies were among

those abducted.

“These are people I knew because we all lived in the same community. Bala Jaja is a well-known young man in the community and was killed when he came out to help his neighbours whose 18 members were taken away,” he said.

A similar attack also happened at Kerawa village in Giwa Local Government Area where 16 members of the community were abducted and five others killed.

A former councillor in the area, Daiyabu Kerawa, who confirmed the incident to *Daily Trust*, said the town had been deserted after the attack.

According to him, the victims were buried around 1pm Sunday amidst fear.

“The bandits killed five people and abducted 16 others. We just concluded the burial as we speak. The saddest thing is that no security agencies came to our

rescue during the attack despite being notified,” he said.

Another resident of the area simply identified as Jamilu said women, adults and children had all left the village for fear of being attacked by the bandits.

“By all indication, the bandits have succeeded in displacing our village because our people are fleeing in numbers. This is because we don’t have police or soldiers to protect the village,” he said.

The third attack took place at another community along Kaduna-Zaria highway called Sabon Gida under Ungwar Tsalha Maraban Jos, Igabi LGA where a married woman was killed and 12 people abducted.

A resident who craved anonymity said the woman tried to escape when she saw the bandits. But they shot her dead.

“About twelve people were abducted by the bandits after killing the woman,” he said.

The Kaduna State Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, confirmed the incidents in Kerawa and Ungwar Rimi-Afana road of Igabi and Zangon Kataf areas in a statement issued yesterday.

In a similar development, bandits have killed a farmer, Irimiya Musa and five other people in Jauro Manu village, Gassol Local Government Area of Taraba State.

*Daily Trust* gathered that the gunmen, five in number, stormed the house of the large-scale farmer around 4.30pm Saturday.

The gunmen, each on a motorcycle, shot him in front of his house before shooting the five others who were playing cards at the same place.

It was further gathered that Musa and four others died on the spot while the sixth person, identified as Haruna, died at the

Federal Medical Centre where he was taken to for treatment.

A source in the village told *Daily Trust* that the gunmen had attacked the house of the farmer on the 10th of September, 2021 but were repelled by the villagers who mobilised and confronted the gunmen.

The source further stated that one of the attackers at that time was killed and later identified as a herdsman residing with his parents at a Fulani settlement near the village.

He said the village had not been attacked since then until last Saturday, adding that there was confusion in the area as fear gripped the residents.

When contacted, the police spokesman for Taraba State, DSP Usman Abdullahi, said the DPO in Mutum Biyu headquarters of Gassol Local Government Area was yet to report the incident to the command.

■ From left: Chairman, Iponri Community Development Association, Lagos, Mr. Omotayo Olaniyi; Chairman, Surulere Local Government, Lagos, Suleiman Yusuf; Speaker of House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila and Commissioner, National Assembly Service Commission, Alhaji Hakeem Akamo at the commissioning of Iponri Zone A, Zone B, Zone D roads Surulere, Lagos



Photo: Speaker's Media Office

## Buhari, govs, Atiku, Tinubu, others mourn as Olubadan buried

From Jeremiah Oke (Ibadan), Muideen Olaniyi, Balarabe Alkassim (Abuja), Abiodun Alade (Lagos), Raphael Ogbonnaie (Ado-Ekiti), & Abdullateef Aliyu (Lagos)

President Muhammadu Buhari has condoled the government and people of Oyo State, the royal family, the Olubadan-in-Council and the people of Ibadan on the passing of Olubadan of Ibadan, Oba Saliu Adetunji.

Oba Adetunji who was pronounced dead at the University Teaching Hospital (UCH) on Sunday morning was buried according to Islamic rite at his Popoyemoja Palace in the afternoon.

The president, in a statement issued yesterday by his spokesman, Femi Adesina, said the late Olubadan was a visionary and compassionate leader who used the spheres of his influence as a

respected traditional ruler and a lover of the creative industry to advance the progress of his people.

The president urged the people of Ibadan and Nigerians from different walks of life to honour the eternal memory of the deceased by imbibing the virtues he cherished so much: generosity, peace, tolerance and devotion to unity.

President Buhari also expressed trust that the process of selecting the successor of the 41st Olubadan of Ibadanland would be guided by wisdom, understanding and good judgment that exemplified the life he lived.

The president prayed to God to grant the soul of Oba Adetunji eternal rest and comfort the family, friends, associates and subjects he left behind.

Also, a former Vice President, Atiku Abubakar, yesterday, expressed his condolence over the demise of the Olubadan of Ibadan.

The Waziri of Adamawa, in a

press release by his media office on Sunday, described Olubadan as “A wise man of age whose counsels and fatherly posturing brought a lot of admiration to traditional institutions.”

Similarly, the Speaker, House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila, in a condolence message on Sunday, signed by his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Lanre Lasisi, said the late Olubadan provided an exemplary leadership with an uncommon love for his people during his reign.

The All Progressives Congress (APC) National Leader, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, on Sunday, also expressed sadness over the death, describing it as a big loss for the state and Yoruba race.

The Oyo State Governor, Engr. Seyi Makinde, equally expressed shock at the passing of the Olubadan of Ibadanland, describing him as an exemplar in royalty.

The speaker of the state House of Assembly, Hon. Adebo Ogundoyin, described the deceased as a principled and morally upright traditional ruler whose fatherly advice would be missed.

Ekiti State Governor and Chairman of the Nigeria Governors’ Forum (NGF), Dr Kayode Fayemi, in a statement signed by his Chief Press Secretary, Yinka Oyebo, described the late Olubadan as an exemplary leader who did not allow old age to hamper his passion for the development of Ibadan and Oyo State as a whole.

In his condolence message, Governor Rotimi Akeredolu of Ondo State said in spite of Oba Adetunji’s old age, he was a valuable asset, not only to the people of Ibadan but to the entire Yoruba race.

The Postmaster General of the Federation and Chief Executive

Officer, Nigerian Postal Service, Dr. Ismail Adebayo Adewusi, in a statement on Sunday, said the reign of the monarch witnessed tremendous progress for Ibadanland and Oyo State in general.

Aareonakakanfo of Yorubaland, Gani Adams, yesterday said the death of the Olubadan of Ibadan, had robbed Nigeria and the entire Yoruba land of “a mature and peaceful monarch.”

His death at 93 years came barely three weeks after the demise of another foremost traditional ruler in the state, the Soun of Ogbomoso, Oba Jimoh Oyewumi, Ajagunbade 111.

Meanwhile, family members, friends and well-wishers of Chief Lekan Balogun, the Otun Olubadan of Ibadanland, next in line to become Olubadan of Ibadanland, have started trooping into the Aliwo Compound and Alarere in Ibadan, for celebration.

# Flight delays, cancellations: How airlines trample on passengers' rights

By Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

**T**he way air travellers in Nigeria are being subjected to untold hardships in the hands of domestic as well as foreign airlines operating in the country is of serious concern which needs to be addressed by the authorities.

They are being humiliated as they always suffer disruptions and cancellations of flights by airlines and treated shabbily in breach of extant laws.

Data reported by *Daily Trust* show that at least 50 percent of flights operated monthly in the country are delayed.

According to the reports, out of the 14,662 domestic flights operated in the country, 7,554 which are about 52 percent were delayed in the first quarter of 2021.

## What the law says

What is needed to be done as regards compensation, welfare and other issues related to cancellations or delays of flight by airlines vis-a-vis passengers' rights have been clearly spelt out in the Nigeria Civil Aviation Regulations (Nig. CAR) 2015 (as amended).

Part 19.6 of the regulation which talks about domestic flight delays states that, "When an operating air carrier reasonably expects a flight to be delayed beyond its scheduled time of departure, it shall provide the passengers with reason(s) for the delay within 30 minutes after the scheduled departure time and the assistance specified below: (i) After two hours, refreshments as specified in section 19.10.1(i) and telephone calls, SMS and E-mails as specified in section 19.10.2; (ii) Beyond three (3) hours, reimbursement as specified in Section 19.9.1(i); and (iii) At a time beyond 10pm till 4am, or at a time when the airport is closed at the point of departure or final destination, the assistance specified in sections 19.10.1(iii) and 19.10.1(iv) (hotel accommodation and transport).

"In case of cancellation of a flight, the passengers concerned shall, according to section 6 of the part: (i) Be offered assistance by the operating air carrier in accordance with Sections 19.6. and; (ii) Be offered assistance by the operating air carrier in accordance with Sections 19.9.1(i) and 19.9.2 as well as, in the event of re-routing when the reasonably expected time of departure of the new flight is at least the day after the departure as it was planned for the canceled flight, the assistance specified in Sections 19.9.1(ii) and 19.9.1(iii); (iii) In respect of domestic flights, have the right to compensation by the operating air carrier in accordance with Section 19.10 unless they are informed of the cancellation at least twenty-four hours before the scheduled time of departure..."

From the perspective of the regulatory authority, the NCAA,



■ File: Some of delayed passengers at the MM2 wing of Lagos Airport

airlines are expected to carry along the passengers when flights are going to be delayed, especially for safety-related reasons.

However, because of the breach of most of the provisions of these regulations, the menace of flight delays and cancellations has robbed many people of the joy of air transportation.

In recent times, the incidents of flight delays have become a common place. Travellers have had to miss critical appointments while important schedules have been disrupted over flight delays.

## Bad experiences

Many passengers have stories to tell of their experience with flight delays and in some cases cancellations.

A passenger who simply identified herself as Juliet narrated how her flight from Abuja to Lagos was delayed for seven hours. "Worse still the weather was so bad on our way to Lagos. It was a near-crash experience.

The flight was slated for 4 p.m. but we left the airport in Abuja by 9 p.m.," she said. Asked the reason for the delay, she said they were told the delay was due to "operational reasons," adding that no compensation was provided for the frustrated passengers at the airport.

Another passenger, Mr Chigozie IK, told *Daily Trust* how he missed an important business meeting in Kano when he got to the airport and was told the flight had been cancelled.

He said, "The meeting was slated for Monday and I bought a return ticket to travel on Sunday evening. On getting to the airport, I was told the flight had been cancelled.

"The following morning, I thought the flight would have been rescheduled, but was shocked to see that no flight was going that route that morning. Consequently, I missed that appointment."

**Government to wield the big stick**

As a result of the persistent recurrence of these incidents, the Minister of Aviation, Sen. Hadi Sirika, recently threatened that airlines would now make 100 percent refund to passengers after a two-hour delay.

He said: "On domestic flights, delay beyond one hour, the carrier should provide refreshment, and one telephone call, or one SMS, or one e-mail.

"They should send you an SMS or email or call you to say, 'I am sorry, I am delaying for one hour.' Delay for two hours and beyond, the carrier shall reimburse passengers the full volume of their tickets.

"Delay between 10 pm and 4am, the carrier shall provide hotel accommodation, refreshment, meal, two free calls, SMS, email and transport to-and-fro airport."

He said the same rules would also be applied to international flights.

However, passengers said most local operators delay or cancel flights without providing sufficient reasons.

The Yuletide period was most traumatic for most passengers who got stranded at the various airports owing to flight delays.

This caused chaos especially at the Murtala Muhammad Airport terminal two (MMA2) as many passengers were stranded awaiting their flights to be called.

## Operators explain

However, airlines insist delays or cancellations of flights are unavoidable in some instances and such instances come at a great cost to them. "I don't think any airline will cancel flights for the sake of cancelling flights," Chairman of Air Peace, Mr Allen Onyema, said in an interview recently.

He explained that an airline could delay a flight if the operating aircraft develops a snag and for safety reasons, such an aircraft would be grounded until the issue, no matter how minute, is fixed.

He added, "So, there are so many reasons for cancellation... We had a

bird strike on one of our planes and this is the second time we are having a bird strike on the brand new plane and that grounded the aircraft. Now that one of them is grounded, we have called on the manufacturers and they are sorting it out.

"No airline wants to delay or cancel flights; it is more expensive to do that. No airline wants to delay flights; it is not in their best interest, but as a result of safety, flights may be cancelled or rescheduled. It is for the safety of the passengers and equipment."

Another operator who spoke with our correspondent on the condition of anonymity said many airlines don't reveal the actual cause of delays to passengers because of lack of trust between them.

The operator said, "Nigerian travellers don't actually trust their airlines. They don't trust their airlines and aviation has gone beyond that. The system we have now is a solid system and well regulated. The NCAA is on top of their game.

"No airline wants to fly a faulty plane. The people who are flying these planes are human beings too. "Number 2, Nigerian passengers don't understand a lot of things about aviation.

"When you tell them there is a technical issue, they tell you, wow, you want to kill us. There is a technical issue, the airline has grounded the aircraft or delayed the aircraft so the issue can be resolved.

"Why are they delaying the aircraft? It is because they want the issue to be fixed before it can be flown. However, the passengers don't trust the airlines and they don't know a lot about some of these things.

"Number 3, we are not permitted to talk about VIP movement. There are VIP movements which we are not allowed to talk about. You can only talk about weather because they know; they see and understand weather. But you can't talk about VIP movements and the other issues that I just mentioned.

"So these are the issues. A lot of people know jack about what this industry is all about, how the industry is faring and all. So we need to do a lot of talking; a lot of enlightenment needs to go out there but it will take some time. They are beginning to understand but it will take some time."

## The passengers' rights

December and January are notorious for flight cancellations, delays due to harmattan haze.

The Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), acting on the forecast by the Nigeria Meteorological Agency (NIMET), had already issued a circular alerting airline operators and pilots that the prevalence of the hazy weather would persist till March 22.

The DG of NCAA explained that Pilots/Operators should expect: Moderate to severe dust haze, early morning fog especially along the coastal areas, which in some instances can reduce horizontal visibility to less than 200 metres between November 2021 and March 2022."

He said there would be air-ground visibility reduction due to dust haze or fog while aerodrome visibility may fall below the prescribed operating minima.

He added, "In severe conditions, dust haze can blot out runways, markers and airfield lighting over wide areas making visual navigation extremely difficult or impossible.

"Flights are bound to be delayed, diverted or cancelled where terminal visibility falls below the prescribed aerodrome operating minima."

But some passengers said lack of communication by airlines in some cases worsens their plights. They said it is not enough to attribute the delays to "operational reason"; they are entitled to know the actual cause of the delays.

A lot of passengers' plights are compounded when they miss their flights on account of coming late to the airport and they are surcharged and nothing is done to airlines that delay their flights for hours.

General Manager, Public Relations of the NCAA, Mr Sam Adurogboye, in a chat with our correspondent said, "The NCAA position is that passengers are the reason we are in business and as such should be well treated.

"It follows therefore that they are told ahead of time about any operational hitches that arose, so that all concerned can re-arrange their trips and reason for the trips.

"NCAA will back an operator of a flight that is to be delayed on account of bad weather or have issues with fuelling or engine problems or any other snag.

"But passengers must be carried along. Anything short of that will not be allowed by the authority. Violation of our regulation is viewed seriously in the NCAA and appropriate sanction is meted out accordingly."

## Possible flights cancellation in Kaduna, Kano as NiMet alerts on poor visibility

By Chris Agabi

The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) has alerted the public on the possibility of poor visibility in the extreme north.

A statement yesterday from the agency's Central Forecast Office, said dust haze had raised over Faya Largeau, a dust source region in the Chad Republic during the morning hours of January 1, 2022.

It said: "The plume of dust is expected to disperse towards Nigeria to reduce visibility ranges in the northern parts of the country during the morning hours of 2nd January 2022."

The statement also revealed that the raised dust should be transported into the country from the early hours of January 2.

"Cases of thick to moderate dust haze are expected over the extreme North. Areas to be most affected include Yobe, Kano, Jigawa, Katsina, Kaduna, Bauchi, Gombe and Borno where horizontal visibilities should be around 1000m and below," the statement read.

NiMet cautioned that flight operations might be disrupted, "therefore airline operators are required to pick up their flight folders and adhere to regulations, especially at aerodromes in the Northern part of the country."

"Road users are also advised to drive slowly and carefully due to poor visibility during this period, especially this festive period."

People with respiratory problems should also take caution."

# Insecurity: Association raises over N300m for Sokoto East

From Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

Over N300 million was realized for security and development of the banditry-ravaged eastern part of Sokoto State.

The money was raised on Saturday during the launching of the Sokoto Eastern Zone Development Association at Gwadabawa Local Government Area.

A former governor of Sokoto state, Attahiru Bafarawa, who

is the grand patron of the association, announced the donation of N130m.

Bafarawa said N120m was donated by his friends and associates; and N10m, by himself.

He said: "This is not a political or religious gathering. It's meant to tell ourselves the truth and nothing but the truth. We cannot fold our hands to wait for government to solve our problems. We must unite and help ourselves before government can come in."

"The government has donated vehicles and motorcycles to security agencies, but are we seeing them? This will be part of the mandate of this committee to ensure government property are protected and used judiciously."

Governor Aminu Tambuwal also announced the donation of N125m by the state government and his political associates.

He said: "We've taken some new measures that'll bring banditry to an end in the state."

Chief launcher, Sahabi Tungan Kwangi and Umarun

Kwabo A.A, also donated N5m each.

The chairman of the association, Prof. Nasiru Gatawa, said: "Our people are lagging behind in so many aspects of human endeavour. They can no longer go to farm; our markets are closed; we're educationally backward and no infrastructural development in the area for years."

"Some of our traditional rulers are deposed by bandits and there are many communities without electricity."



■ From left: Head, Technical, Vitafoam Nigeria PLC, Ola Ogunfeyitimi; Executive Director, Corporate Services, Sola Owoade; Group Head, Administration, Lekan Sanni and Head, Sales, Dahiru Gambo, during the presentation of Vitafoam's products to Baby of the Year at Lagos Island Maternity Hospital at the weekend

## We'll be tougher on drug barons this year — NDLEA

By Abbas Jimoh

The Chairman/Chief Executive of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Buba Marwa, yesterday vowed that the NDLEA would be tougher on drug barons in 2022.

Marwa, in his New Year message, said the agency would continue its aggressive pursuit of drug cartels, barons and traffickers wherever they might

be.

He warned: "Those who heed this warning will thank themselves for taking the wise decision to quit the drug trade in the days ahead. Those who think and act otherwise can be assured of a tough year in 2022."

"They can take a cue from what happened in 2021, where the Agency secured various jail terms for over 1, 200 drug traffickers, including nationals

of other countries and we brought to book six drug barons, including those outside the country and those who had been on the run for as long as 10 years."

"In 2022, our goals remain the same: to dismantle drug cartels and syndicates, and that include arresting and having drug offenders jailed by the court and ultimately to rid our society of all traces of illicit

substances," Marwa said.

He said: "There is still a window of opportunity for drug traffickers and barons: Now is the time for them to turn over a new leaf before NDLEA turn on the heat and they lose it all. Since most of them are in the business to amass wealth and now they have made fortunes from this trade that harms society, therefore, it is time to quit."

## Igboho's lawyer quits legal team

A lawyer of the self-acclaimed Yoruba freedom, Sunday Adeyemo, also known as Sunday Igboho, withdrew from his legal team yesterday.

Pelumi Olajengbesi announced his withdrawal in statement on his Facebook page.

Yoruba Self-Determination Groups, Ilana Omo Oodua, had recently stated that Olajengbesi did not speak for Igboho nor was involved in the Yoruba Nation self-determination struggle.

Olajengbesi said: "As a firm, we're satisfied with our little best in contributing to providing legal solutions and representations to Chief Sunday Adeyemo (Igboho) and associated Yoruba Nation agitators as far as ensuring the protection and enforcement of their rights in this matter."

"We were able to secure the release of 12 persons brutally and unlawfully arrested by the reckless State Security Service, and also secured the release of an innocent herbalist equally unlawfully arrested and detained by the SSS."

"We have two persons with on-going terrorism trials at the Federal High Court and our firm will dutifully continue and close the trial having commenced their matter."

"While thanking everyone, particularly Chief Yomi Aliyu SAN for the opportunity and freehand service, Dr Olasupo Ojo for his fair leadership and Chief Femi Falana for allowing his industry to be tapped and for the moral support, I most respectfully wish to now step aside."

## Shariah Council appoints Hadiyatullah new president

By Abbas Jimoh

The Supreme Council for Sharia in Nigeria (SCSN) yesterday named Sheikh AbdurRashid Hadiyatullah as its new president.

Hadiyatullah was, until yesterday, the vice president. He was announced president following the death, last Thursday, of Dr Ibrahim Datti Ahmad.

The statement read: "The council is overwhelmed by the loss of one of its icons, Dr Ibrahim Datti Ahmad, who until his death, was the president of the council."

"As we grieve over this great loss, in total

submission to Allah and in line with the constitution of the council, Sheikh AbdurRashid Hadiyatullah, who was the vice president of the council, is now the new president of the Supreme Council for Shari'ah in Nigeria."

"We pray to Allah SWT to grant him the wisdom and guidance to further the noble objectives of the council in particular, the unity and progress of the Ummah."

Ahmad, a former presidential aspirant of the defunct Social Democratic Party (SDP), died last Thursday in Kano at 83.

## Detained journalist: NUJ apologises to Masari

By Itodo Daniel Sule

The FCT Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) has apologised to Katsina State Governor Aminu Masari for alleging that he was responsible for the arrest and detention of an Abuja-based journalist, Nelson Omonu.

In a statement last night, the council said it was misled on who was responsible for the gestapo-like arrest of Omonu from his residence in Abuja on Saturday.

"The confusion arose from information made available by family members, therefore, it is not the intention of the NUJ FCT to embarrass the governor and Government of Katsina State. We sincerely apologise to Governor Masari and appeal to him to accept this as one of the frailties of human endeavours," a statement signed by Emmanuel Ogbeche and Ochiaka Ugwu, chairman and secretary of council, respectively.



**LEGAL PRACTITIONERS' PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE  
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**2022 AWARD OF THE RANK OF  
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**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

1. By the combined provisions of Section 5 (2) of the Legal Practitioners Act, Cap L11 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria 2004 and Regulation 9 of the Guidelines for the Conferment of the Rank of Senior Advocate of Nigeria 2018 ("the Guidelines"), the Legal Practitioners' Privileges Committee ("the LPPC" or "the Committee") hereby makes a formal call for applications preparatory to the award of the rank for the year 2022. Commencing with this year's exercise, applications shall only be made online and prospective applicants are directed to visit [www.lppconline.com](http://www.lppconline.com) to make their applications.

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

2.1 The application portal, [www.lppconline.com](http://www.lppconline.com) will be open to the general public at **12:00am on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.**

2.2 An applicant must pay a non-refundable processing fee of six hundred thousand Naira (N600 000.00) only to any of the following accounts held in the name of the "Legal Practitioners' Privileges Committee (SAN)":  
**Account Number: 1014103141, at Zenith Bank PLC,**  
**Account No. 0213662834 at GT Bank PLC**

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

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

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

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

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

2.7 All applications together with their mandatory or supporting documents must be submitted online at [www.lppconline.com](http://www.lppconline.com) before **11:59pm on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022** whilst the flash drives referred to in clause 2.5 above must be delivered to the LPPC Secretariat before 12 noon on **1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022.**

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

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

  
**HAJO SARKI BELLO, ESQ.**

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

# APC chieftain gunned down after church service in Akwa Ibom

From Iniabasi Umo, Uyo

An All Progressives Congress (APC) chieftain, Mr Otu Inyang, was shot dead by unknown gunmen in Ikot Udoma village, Eket Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, shortly after the Crossover service heralding the New Year.

It was gathered that the victim was trailed and shot dead a few minutes into the new year while on his way home after attending the crossover service at Qua Iboe Church, Ikot Udoma village, Eket.

It was further learnt that the deceased said the closing

prayers in the church to end the crossover service and was a few metres to his residence when he was waylaid and shot on his head.

Some unsuspecting worshippers returning home after the service said they did not know that the sound they heard was that of gunshots as many sounds from fireworks thrown by excited youths to herald the new year rent the air.

Unconfirmed sources alleged that the deceased was involved in a land dispute.

However, the President of Eki Peoples Union and a former governorship candidate

on the platform of defunct All Nigeria People Party (ANPP), Dr Samuel Udonsel, described the deceased as a formidable politician and community leader.

Confirming the incident, Police Public Relations Officer in the state, SP Odiko Macdon, described the occurrence as unfortunate and vowed to investigate and bring the culprits to book.

Macdon said the Commissioner of Police, Andrew Amienheme, had ordered the deputy commissioner of police to carry out a discreet investigation on the matter.

# Downen: Police awaits toxicology report to determine cause of death

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

The end may not have been heard of the case of Sylvester Oromoni (Jnr) as the Lagos State Police Command says it awaits a toxicology report, which would ascertain the actual cause of death.

Daily Trust had reported that Oromoni allegedly died as a result of the beating he received at the hands of five senior students of Downen College for refusing to join their cult group.

Following his death, five students of Downen College and some housemasters were arrested and detained at the Homicide Section of the State Criminal and Investigations Department, Panti Street, Yaba.

Giving an update on police investigations to unravel circumstances surrounding the mysterious death on Friday at the Command Headquarters, Ikeja, the State Police boss, Hakeem Odumosu, said the command had sent samples of the deceased overseas to toxicologist to carry out a detailed scientific examination on it.

Odumosu who was speaking on the sideline said the outcome of the report would ascertain the actual cause of death of Sylvester Oromoni.

He said the command was not yet at the peak of the investigations but that homicide detectives have concluded their investigation.

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**'Ugwuanyi's belief in God responsible for cordial relationship between Christians, Muslims'**

A renowned wealthy Northern-based farmer who recently relocated his farming business to his community in Mbu, Isi-Uzo Local Government Area of Enugu State, Alhaji Sani Friday Nnaji, has commended Governor Ifeanyi Ugwuanyi for promoting peace, unity and national integration among Nigerians resident in the state and beyond irrespective of religious and ethnic differences.

Speaking when Gov. Ugwuanyi visited him and the Christian and Muslim communities in his country home in Mbu to celebrate Christmas and New Year, yesterday, Alhaji Sani Nnaji disclosed that it was because of the governor's belief in God and his penchant for peace and unity that "Both Christians and Muslims gathered here to eat together".

**Idoma socio-cultural body rejects new Och'Idoma**

**From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi**

The umbrella socio-cultural body of Idoma people known as Ochtaha K'Idoma has rejected the selection of Pastor John Elaigwu Odogbo as the new paramount traditional ruler for the Idoma kingdom.

Odogbo, a clergy of Deeper Life Christian denomination, had on December 30, 2021, emerged the Och'Idoma - elect after a keenly contested election in Otukpo following the recent hunting expedition embarked on by the Och'Idoma IV, Dr Elias Ikoyi Obekpa in October 2021.

The new monarch was hours after his election on the same day presented to Governor Samuel Ortom by the selection committee headed by the supervising Commissioner of Information in the state, Ekpe Ogbu, who testified that the exercise held transparently.

Ogbu also on Sunday told our correspondent in Makurdi that if they (aspirants) had resolved on consensus, they wouldn't have gone into voting as he noted that the state representatives, which he led for the exercise were only there to regulate the process.

But, the Ochtaha K'Idoma, at the weekend in a press statement signed by its President, AVM. Toni Adokwu, (Rtd.), alleged interference with the process, which led to the emergence of the new royal father, thereby referring to the exercise as a "charade".

**Gunmen attack passenger boat in Bayelsa**

Gunmen attacked a passenger boat in Bayelsa on New Year's Eve.

The boat, carrying 14 passengers left Yenagoa en-route Twon-Brass in

Brass Local Government Area of the state when the gunmen struck, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.

They made away with the 115-horsepower

Yamaha outboard engine of the boat and dispossessed the passengers of their valuables.

The Bayelsa chairman of the Maritime Workers

Union of Nigeria, Mr Ogoniba Ipigansi, told NAN in Yenagoa on Sunday that the passengers were left unhurt, however.

"The gunmen dumped the driver and the

passengers in the bush before carting away the outboard engine," he said.

Ipigansi also said that a rescue team had been dispatched to the scene of the incident.

**Gombe Gov swears-in acting Chief Judge, 4 special advisers**

**From Haruna Gimba Yaya, Gombe**

The Gombe State Governor, Muhammadu Inuwa Yahaya, yesterday sworn in Justice Joseph Awak as the Acting Chief Judge of the state.

The appointment of Awak followed the retirement of Justice Mu'azu Abdulkadir

Pindiga who reached the 65 years statutory retirement age and has served as acting chief judge since December 2019.

Governor Yahaya said Justice Awak was appointed being the most senior judge in the state, adding that he was found worthy for the position because of his dedication,

experience, principles and forthrightness.

He expressed confidence in the acting chief judge's ability and qualities to take the state judiciary to the next level.

Meanwhile, Governor Yahaya also administered the oath of office on four recently appointed special advisers.

**Expect more positives from govt in new year — Masari**

**From Tijjani Ibrahim, Katsina**

Governor Aminu Bello Masari of Katsina State has urged Nigerians to expect better things to come their way in 2022.

The governor said the New Year was pregnant with endless positive possibilities.

Governor Masari gave the hope in a statement signed by his DG Media, Abdu Labaran Malumfashi.

Expressing optimism for better prospects for Nigerians in 2022, the Katsina State governor said given the fact that 2022 would be the last full year President Buhari and some state governors would be calling the shots as helmsmen, there will be a more purposeful determination in the government's efforts at the two tiers to make Nigeria less stressful for compatriots.

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**OPINION**Email: [opinion@dailytrust.com](mailto:opinion@dailytrust.com)  
Text: 08131800030**APC and the risk of a slapdash convention**By **Al-Ameen Muhammad**

“Happy New Year” is a universal prayer that greets the commencement of every new year. The year 2022 to Nigeria and Nigerians will be a year of political activities preparatory to the 2023 general elections. It is indeed a year of politicking.

In 2022, the All Progressives Congress, Nigeria’s ruling political party, would be conducting its national convention, the Independent National Electoral Commission would be dishing and rolling out guidelines to political parties, aspirants and eventually candidates, the political parties would be overwhelmed with campaigns and subsequently conduct their primaries to elect candidates as party flag bearers for the 2023 presidential, governorship, national and state legislative elections.

The desire of APC to remain Nigeria’s ruling political party and to win the 2023 general elections is natural and obvious. Mai Mala Buni, Chairman, APC Caretaker/Extraordinary Convention Planning Committee while inaugurating the 61-member Strategy and Contact Committee of the party ahead of the 2023 general elections last year, said “We shall work to reposition the All Progressives Congress to remain Nigeria’s leading party and Africa’s largest political party that will stay in office beyond two, three or even four terms of office”.

Buni was quick to add: “Our mission is to provide a wheel that will drive the party to go beyond 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and even 10th term of office to effectively implement the party manifesto, improve the lives of Nigerians and to remain Nigeria’s leading political party.

Buni’s optimism for the party, however, lies in its ability to unite its members and approach the convention with a united front.

Today, the party’s dream to remain Nigeria’s leading party is being re-engineered by some stakeholders who are vehemently warning against rushing the party into a convention with a divided house. Some of the stakeholders argued that it will be a political suicide for the APC to approach the convention when it is yet to settle the squabbles in Kano, Zamfara, Anambra, Ogun, Oyo and Akwa Ibom among others.

Yes, the political fortunes of APC might have increased tremendously with the high profile defections of three sitting governors - Ebonyi State, Mr Dave Umahi, Cross River State Prof. Ben Ayade and Zamfara State, Alh. Bello Matawalle along with hundreds of thousands of their followers from the Peoples Democratic Party to the APC.

Like its symbol, the broom, APC must be united to sweep itself into another term of office and perhaps beyond. The APC now boasts of over 40 million members capable of winning elections in all national elections.

President Muhammadu Buhari, congratulated and gave the Buni Caretaker committee a pass mark for its efforts in repositioning the party saying, “APC has bounced back to life”. However, the disputes that followed the ward, local government and state congresses, have been a source of worry to many chieftains.

Sen. Orji Uzo Kalu, APC chieftain and Chief Whip of the Senate, was recently reported to have written a warning letter to the national secretariat of the party to postpone the February proposed national convention on the grounds of instability in the party. He warned that if the convention is carried out in February without sorting out the disagreements created by the congresses, the party may collapse.

Many chieftains have already settled for the party to shift the convention to have adequate time for an acceptable and successful convention that would be a springboard for the party’s victory in 2023. Some other voices have gone beyond the mere call for shifting of the convention to conducting the convention alongside the party primary for the 2023 general elections, if APC must win the forthcoming elections. Their argument was based on the fear that the national convention may generate further divisions, disharmony and disagreements, which will invariably translate into APC heading to the 2023 general election with a fragmented house and a ticket to losing the election.

For others, the Senator Abdullahi Adamu-led National Reconciliation Committee should hasten the reconciliation of all aggrieved members and groups for the party to conduct the convention. The committee must convince members who took the party to court to withdraw such cases to pave way for a successful convention. It is obvious that until reconciliations are achieved for the convention to hold without any threat, the convention will be a building founded on loose sand.

The question before the party now is, whether the APC with frayed nerves and amidst several unsettled disputes is fully prepared for a generally acceptable national convention? The answer is certainly No. The party must achieve relative peace for a successful convention to approach the general election.

There is nothing wrong with the party to make adequate preparations, using the remaining time to calm the differing voices and positions for the party to prosper. The interest of the party must always be superior over and above personal ambitions and interests. If it means APC conducting the convention alongside its primaries as suggested by some of the stakeholders, to succeed, so be it. The ambition of people wanting to be party executives to hijack the party must never be a priority to the party as we approach the 2023 elections. Success and victory, are and should remain the priority of the party leadership and its faithful members.

*Muhammad is a member of APC, FCT chapter*

**OPINION****Our own worst enemy**By **Nick Dazang**

For the past two years, Professor Attahiru Jega has been on a roll in the lecture circuit. The former Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has been voluble and incessant in commenting on the electoral process, the need to restructure the country, the cluelessness of our leadership and the parlous state of the North.

The comments have been cogent, compelling and possessed of a sense of urgency. And given their timing, most observers would have been tempted to conclude that they were carefully calibrated by the professor to seek relevance and put himself in the reckoning for the presidency in 2023. Thankfully, he has disabused our minds. At a forum organised recently by Kwaravisioners Network for Rural Development in Ilorin, the former INEC Chairman assured that his interventions were inspired by patriotic fervor. He asserted at that forum that: “I have no presidential ambition. All I am doing is to contribute to a credible, reliable and acceptable process of election and leadership recruitment in the country.” In other words, he is not indulging in the kind of self-righteous ululation, which politicians are adept at in order to solicit sympathy for themselves.

Given our abject and woeful state of affairs, all the issues that Professor Jega has raised or canvassed in the past two years must resonate with Nigerians. But the one that resonates most with this writer is his plangent lament about the North being the haven and poster boy of horrible statistics and the world capital of poverty. Additionally, the North, which Andy Akporogu once dismissed as a “haven of excitable tempers” on account of the ethno-religious crises that reared their ugly heads in the 1980s/90s, has become the epicenter of other mortal failings, to wit: terrorism, banditry, kidnapping, out of school children, hordes of urchins roaming the streets etc.

Though Professor Jega did not go beyond issuing a clarion lament, he must nonetheless be saluted. Not a few mountebanks who parade themselves as our leaders in the North have preferred to play the ostrich and to pussyfoot over our horrible condition, making it to fester. But beyond Professor Jega’s lament, we must interrogate ourselves as to how the North arrived at this sordid pass, a pass where other sections of the country perceive the North as regressing to the Stone Age and a liability to the commonwealth.

The first major failing, and arising from a primeval and feudal mindset, is that we were not prepared to invest in education in a concerted and determined way. Whereas the South had the benefit of exposure to Western education for a century before us and insisted on free education for its wards in the aftermath of Independence, the North was content with educating only the wards of the ruling class to the exclusion of the less-heeled.

**The fourth failing is that the North is a house divided against itself. As far back as in the 1950s, the North had not been at peace with itself. Neither has it been the monolith that it professes. This explains why as far back as the 1950s, there were serious agitations for a Middle Belt region. The shabbiness and clumsiness with which the North used to treat its minorities has now assumed a cavalier proportion.**

Until the advent of Christian Missionary activities in the 1930s, Western education in the North was the preserve of the privileged. Post-independence, there was no deliberate policy to make education free and compulsory for all. Even though the Almajiri system had initial sublime and uplifting spiritual intentions, our people outsourced their responsibilities as parents to the Quranic/Madrasa teacher. By and by and without infrastructural support and resources, the Quranic teacher became overwhelmed, the system became bastardised and its helpless products became cannon fodder and easy recruits for clerics of dubious religious pedigree. An insightful documentary by Ambassador Yusuf Mamman aired on NTA Kaduna in 1984 showed that it was against this background that the Maitatsine movement began and later erupted in a number of riots across the North.

The second failing, if not incubus, is the desperation for power. A typical Northerner would always desire to assert himself anywhere and anytime a leadership vacuum presents itself. Perhaps there would have been nothing wrong with this tendency if it were informed by the overarching quest to add value, make a difference and pursue an uplifting national agenda. Instead, the quest is often undergirded by a narrow and obtuse vision, a vacuousness and a vanity of the highest order.

The third failing, and related to the aforementioned, is as soon as one assumes power, he carries on haughtily and members of his family or cabal carry on with a sense of entitlement. The national patrimony is soon appropriated and transformed into a family one. Compatriots are looked upon with disdain. It is soon forgotten that power ought to be acquired to do justice and be fair to all and to improve the wellbeing of all citizens.

The fourth failing is that the North is a house divided against itself. As far back as in the 1950s, the North had not been at peace with itself. Neither has it been the monolith that it professes. This explains why as far back as the 1950s, there were serious agitations for a Middle Belt region. The shabbiness and clumsiness with which the North used to treat its minorities has now assumed a cavalier proportion. To get it right, the North must reconcile itself with its minorities and manage its diversity adroitly, justly and with sagacity.

The fifth failing, arising chiefly from its feudal mindset, is that it gives the short shrift to merit and healthy competition. Its best and the brightest are often driven to the margins or at best ignored while its epigones and inferiors are brought to the centre of attention and opportunity. Positions of responsibility, demanding intellectual rigour and hard work, are reserved for the privileged. And in any contest, instead of the North to showcase its First Eleven, it flaunts its Eleventh Eleven. Merit is thrown overboard in favour of mediocrity. It is this mediocrity that has atrophied and undermined the Northern Nigerian Development Company (NNDC). Contrast it to the Oodua Group of Companies, which continues to grow apace and declare annual profits.

The sixth failing is in the area of investment. With perhaps the exception of Aliko Dangote, T.Y. Danjuma, Col. Sani Bello, A.A. Rano and a few others, most Northern elites who are blessed are content with investing their millions in erecting mansions, collecting the most exotic cars and marrying nubile girls. Contrast this with a typical Southerner whose obsession, once he is blessed, is to put up a factory, a hotel or a hospital that serves his community and gives his people employment. Our rich in the North prefer to dole out alms to ill-clad urchins who remain eternally beholden to them. Few set up foundations or provide scholarships for the bright but indigent.

— Continued on [www.dailytrust.com](http://www.dailytrust.com)

*Nick Dazang is the immediate past Director, Media and Public Enlightenment, INEC.*

## EDITORIAL

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

## 2022: Happy New Year

Nigerians joined the rest of the world on Saturday to welcome the New Year 2022.

It is no gainsaying that for many Nigerians, the struggle to see the end of 2021 was a very challenging experience.

Apart from the COVID-19 pandemic which was carried over into 2021, Nigerians experienced many hurdles, especially the rising cost of living for the ordinary man and the debilitating insecurity which permeated the whole country.

From the Boko Haram insurgency in the North East to banditry in the North West as well as the activities of the elements of the proscribed Indigenous People of Biafra in the South East and the numerous inter-ethnic and religious clashes, Nigeria witnessed so much bloodshed during the year.

However, it was not all gloomy as we also recorded some positive developments. It was the year we saw the completion of the Lagos-Ibadan rail line as well as many roads projects. Nigeria was able to be a leading country in start-ups which promises to see more foreign investment in the sector.

There is also another glimmer of hope as Nigeria will soon join other countries in deploying the 5G platform which promises to provide more ease in communication.

On the diplomatic front, Nigeria's Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala became the first woman and African to be elected as Director-General of the World Trade Organisation.

As we welcome the New Year, Nigerians look forward with anticipation to what is in store for them. Certainly, there is apprehension that things may become tougher, with the envisaged increase in the price of petrol. Again, Nigerians are anxious to see the end of the bloodshed across the country as the activities of non-state actors seem not to be abetting.

Similarly, this year also promises to see more political activities as we move towards the 2023 general elections. Nigerians equally hope that this will not slow down efforts to address the numerous problems facing the country.

Also, the way our politicians take vying for office as a do-or-die affair, will surely cause more apprehension in the land.

President Muhammadu Buhari, in his New Year message, enjoined Nigerians to look at the future with hope assuring that his administration is doing everything possible to address the myriad of challenges facing the country.

He promised to redouble effort in the areas of security and the economy to secure a better life for Nigerians.

It is true that we have been facing challenges but one quality that is true of every Nigerian is our resilience. This is an attribute that saw the country through many challenges.

This is required the more as we move into the New Year carrying last year's baggage. We believe it is time every one of us resolves to serve the country with all sincerity. There is no one that will come and do it for us.

As we move into 2022, Nigerians may need to read and reread the New Year message of Pope Francisco which emphasised the importance of family and forgiveness.

"A family is a place of support and not of gossip and slander of one another; it must be a place of welcome, not a place rejection. Shame to those who plant evil about others. We are a family and not enemies.

For this reason, the family must be a place of life not a place of death; a place of forgiveness and not a place of hell; a healing territory and not a disease; an internship of forgiveness and not guilt. Forgiveness brings joy where sorrow brought sadness; of healing where sorrow had caused disease," the pontiff said.

Nigerians need to see themselves as members of one family and be quick in forgiving each other. We must realise that the rest of the world will not be waiting for us before it moves ahead. We cannot afford to continue to fight among ourselves while others are making inroads into new technology and innovation.

We also call on the political class to be more honest in steering the ship of the country. Much depends on the kind of leadership they give the country. If they could be sincere and provide true leadership, Nigeria will overcome most of the challenges it faces today.

We wish you a Happy 2022.

**NURA DAURA:** Ag Chief Executive Officer  
**NAZIRU MIKAILU:** Executive Director/Editor-in-Chief  
**SULEIMAN A SULEIMAN:** Deputy Editor-in-Chief  
**HAMZA IDRIS:** General Editor  
**STELLA IYAJI:** Managing Editor  
**ABDULAZIZ ABDULAZIZ:** Deputy General Editor  
**AHMED SHEKARAU:** Executive Director, Business & Strategy

## OPINION

## National Drug Control Master Plan 2021-2025

By Chuks Akamadu

In recent times, the media – both conventional and new – had been awash with tales and grisly videos of young men hooked on Mkpurummiri (Crystal Methamphetamine), the ice-like synthetic street drug that has hit the South-Eastern part of Nigeria with growing rage!

Whilst other harmful substances such as Colorado and Flakka cause involuntary teeth clenching, blurred vision, increased heart rate, bizarre behaviour, paranoia, agitation and delusion of super-human strength, among others, Mkpurummiri, cheap and accessible, is an extremely potent and addictive stimulant that wrecks the central nervous system and alters one's judgment. Worse still, Mkpurummiri walks about with a yoke of death sentence which is the fact that there is currently no approved treatment for its addiction.

Apparently aware of the present and worsening danger this epidemic portended for their collective survival, communities had in separate instances risen in unison to object to and proactively roll back the emergent trend that was rapidly bringing their youths under its vice grip. The spontaneous community action which included having addicts tied to beams and trees and beaten mercilessly had received both applause and knocks – the latter for its human rights and jungle justice dimension. There was even a reported extreme case of an addict who was burnt alive by the youth of his community for killing his father in order to take the deceased's N50,000 just to buy Mkpurummiri.

As the South East groaned, there also was no respite for other parts of the country. Amid all this was news of growing number of seizures, arrest, prosecution and convictions recorded by the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). Heightened concerns were raised by well-meaning Nigerians as regards the institutional capabilities of state actors to contain the hydra-headed drug scourge with its far-reaching health, security and socio-economic implications.

Then came the soothing balm of December 6, 2021: the official launch of the long-awaited National Drug Control Master Plan (NDCMP) 2021-2025. The first had happened in 1999. The second was the 2008-2013 Plan whilst the third and immediate past was the 2015-2020 Plan. To be fair, the Inter-ministerial Drug Control Committee that developed the document in partnership with European Union (EU) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) did an exhaustive job. All the stakeholders led by the NDLEA deserve commendation, for a careful reading of the new Plan clearly shows that the authors took full benefit of credible research studies, drug use surveys, gaps in previous Plans and invaluable Report of the Presidential Advisory Committee on the Elimination of Drug Abuse (PACEDA).

Notable among the key issues adequately addressed by the 2021-2025 Plan are inclusiveness and coordination. This fourth NDCMP, we are told, "represents a continuity and advancement in the Government of Nigeria's effort towards addressing the evolving drug situation in a comprehensive, integrated, multi-disciplinary and inclusive manner". This is something to cheer about and deserves the buy-in of every well-meaning Nigerian and group.

For all practical purposes, the 2021-2025 Plan is rooted in broad-based consultations among partners and stakeholders and harmonised with the existing international and regional conventions, lessons learned and global best practices.

The central objective of the Plan is to improve health and security for everyone resident in the country – a legitimate aspiration that is anchored on four key pillars namely: Drug Supply Reduction; Drug Demand Reduction; Access to Controlled medicines for Medical and Scientific Purposes; and Governance and Coordination. With each of the relevant MDAs being alive to its well-defined, streamlined, respective responsibilities, the Supply Reduction Strategic Pillar is expected to significantly reduce production and supply of illicit drugs whilst Drug Demand Strategic Pillar is designed, chiefly, to build on the sensitization, advocacy, prevention and treatment programmes carried out in the previous NDCMP cycle, among others.

Similarly, the Plan envisages that Strategic Pillar on Access to Controlled Medicines for Medical and Scientific Purposes would address the issue of lack of availability of controlled medicines for genuine patients and its severe impact on the health and wellness of Nigerians. On its part, the Governance and Coordination Pillar seeks to synchronize the efforts of relevant MDAs for effective implementation of NDCMP 2021-2025. This no doubt smells nice.

It even smells nicer when President Muhammadu Buhari in his published endorsement of the Plan stated thus: "On my part, I assure you of this administration's commitment in providing the required resources for the effective and implementation of NDCMP 2021-2025". However, where the real challenge rests are in the willingness and enthusiasm of all concerned to comply with Mr President's crucial charge: "I strongly encourage all partners and stakeholders to wholeheartedly embrace this plan; align their interventions with the intended objectives of this document, and contribute to improved health, well-being, development and security of all Nigerians."

As the arrowhead of this drug control effort, I'm afraid the NDLEA has to accept the additional responsibility of encouraging and promoting compliance amongst stakeholders and partners for better coordination and optimal outcomes. This document can only be as good as its implementation. When history would have a duty to appraise the 2021-2025 Plan's performance, it wouldn't bother itself with its fine letters, elegant language or well-intentioned goals; rather, it would focus strictly on the level of implementation and impact on the health and security of Nigeria and Nigerians.

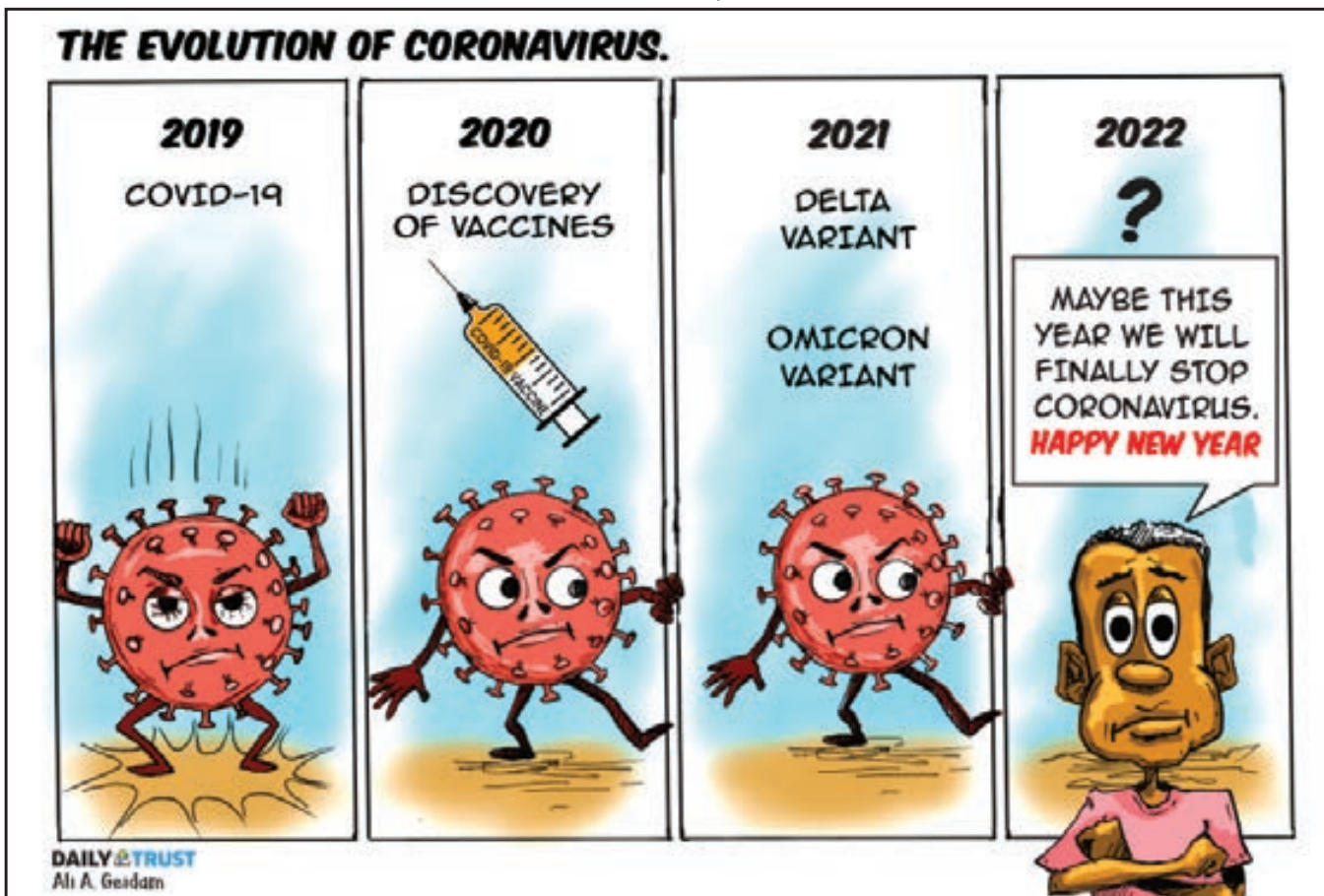
Arise O' Compatriots and recognise the NDCMP 2021-2025, rightly, as our shortest route to victory over Mkpurummiri, cannabis, cocaine, amphetamine, heroin, diazepam, cough syrup, tramadol Colorado, Flakka etc. With this "victory", our land would be secure, our youths in good health and the future guaranteed for sustainable development. Let's seize the moment. No effort should be spared.

*Chuks Akamadu, President, Centre for Ethical Rebirth Among Nigerian Youths (CERANY)*

## LETTERS to the Editor

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CARTOON by Ali A. Geidam



## English language as taught in schools: The Rigasa experience

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

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

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

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

In contrast with Rigasa of today, students have developed low interest in learning. Some students and teachers do not communicate in English. While some teachers are unprofessional, unskilled and not passionate about the job, some proprietors are not ready to employ skilled, professional and qualified teachers. In the same vein, parents also contribute in worsening the situation through their unwillingness to pay and support schools for quality education to reign.

There is a need for continued partnership between government and private sector. The government can be assisted to accommodate the ever-increasing population of students.

For Rigasa to regain and sustain its initial quality education, there is need for the community and stakeholders like Ministry of Education, PTA, SBMC and individual parents to put aside tribal and political differences and help their children through effective monitoring, supervision and inspection of schools.

The National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools (NAPPS), should do more to ensure they only employ qualified and skilled teachers. They should as well set up a committee for supervision, and any school found wanting should be reported to the appropriate authorities.

More so, the Kaduna State government and Igabi local government should double their efforts through the School Quality Assurance Authority, to ensure students in Rigasa can read, write and communicate in English, besides paying regular unannounced supervisory and inspection visits to schools within the community.

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## Bauchi: The politics of deforestation

Recently, a committee was inaugurated by Governor Bala Abdulkadir Mohammad to implement the government's White Paper on the report of administrative committee on land use abuse, illegal allocation and farmers and herders clashes in the local government areas of the state.

This news, to some extent, soothed our hearts that have been burning helplessly for several months because of the impunity and lawlessness being perpetrated by government officials and politicians in our local governments.

The scandalous sale and allocation of the historic Lame-Burra Game Reserve and Burra-Tamba Grazing Reserve by a group secretly formed by local government officials and local politicians is the heaviest blow we have ever suffered as community and environmental activists.

About two decades ago when we started our activism to protect our forests and reserves against deforestation and other harmful activities so as to avoid environmental disasters and other negative effects, we thought by now, the problem of deforestation in our area would have been reduced or eliminated completely.

The Lame/Burra Game Reserve, which covers about 2,351.92 km<sup>2</sup>, is situated in Toro and Ningi Local Governments Area. The area was designated for nature reserve and maintenance of natural habitats.

One will never expect that this Game Reserve being one of the greatest treasures and tourism attraction sites of the State will be carelessly managed and left in the hands of local politicians who subsequently decided to sell it to the

highest bidders.

Motivated by greed and the huge amount money they generated without hitches, the local government officials, local politicians and a certain bureaucracy of our traditional institution decided that more money would come if they allocate some of the forest reserves in the area to themselves, cronies and any interested buyer.

Environmental activists and community leaders alerted the government on the dangerous trend which is capable of plunging the state into serious security and environmental disaster.

The District Head of Burra Alhaji Ya'u Shehu Abubakar has been the greatest force in the fight against deforestation but he is lone in the fight thus he watched them helplessly. Knowing that he was the major threat in their deforestation and farmlands allocation business, the officials connived and got him suspended from office. They now have a freeway.

Later the government cancelled all the allocations in the reserves and set up a committee to investigate. But this didn't stop the atrocities. They paused on the allocation and concentrate on logging and massive production of charcoal from the Reserve.

It's obvious that local politicians see our forests as political bounties. Whenever an election is held, the target of the members of the winning party is to take control of forests and reserves in their communities. This twist of politics started more than a decade ago but worsened from 2020 to date.

Nobody will think that after many actions taken by Governor Bala

Mohammad against the then caretaker chairmen of Ningi, Darazo and Misau as well as some traditional rulers on their involvement in deforestation and farmers and herders clashes, there will be any local government official or traditional ruler that will support or take part in these nefarious activities. But the crop of leaders and politicians we have at the local governments are doing more atrocities to the reserves and the environment and fuelling more ill feeling and chaos among farmers and herders.

Most of them don't share the vision of the present administration of protecting the environment and preventing farmers and herders clashes and it is clear that the warnings and policy pronouncements by Governor Bala Mohammad are falling into their deaf ears.

The DIG Sani Muhammad-led White Paper Implementation Committee has a lot of work to do in investigating the institutionalised destruction of forest reserves in the state. Many big names in local governments are involved. The magnitude of the negative effects of these activities should be great thing of concern for any patriotic son of the state. Thus they should spare no one in their task.

I am also of the view that after punishing all people found wanting in these atrocities against the state, government should come up with workable policy about all forest reserves in the state with a view to protecting and strengthening them for the optimal benefits of the citizens.

Abdul Ahmad Burra can be reached via [abdulburra10@gmail.com](mailto:abdulburra10@gmail.com)

# MONDAY BUSINESS

**CBN EXCHANGE RATES**

	US DOLLAR	Pound STERLING	EURO	YUAN/ RENMINBI	RIVAL	CFA
Buying	410	558	478	58.57	101.02	0.69
Central NGN	410.43	558.10	478.24	58.65	101.15	0.70
Selling NGN	410.87	558.20	478.48	58.73	101.29	0.71

**COMMODITIES PRICE (December 5, 2021)**

CRUDE OIL BRENT	\$83.57
GOLD	\$1,740.60
SILVER	\$22.60
NATURAL GAS	\$5.4

**BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES**

BUYING	Dollar	Euro	Pound S.
	N563	N580	N694
SELLING	Dollar	Euro	Pound S.
	N565	N595	N705

By Chris Agabi

**The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) has said weather information can be cascaded to local farmers more effectively when they are delivered in easy to use format devoid of scientific technicalities.**

The Director-General/Chief Executive Officer, Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet), Professor Mansur Bako Matazu, stated this at a one-day workshop on developing a feedback framework for Climate Information Service Delivery in Nigeria.

Matazu also said the weather information should be delivered in easy and local languages.

He said: "The key challenge in the delivery of agrometeorological information to farmers includes traditional beliefs, highly technical scientific information, poor communications, language barrier, etc."

## How weather information can be delivered to farmers – NiMet

He said NiMet seeks partnerships and collaborations such as the NiMet-Human and Environment Development Agenda (HEDA) relationship.

He said the Nigerian Meteorological Agency remains open to more of these partnerships and looks forward to an improved working relationship with HEDA for sustainable food security in Nigeria.

He explained that NiMet understands the need for partnership in the dissemination of climate information to farmers based on the success stories recorded with HEDA.

Other partnerships he said include the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) projects on the

application of the Seasonal Climate Prediction for Agricultural production and provision of Crop Weather Calendar and Livestock comfortability Index.

He said the agency maintains a strong and efficient collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Institute of Agricultural Research (IAR) on Climate Smart Villages, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) on Climate-Smart Agricultural Practices, Centre for Dry-Land Agriculture (CDA), USAID MARKET, State governments, and other key MDAs in providing agrometeorological information to farming communities across the country.

## PiggyVest pays out over 242bn to 3.5m customers in 2021

From Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos

A savings and investment platform, PiggyVest paid out over N242billion to over 3.5million customers in 2021; its Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Somto Ifezue has disclosed.

Ifezue in a newsletter disclosed the plan of the platform to do better with its products, services and opportunities in 2022.

Launched in 2016 as primarily a savings app, Piggyvest, formerly known as Piggy Bank helps and businesses and individuals including students manage their finances effectively - save and invest with ease.

"For the past five and a half years, we have been committed to building a product that truly benefits our customers. It's not been an easy task making sure everyone is happy, but we are grateful for the opportunity, and we never take it for granted," he said.

On what to expect from PiggyVest in 2022; Ifezue asked customers to expect overhauling of the app to make it more user-friendly and secured; adding more features to help customers in their financial journey would be introduced.

"We are bringing loads of investment opportunities for you via 'Investify', which is PiggyVest's way of helping subscribers grow their wealth. We will also ensure better and faster customer support this year" he assured.



■ From left: Abbey Mortgage Bank's Group Head, Corporate Services, Bukola Ewedaio; the Executive Director Treasury, Operations and Construction Finance, Mr Oladipupo Adeoye with the organising committee receiving an award on behalf of Abbey Mortgage Bank as the Most Innovative Mortgage Bank of the Year 2021 at the just concluded African Housing Awards recently

## Report bribe-seeking officials, DisCos tell power users

By Simon Echewofun Sunday

The 11 power Distribution Companies (DisCos) have urged customers to report bribe-seeking officials while also not indulging in inducing officials.

The DisCos stated this through the Association of Nigerian Electricity Distributors (ANED) in a statement at the weekend.

ANED's Executive Director for Research and Advocacy, Barr. Sunday Oduntan said: "As for the claims of bribe seeking and giving, our policies remain the same as with any legal entity doing business in Nigeria. We do not condone corruption and request any customer who requests for a legitimate service and if asked to pay a bribe to promptly report such incident

as well as the staff in question through our customer service platforms and the regulator's complaint channels.

"Also, sometimes, it is those who induce them that are the same people who come and complain about them. We need Nigerians to help us fish out the bad eggs in our system. If you see something, say something."

ANED also dismissed claims

that the 11 DisCos set arbitrary revenue targets for their staff, causing them to force high bills on customers. The association insisted that it is for their energy consumed that such bills are being charged.

"We are talking about money owed to the DisCo for a service already rendered. This is money earned by the DisCo based on the energy consumed.

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

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

# How strategic leaders can develop a growth mind-set and win

**A**s we mark the end of another eventful year, I believe that it is imperative to share actionable insights to help leaders thrive despite the disruptive and volatile operating context. These actionable strategies are informed by insights that I gleaned from helping over 4,000 executives and hundreds of organisations to optimise their impact and thrive since I founded TEXEM 12 years ago.

Talking about improving performance can be difficult, especially when there are disruptions such as those posed by the current pandemic. While it looks challenging and daunting during times of uncertainty, you'll agree with me that there are executives out there who are performing exceptionally well despite the many challenges that they face. Such cases present an opportunity to learn how such leaders are sailing through the storms of the pandemic, competition, disruption and other headwinds.

As a public or private sector leader, you need to learn and adopt the right strategies and skills that can help you influence impactful action among your team. You have to engage, encourage and stimulate them to achieve your organisation's goals effectively and efficiently. By the way, contrary to what many people think, leadership is not about coercion. Sometimes your team needs a little coaching and inspiration to improve performance.

Arguably certain qualities and characteristics are common among successful leaders who continually contribute to nation-building; how such individuals respond to circumstances, including disruptive pandemics such as the COVID 19 and the strategic choices that they make, all factor into their success and effective leadership. Most importantly, how much people respond to the need for changes and transition, especially in this digital age, sets them apart from their counterparts who might be struggling or performing dimly. If you are looking to be a leader, then turns challenges into vitamins; here are some of the essential skill sets you need:

#### a) Communication Skills

The ability to present information clearly and effectively is very vital for any leader who aspires to develop impactful legacies that endure. While presentation skills are required by almost every job these days, being a leader

requires knowing how to pass messages effectively. It is critical for success. 70% of all change initiatives fail partly due to poor communication. Thus, to successfully inspire transformation, you need to improve your private and public presentations across multiple platforms. Writing skills are also an essential part of strategic communication. Strategic leaders communicate with clarity, poise, conviction, build trust and inspire others to transform.

#### b) Financial Awareness

Financial awareness, including the ability to use various financial knowledge and skills such as budgeting, investing, and financial management, will allow you to manage financial resources in your organisation effectively. You also need these skills to communicate your organisation's financial position and performance to all stakeholders. It will also inform the choices and actions you take and those that should be deferred.

#### c) Entrepreneurship: Taking Risks

Leadership requires an entrepreneurial mindset that can turn problems into opportunities that add value and propel the organisation to success. So, leaders need to be risk-takers and experts when navigating uncertainties. And in today's environment, entrepreneurial activity is needed more than ever before. It's necessary for solving problems, improving performance, and thriving despite the ever-growing competition.

#### d) IT skills

Developing IT skills as a leader will allow you to embrace and utilise emerging technologies. From artificial intelligence to quantum computing, big data, to the internet of things, all these technological capabilities can disrupt the dominant business model, so every leader needs to be technology savvy. Hence, you also need these skills to be efficient, effective and solve technical, human and commercial issues with ease. So, it might just be necessary for you to acquire IT skills in many areas, especially in project management, cyber security, software development, data analytics, and others. To achieve these, you need to undergo some short courses on this, and it will help you improve your performance as an executive.

#### e) Self-Motivation

As a prolific leader, you



■ Dr Abubakre

should be self-motivated before you seek to motivate your team or those you lead. It becomes easy to provide strategic direction and inspire your team to achieve organisational goals when you are self-motivated. But how do you motivate yourself? Well, be open to change, learn from others, reflect on your progress, balance your emotions, be deliberate about; the company you keep as well as what you read and always make positive affirmative statements.

#### f) Time Management

Look, effective time management stimulates strategic leadership. You must, therefore, make it a habit to use time well. Every day, draw a to-do list, prioritise your tasks, be focused, manage distractions and track your time. Note that while everyone has 24 hours, some use it well, while others end up wasting their time. Top performance, growth, and other successes come when one manages their time well, so you have to do it and do it effectively.

#### g) Action Plan for Change or Personal Development Plan

As a leader, you need a written account of your self-reflection and improvement, which should also double up as your action plan that you'll use to achieve your goals. It should describe your goals regarding development, areas of improvement and performance optimisation as a leader. Most importantly, it should outline the tactics you will use to achieve top performances, whose strategies should be broken down into actionable

steps, and each milestone should be given a time frame. Thus, this action plan must be smart, i.e. specific, measurable, attainable and time-bound.

#### h) Embrace Change

Another typical behaviour with leaders who deliver top-performance despite the plethora of contextual challenges is that they are always ready to embrace change. Ideally, change is always part of the business or day-to-day running of activities. So, as an executive, you must have an open mind that is ready to accept change. Note that, with constantly emerging technologies, ways of thinking, and other dynamics, you cannot expect to apply the same old techniques of leadership strategies. That's how you get beaten and left out while your competitors are growing and scaling the heights of success.

#### i) Invest in Education

Commitment to continued education is another vital requirement for improving self, team, organisation and society. You'll agree that leadership is a journey and not a destination. So, as a strategic leader, you must continually expand your knowledge and inspire your organisation to embrace a culture of lifelong learning. This could be a means of developing core competencies and capabilities that could generate sustainable competitive advantage. To achieve a competitive advantage that endures, you can register for short courses with reputable providers. One such leading consulting firm is TEXEM. Over time, TEXEM has proven to be a leader in providing

actionable learning platforms and the best programmes for executives looking to steer their organisations to the highest possible success and growth potentials. It gives you a chance to hear from, engage with and learn from some of the best faculties and leaders from world-leading universities and other seats of learning. TEXEM is also renowned for having a rigorous methodology that makes learning stimulating, exciting, and impactful.

#### Wrapping It Up

Overall, the most strategic leaders are those who have a growth mindset and strive to improve themselves continually. For them, past success is not a reason to be content with everything. Instead, it's a reason to acquire more skills, especially those that help increase their capacities, facilitate profitable growth in their organisations and have a culture of renewal. But what kind of skills are necessary? We are in a digital era; hence, digital, soft and conceptual skills are vital for survival, growth, and improved performance. Furthermore, you can get insights into customer behaviour, needs, and the best ways to connect with them with such skills.

With continued learning and education, you get a chance to network both externally, share experiences with others, and most importantly, develop your leadership skills. Influential leaders invest in their leadership, and whether you are in the public or private sector, you too need to embrace continuous learning. All organisations need leaders that keep growing. So, to grow your company, develop yourself as an executive or leader. Learn and practice the habit of constantly striving to improve performance even when you are already doing well.

Dr Abubakre is a British based entrepreneur with an unparalleled passion for Africa, academic, and Founder & Non-Executive Chair of TEXEM, UK, which has trained over 4,000 executives in the UK and Africa in the past ten years. He is on the advisory board of the London Business School Africa Society, lectures in Coventry, a top 15 UK university. In 2010, Alim was selected as one of the top 100 Virgin Media emerging entrepreneurs in the UK and accompanied London's Lord Mayor on his entourage to Nigeria in 2015. Abubakre is a Fellow (FIOEE) of the UK's Institute of Enterprise and Entrepreneurs and a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

NEWS

# Reduce tax, interest rate in 2022, ACCI urges FG

By Faruk Shuaibu

**T**he Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) has stated that the increasing level of inflation, high taxes, and high-interest rates are leading to the closure of many businesses in the country.

The President of ACCI, Dr. Al-Mujtaba Abubakar, in a new year message, yesterday noted that high taxation, with its consequent counterproductive effect, has brought about an unemployment crisis which can only be remedied with the government broadening its tax base and reducing tax rates.

Abubakar said the government should endeavour to reduce

them in 2022 to induce growth in the economy.

He said: "Increasing level of inflation, high taxes, and high-interest rates contribute to increasing the cost of production. This has resulted in many businesses not breaking even and many are closing shops. The situation is further complicated by insecurity challenges and the exchange rate instability. We recommend easing the harsh business environment by transforming regulatory agencies into facilitating bodies."

Abubakar, while stating businesses in Abuja are subjected to more than five types of taxation, called for a change for SMEs to thrive and employ more

workers to ease the increasing level of unemployment.

He said the chamber believes that Nigeria's economy would grow when the government's policies, agencies, and programmes facilitate rather than impede businesses when there is a synergy between the public and private sectors.

He assured that the Chamber is ready to fully support government at all levels in the drive to grow the economy, create wealth and resolve national economic challenges.

He however urged business owners to remain undaunted and consistent in applying innovative methods and strategies to sustain their businesses in 2022.

"Operators of small- and

medium-scale businesses should not relent but continue to advocate for the improved business climate in Nigeria. COVID-19 has pushed businesses around the globe over the technology tipping point, giving rise to new industry challenges, and has transformed business forever," he noted.

He said with carefully formulated tools and good preparation, the toughest challenges could be turned into opportunities. He, therefore, called on the government to intensify efforts in providing the technology and digital infrastructure needed for new business techniques in line with current realities.

## Subsidy removal will increase hardship – Abdulqadir

By Favour Aliyu

The federal government has been urged to not increase the hardship index of the country with its planned removal of fuel subsidies. The founder and president of Moahz Group of Companies, Dr. Ojo Abdulqadir, who gave the advice noted that an increase in fuel prices would translate directly to an increased cost of survival for Nigerians.

He noted that the furor over fuel subsidy should be strategically deployed to avoid panic and diffuse all agitations from the stakeholders that are acutely affected, pointing out that the negative effects will surely outweigh the positive.

Abdulqadir said the cost of transportation across the country will skyrocket, the cost of food and other things connected therewith would be hiked, hence a spiral effect on the living standard of the populace. According to him, the suffering of Nigerians will be multi-dimensional, which may eventually result in revolts and protests across the states.

He said: "This issue of petroleum subsidy removal, I believe, should be strategically deployed to avoid panic and diffuse all agitations from the stakeholders that are acutely affected."

"Yes, there have been initiatives and interventions to defray the impending shock of subsidy removal, but are these solutions being deployed on their merits?"

"The CBN gas intervention fund has been touted by the handlers since its roll-out... the potential for this program is yet unmet, as there are still no commercially viable alternatives to allow the market forces achieve proper equilibrium when petrol subsidy is totally removed."

"All of that shock is transferred directly to the masses, hence the resultant agitation and panic."

"In my opinion, the government should not in right judgment increase the hardship index of the country as an increase in fuel prices translates directly to increased cost of survival in Nigeria."



■ The Director-General, National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), Kashifu Inuwa (Middle) presenting certificate to a participant at the just concluded 3-Day Digital Journalism Workshop themed: Digital Reporting, Social Media and Media Management organised by PRNigeria in partnership with NITDA recently

## Rice firm offers to mentor youth on modern business strategies

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu, Kano

A rice company in Kano, Guarantee Impex, has urged the youth in the country to embrace the modern way of running businesses to remain sustainable and get more profits in their various enterprises.

The Managing Director of the company, Muhammad Adamu Muhammad, made the call at an end-of-year award night organized by the company to motivate its staff and business partners that performed well in the year 2021.

Muhammad said it was high time that the youth began to explore modern ways of running businesses by ensuring that they are

registered and to document their activities no matter how small they are.

According to him, their company has been in existence for over ten years, and that they have employed young people to mentor them into business and so far provided over 50 direct jobs and about 200 indirect jobs.

"Our company is called 'Home of the youth' (Gidan Matasa). We got this name because right from me the CEO down to the messenger are all young people. So we employed this strategy considering the role that the youth play in the development of every sector of life."

"So I want to be a role model to the youth so that they can be at the position I find myself

in now. I urge the youth that whenever they want to venture into business or even existing ones, they should do it systematically and in conformity with the modern ways of running enterprises. This is what we are doing at Guarantee Impex and we are succeeding."

He said the essence of organising the Award Night was to encourage the staff towards the actualization of the company's goals, as well as to serve as a challenge to others within and outside of their industry.

The event was attended by leaders and members of the Kano Chamber of Commerce, Mines and Agriculture (KACCIMA), Bank Managers, representatives of Dala Inland Dry Port, and other business partners.

## Customs Kaduna command generates N8.4bn in 2021

From Maryam Ahmadu-Suka, Kaduna

The Kaduna Area Command of the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has said it generated N8.4 billion between January and November 2021.

It said the money generated in 2021 was higher than the N8.1 billion generated in 2020.

The command's Area Comptroller, Sanusi Abubakar in an interview with newsmen in Kaduna over the weekend on the activities

of the command during the period under review said excise duty generated from factories was the main source of revenue.

He however explained that containers are brought to Kaduna on transfer via the inland dry port from Lagos or Port Harcourt from time to time, while the duties are paid after the containers are examined in Kaduna.

According to him, "Our revenue comes from few factories within the state where they receive excise duty and also the dry port." He called on Nigerians to utilize the dry port to

ease the movement of their goods.

On the activities of smugglers, he disclosed that a patrol team is always on standby and ready to swing into action based on intelligence reports.

He recalled that there was an incident that occurred around Zaria, in Dan Magaji where a vehicle was intercepted with a Federal Government number plate, noting that "we almost lost one of our officer from the attack by smugglers."

He however disclosed plans by the

command in 2022 to achieve more successes with collaborations from various stakeholders and warned smugglers to keep away from Kaduna or embrace legitimate businesses.

While emphasising the need to be more patriotic and corporate with the government on its policies to move the economy forward, the comptroller called on Nigerians to be more patriotic, saying, "Most of the problems faced in the previous year were as a result of lack of patriotism."

ECONOMIC INSIGHT

## Dangote flags off nutrition programme in Kano

The Aliko Dangote Foundation (ADF) has commenced the implementation of its nutrition flagship programme, tagged: Aliko Dangote Foundation Integrated Nutrition (ADFIN) program in Kano State.

According to the ADF's Director of Health and Nutrition, Dr. Francis Aminu, the program is in line with the plan to use the newly refurbished Primary Healthcare Centers (PHCs) across 5 pilots LGAs as Outpatient Care (OPC) and Inpatient Care (IPC) component of the

Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) services for the Programme.

Meanwhile, no fewer than 30 health workers have been trained in Kano.

Dr. Aminu said the 5-day training program was held between 17th and 22nd December 2021.

"The purpose of the training was to equip the health workers with the requisite skills on how to assess, treat and care for malnourished children under the age of five. The 5-day training enabled participants to gain in-depth knowledge in line with

the training requirements as stated in the National Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition Guidelines," he said.

He said the participants were drawn from the State Ministry of Health and the five ADFIN supported sites from Bebeji, Dala, Kura, Tudun Wada and Rimingado LGAs comprising Officers-in-Charge (OICs), Community Health Extension Workers (CHEWs), Nutrition focal persons, Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Coordinators, and Primary Health Care (PHC) Coordinators.

## Fire razes fuel truck, pump at P/Harcourt refinery

By Simon Echewofun Sunday

A 33,000 litre fuel truck discharging naphtha and the pump bay was damaged by fire on Saturday at the Port Harcourt Refining Company (PHRC).

A statement by NNPC Ltd on Saturday night said the incident, which was contained in less than two hours was caused by a spark as the truck was discharging the product into a tank.

"The incident affected only the discharging truck and the pump bay. No other property was damaged," it stated.

NNPC Ltd further said management officials of the refinery led by the managing director, were supervising the operation when the incident occurred and so mobilised with support from the Federal Fire Service to put out the fire.

PHRC reassured residents near the facility that they have no cause to worry about the incident.

Daily Trust reports that in January 2021, NNPC signed a \$1.5 billion contract with Tecnimont of Italy to rehabilitate the refinery; the exercise was ongoing according to NNPC Ltd and is scheduled for completion in 2023.

## Abbey wins innovative Mortgage Bank of the year

By Faruk Shuaibu

In recognition of its innovative contributions to the growth and development of the Nigerian mortgage industry, Abbey Mortgage Bank has been honoured with the Innovative Mortgage Bank of the year 2021 by the African Housing Awards.

While receiving the award on behalf of the company, Mr Oladipupo Adeoye, the Executive Director, Treasury, Operations and

Construction Finance said, "We are honoured to be receiving this award. It is a reflection of the continuous effort of management towards providing creative solutions for our clients"

He dedicated the award to the team at Abbey Mortgage Bank whom he stated that within the last one year, have been dogged to ensuring that Abbey is re-positioned as the Leading Mortgage Bank out of Africa, and to the board, partners and customers who believed in the Abbey journey, and the

value we create.

Abbey Mortgage Bank's Group Head, Corporate Services, Bukola Ewedairo, expressed delight over the recognition from African Housing Awards. She stated that closing the year with this award is an indication of the positive outcome of our transformation journey, rebranding exercise and the launch of our digital channels, our USSD code \*5103#, internet banking and mobile app; and we are indeed proud to receive this award.

## Coleman's fibre optic cable will place Nigeria in 5th position in Africa – Onafowokan

By Sunday Michael Ogwu

The Managing Director of Coleman Wires and Cables, George Onafowokan has said that the manufacturing of fibre optic cables by the company would place Nigeria in the 5th position in Africa.

Speaking on the production of the cables that will begin in January 2022, he said that this would serve telecommunication, oil and gas, and some other sectors.

When asked about the economic value of this to the country, Onafowokan said, "It will make Nigeria be the 5th in the production of cables in Africa.

"The key impact of this is that we will meet up with the local supply and demand of fibre optic cables and the large capacity that we are putting in place on

phase one will help us to produce up to 150 to 200,000 kilometres of fibre optic cables of different sizes and that to us is a game-changer for the country.

"The drive for data communication in the country would improve greatly because until now, we were importing the cables.

"This is what Coleman is known for, making it possible to have expertise in the country and we have been able to show that we are capable and irrespective of the problems in the country, a lot of things can still be done.

"That has been our drive and it is a blessing in disguise for Nigeria and we can look for a way to solve the problem of data expansion with the introduction of 5G," Onafowokan added.

## THE ENTREPRENEUR

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## Entrepreneurship Success: Keep Your Word (III)

In this series, we have so far established the benefits of keeping our word and presented some of the 'reasons' why people don't keep their word. We can now take up some of the ways we can develop, strengthen and protect our capacity to always keep our word. There are two elements to that: Those that have to do with the mind and those to do with the body. Those to do with the mind are:

**Understand and desire the benefits of keeping your word:** The first step in beginning to fully and always keep our word is to understand and desire all the good that comes with it. As discussed previously, keeping our word is the right and honourable thing to consistently do. The benefits of having other people to unconditionally and always have faith in what we say have no quantifiable measure.

**Internalise the right philosophy:** After understanding and accepting the immeasurable benefits of keeping our word, the next step is to internalise the foundational philosophy necessary for doing that. This means we become resolved to, at all times, discharge whatever and everything we agreed to. This implies that each time we make a promise, we unreservedly have a sincere and complete intention and commitment to fulfil it.

**Adopt the right principles:** To be steadfast in keeping the promises we make, there are a few things that we have to be clear about, which are a fall out of the reasons why we don't always keep our word. For instance, we have to believe in each promise that we make. So, before the clearing agent in the example last week commits to clear and deliver a consignment within one week to their client, the agent must sincerely believe that the job can be done as promised. Similarly, we should accept that sometimes we may have legitimate reasons to call for a renegotiation of terms we initially agreed to. The only conditions to this are that we should give as much notice as is possible and we must respect the rights of the other party and be honourable in the renegotiation process.

**Presence of mind:** Often, we make statements without realising that we are actually making a pledge. In the example we gave last week, the affirmation a parent gives the child that asked for a bicycle is a promise to buy a bicycle. To achieve a one hundred percent fulfilment rate of our promises, therefore, we must be conscious of the implications of the words we utter and the written details above the dotted lines we signed on. Simply put, presence of mind, in our context here, is about being mentally alert to the things we say and promise to do to others.

**Set your standard:** There are times when it is pragmatic and optimum to flow with the crowd. But there are times we must be willing to stand out and away from the crowd. Always keeping to our pledges is one area we must be ready to stand out. In addition, as you

strive to do as you gave your word, demand the same standard from the people you deal with.

**Be consistent:** There are areas in which it is desirable to compartmentalise our thinking and actions. However, in anything and everything to do with keeping our word, we must strive to be consistent no matter who or what is involved. That means we should make it to the wedding ceremony we committed to attend as punctually as we would attend a multi-million Naira business meeting with a client. That is to say we must take seriously each promise we make. Consistency disciplines the body and eases the mind while dissonance weakens the body and confuses the mind.

The elements to do with the body include:

**Be organised:** One of the chief causes of failing to keep our word is because we either think we can do what may not be realistic or we just want to appear to be busy either to ourselves or to others. This is both counterproductive and hurtful. While it may also be because we want to capture opportunities, it would, in reality, over time, only cast us as persons who fail in keeping their promise. The antidote to this failure is to be organised. This means we should be realistic about how much we can do over a time interval. Scheduling our 'to do' list is a very crucial task that we should take seriously.

**Give your word less often:** Yes, we frequently have to give our word if we are to be able to seize opportunities. However, how often we give our word must match our capacity to discharge same while also retaining our sanity. Over-committing, given our individual capacities, time available and the resources we need to deploy, should always be avoided. Being able to say 'no' and negotiating for what is convenient and realistic are very crucial if we are to be able to always do what we say 'yes' to.

**Take small steps:** Our ability to always keep our word should be developed the same way an athlete physically and mentally improves their mental discipline and motor controls. It is initially incremental and cautious and then ambitious later. This means we begin by giving less of our word but ensuring that we keep each. Gradually and with continuous discharge of the 'small' number of promises we make, we begin to take on and do more. While building this skill, the interesting and encouraging thing you will realise is that people will be a lot more understanding with your 'no' than you would have thought.

Keeping our word is a demonstration of a congruence between our inner thoughts and outer actions. It is evidence of our integrity and good character. It is a long-term determinant of our honour, peace of mind and success. Next week we will take up a very important issue for entrepreneurs as private individuals and as businessmen and women: Regulatory Compliance.

# PROPERTY

## Why high rises adorn Ikoyi's landscape

From Abdullateef Aliyu,  
Lagos

**E**xorbitant land cost in the highbrow district of Ikoyi has forced the hands of developers to build high rises in order to add value to their properties.

That has inadvertently made the district an exclusive enclave for the upscale property market.

Findings by Daily Trust revealed that the average price of land in Ikoyi is between N800,000 to N1.5m per square metre. In Ikoyi estates like Banana Island, Parkview Estate, Osborne, among others, lands are priced in billions.

Ikoyi exudes flamboyance and luxury living with expansive, magnificent high-rises in various architectural designs lining the popular streets.

Daily Trust learned the glamour has become a major attraction for high-end property lovers.

Ikoyi has always been a choice area for the high and the mighty. It is one of the high-priced areas in Lagos, providing luxury and premium luxury properties for celebrities, business moguls and powerful politicians.

From Osborne Foreshore Estate to Parkview down to the many luxury apartments on Alfred Rewane, Alexander, Bourdillon, Gerrard, Glover Road, among others, Ikoyi is a beautiful sight to behold with sterling architectural masterpieces adorning major areas.

In recent years, Ikoyi has become more attractive with the sprawling skyscrapers providing bespoke accommodation for individuals and corporate offices.

### Kingsway Tower

Kingsway Tower is an aesthetically pleasing 14-storey high rise building on Alfred Rewane. It comprises of offices, ground floor retail and basement parking. It is located



■ High rise buildings along Falomo Road, Ikoyi, Lagos

on the corner of Glover Road and Alfred Rewane Road (formerly Kingsway Road). The building, which was completed last year was developed by Sutherland Engineers.

The Kingsway Tower is just one out of the many high-rises springing up on Alfred Rewane, which has become a destination of choice for many Nigerian businesses.

It is on the same Kingsway Road that Dangote Group is building its global headquarters.

The Dangote Industries HQ building, situated 1km away from their old headquarters at Union House Building Falomo, is an 18-floor office development that will, on completion, serve as the HQ of Dangote Group.

It is being developed by Dangote Industries Limited on a Gross Leasable Area occupying 15,000 sqm with a completion date of 2023.

Another iconic tower expected to adorn this axis is Famfa Oil Tower, which is a 22-floor office development and will serve as the headquarters of Famfa Oil Limited, owned

by an oil magnate and one of Africa's richest women, Chief (Mrs) Folorunsho Alakija. It was learnt that Famfa Oil will occupy three (3) floors for her business activities and lease other floors to the public.

Other amenities and features of Famfa Towers include: A gymnasium, multipurpose hall, helipad (with a dedicated waiting lounge), 266 parking bays, raised access floors and select granite finishes.

The project being developed by Dayspring Property Development Company has an estimated completion date of the second quarter of 2022.

Away from Alfred Rewane, Gerrard Road, which was made popular by the infamous building collapse in November, is another area dotted with magnificent, eye-catching high-rises being developed by top real estate companies for the luxury and premium luxury segment of the real estate market.

### Bourdillon's many skyscrapers

On Bourdillon alone, there are about five skyscrapers,

namely: Skyvilla, Luxuria, The Belmonte and The Vailze Bourdillon and there is Sisi Paris.

Skyvilla by Grenadines is a 10-floor residential development located at Probyn Close, off Onisiwo (formerly Probyn) Road. It offers 24 units of four-bedroom condominiums with sizes ranging from 343 square metres to 425 square metres.

Also visible along Alexander Road is IME HEIGHTS, a residential development being developed by Foreshore Waters Limited. The project, which started in 2021 has 33 floors and it is estimated to be completed in December 2023.

But analysts say the collapse of the 360 degree Towers being developed by Fourscore Homes owned by Femi Osibona, now late, was a dent in the upscale market and a disincentive to investors.

However, the Lagos State Government in the wake of the building collapse in Ikoyi directed the audit of all ongoing high-rises in order to ensure that they meet the set standards.

President of the Architect Registration Council of Nigeria (ARCON), Sir Dipo Ajayi, said there would definitely be more high rises as Nigeria evolves as a developing country. But what is important is for developers to always do the right thing to instill confidence in the mind of the investment public.

"There would still be a lot of high-rises because Nigeria is a developing country, a pregnant country and we will have more and more of this. What is salient and important is that we must avoid running it as business as usual. There must be a selection of qualified consultants, there must be registered architects, there must be registered contractors. Don't just come to this country and start designing," he said.

Mr. Charles Maduka, a chartered architect and property development consultant said Nigeria is ready for high rises, saying more so when Ikoyi land is too costly. According to him, anyone buying land in Ikoyi must be able to maximise it by building a skyscraper.

He said high-rises are the latest trend globally in building construction and Nigeria cannot afford to lag behind.

He said: "I can say that Nigeria is ripe for the development of any level of high-rise building. Architecture is if I may say is an international profession. The world indeed could have been a massive void without architecture.

"The perspective with which I see the springing up of high rises in Ikoyi, Lagos is that most property investors would always go for high rise buildings as the first option. Land in Ikoyi is not cheap and easy to come by, hence the need go up in order to maximise profit.

"Ikoyi is a highbrow location, it is a choice location for expatriates. It has a fairly good security. It is serene with a lot of aquatic advantages. So up it goes for developers."

## Plateau civil servants mass housing project to take off 1st quarter of 2022

From Yusufu Aminu Idegue,  
Jos

The construction of affordable mass housing units for local government workers in Plateau State will commence in the first quarter of 2022.

Project Coordinator and Chief Executive Officer of MHUNULG Housing Ltd, Comrade Richard Gbawuan, disclosed this while receiving

the technical report on the assessment of 397 building firms who bided for the project.

According to Gbawuan, the submission of the technical report was all that was needed for the construction to commence, saying, "Now that the report has been received, the construction will commence any moment from now."

He added: "The technical work was meant to help us assess the over 500 contractors who bided for the projects. We needed to know their individual capacity and qualifications for the jobs so as to avoid recruiting quacks to handle the constructions."

Earlier, the Group Managing Director of Ash Frontiers Ltd, Ashen Musa Jacob, while submitting the

technical report noted that the report contained the profile of each firm screened for the jobs as well as recommendations that will guide the estate firm in awarding the contract.

Jacob said the contractors recommended in the report are those considered to have the required capacity to be awarded the contract.

A number of 370 houses will be constructed in each of the

17 local governments of the state for the local government staff, amounting to a total of 6,290 units. The construction is expected to take off simultaneously, be completed in six months and handed over to the beneficiaries.

The mass housing scheme, according to Gbawuan, is expected to bridge the housing deficit in Plateau state.

**Quote** ▶ The best time to buy a house is always five years ago — Ray Brown

# CITY NEWS

## Fire razes 250 shops in Anambra market

From Titus Eleweke, Nnewi

**F**ire has razed no fewer than 250 shops at Obi Isiedo foodstuff market, Okpuno-Egbu, Umudim, in Nnewi, Anambra State.

*Daily Trust* gathered that the shops were gutted by fire on the night of January 1.

A source said that the fire started around 10pm on Saturday night at one of the shops and immediately spread to others.

The source said seven water tankers were mobilised to the scene which could not stop the fire.

A resident near the market whose house

was torched, Rev Chinedu Dike, said no one could explain what was responsible for the fire outbreak.

"As you can see, my house is near the market. I came back from some functions and was taking my rest when around 9.30pm we heard an outcry that the market was on fire.

"People started running helter-skelter looking for help and water tanker suppliers were contacted who mobilised up to seven tanks of water to quench the fire to no avail.

"Firefighters came but the fire was already advanced.

"Goods worth millions of naira were destroyed. My two-storey building under

construction was about to be consumed but I struggled to save the situation and received some bruises in the process," he said.

He put the figure of the burnt shops at between 250 and 300 stocked with goods.

He appealed to the Anambra State government, organisations and individuals to come to the rescue of the fire victims.

The Director of Anambra State Fire Service, Martin Agbili, who confirmed the fire incident, said no life was lost.

He said the fire started at about 10pm.

He thanked the public, security agencies and his men for ensuring the safety of the residents.



■ Gbagyi local musicians entertain during the celebration of Gbagyi cultural festival in Karu, Abuja, yesterday

Photo: **Abubakar Sadiq Isah**

## Police nab suspected motorcycle snatchers in Osogbo

From Hameed Oyegbade, Osogbo

Two suspected motorcycle snatchers have been arrested by men of the Osun State Police Command in Osogbo, the state capital.

The Commissioner of Police

in the state, CP Wale Olokode, paraded the suspects, Jelili Jimoh and Olowokere Mojeed, at the police headquarters in Osogbo, the state capital.

The suspects were arrested for stealing Bajaj motorcycles at different locations in Osogbo.

The CP said police patrol team

arrested Jelili at Aregbe area after he was mobbed by angry people who wanted to lynch him for snatching the bike.

He said Olowokere was apprehended at Dada Estate area, Osogbo where he snatched a Bajaj motorcycle with registration number OSUN AAW 54 DE.

Speaking with *Daily Trust*, the suspects confessed that they stole a motorcycle. They said it was their first time snatching a motorcycle.

The Commissioner of Police said the suspects would be charged to court after the completion of investigation.

## Waste evacuation commences in six area councils

By Hussein Yahaya

In a commitment to ensuring a safer and hygienic FCT for all residents, the six area councils are currently undergoing a massive clean-up exercise embarked upon by the Satellite Town Development Department (STDD) of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA).

A statement from the PRO, STDD, Meeme Felicia, said that the Coordinator of STDD, Comrade Obinna Francis Ogwuegbu, who inspected the exercise at the weekend, said the exercise involves desilting of drains, dump sites and evacuating waste around the interchanges and roads leading into and out of the satellite towns of Gwagalada, Kwali, Kubwa, Kuje, Abaji, and Karshi.

The STDD coordinator said the exercise would be an ongoing one and appealed to residents, particularly those living in the

suburbs to desist from dumping refuse on drainage and by the roadsides.

Comrade Obinna Francis Ogwuegbu added that the exercise is part of STDD's mandate to keep the satellite towns around the FCT clean and said the six area councils contractors on waste management have all resumed work at their various sites.

The STDD coordinator lamented that it is the duty of the area councils chairmen to clean and manage wastes in all the satellite towns, since they are being paid to do it. The department of satellite towns is only meant to do intervention when necessary but that is not happening.

The coordinator who inspected the exercise assured that the Mallam Muhammad Musa Bello-led FCT administration with the Minister of State for FCT, Dr Ramatu Tijjani Aliyu, remains committed to ensuring a safer and hygienic FCT for all residents.

## NDLEA arrests 330 drug traffickers, secures 48 convictions in 2021

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), Oyo State Command, says it arrested 330 drug traffickers and secured 48 convictions in the state in 2021.

The NDLEA commander in the state, Dr Wale Ige, made this known in a statement issued by the command's Public Relations Officer, Mrs Mutiat Okuwobi, on Sunday in Ibadan.

Ige said the suspects comprising 297 males and 33 females were arrested for dealing in various drugs such as Cannabis sativa, Tramadol, Diazepam, Rohypnol, Colorado, Codeine, chocolate infused with codeine and other psychotropic substances.

Ige said that 101 suspects were charged to court while

48 of them were convicted for various drug offences with jail terms ranging from six months to life imprisonment in the year under review.

"The command gave brief intervention via counselling to 104 People Who Use Drugs (PWUD) consisting of 98 males and six females.

"We presently have five clients undergoing residential rehabilitation while ten persons were rehabilitated and integrated back to the society during the year under review," he said.

Ige said the command recorded a total seizure of 3,543.96 kilogrammes of Cannabis sativa and other narcotic and psychotropic substances during the period under review. (NAN)

### QUICK READ

**We'll ensure staff arrears are paid – FCT NULGE**

By **Abubakar Sadiq Isah**

The newly elected president of the Nigeria Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE), FCT chapter, Comrade Ibrahim Abdullahi Kabi, said the union will synergise with the six area council chairmen towards ensuring that backlogs of staff arrears are paid to them.

Comrade Kabi, while speaking with our reporter in Abuja, yesterday, said the non-payment of its members' arrears is one of the many challenges the union will be tackling headlong.

He said though he was yet to get the exact amount as he just assumed office, the union will sit down to ascertain the total backlogs of its members unpaid arrears by the six council chairmen.

**650 screen for HIV/AIDS, other diseases in Nasarawa**

From **Umar Muhammed, Lafia**

No fewer than 650 persons have received free medical screening of HIV/AIDS, typhoid fever, diabetes, eyes and other diseases in Obi Local Government Area of Nasarawa State.

The three-day free medical outreach was sponsored by member representing Lafia/Obi Federal Constituency, Abubakar Sarki-Dahiru.

Speaking on Sunday, Sarki-Dahiru explained that the rationale behind the programme was to enable the beneficiaries to know their HIV/AIDS status, avert transmission and provide support.

**Sanwo-Olu to Lagosians: Embrace love, shun divisiveness**

From **Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos**

Lagos State governor Mr Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has advised Lagosians to shun all acts of divisiveness and embrace genuine love by consolidating on the gains made by individuals and the state last year.

Sanwo-Olu who gave this charge in his New Year message urged Lagosians to work together to bequeath a great legacy for the teeming youth and the coming generation.

# CRIME

## Commercial driver stabs wife to death in Adamawa

A 57-year-old commercial driver, Muhammed Alpha, on New Year's day allegedly stabbed his wife, Hamsatu, to death in Lande town in Gombi Local Government Area of Adamawa State.

The Police Public Relations Officer in Adamawa, DSP Sulaiman Nguroje, confirmed the incident in a statement issued in Yola on Sunday.

He said the suspect, a commercial driver of Lande

in Gombi Local Government Area, stabbed his late wife, Hamsatu Muhammad, 40, with a knife following a little argument between them.

He said the argument led to the separation of the over 20 years' marriage.

The police spokesman said the command on January 1, 2022, apprehended a 57-year-old commercial driver for stabbing his 40-year-old wife to death.

He said according to first-

hand information, after their separation, the wife relocated to a nearby house close to her former husband's house.

"In an effort to fix her new room, she (late Hamsatu) removed a zinc door of her former house to fix on her new apartment.

"Angered by her action, the suspect used a knife and stabbed his wife and mother of his eight children in the neck.

"As a result of the injury, she fell and was rushed to a

nearby hospital where she was confirmed dead," Nguroje added.

He said the suspect was apprehended by Gombi police division following a report received from Malam Jauro Boka, a village head of Lande.

The commissioner of police in the state, Mohammed Barde, has ordered a discreet investigation into the matter and advised members of the public to avoid taking laws into their own hands. (NAN)

## Man arraigned for cow theft, murder threat in Ekiti

From Raphael Ogbonnaie, Ado-Ekiti

A chief magistrates' court sitting in Ado-Ekiti has arraigned a 45-year-old Shehu Hassan, for allegedly stealing a cow and threatening to kill one Suleiman Mohammed.

The police prosecutor, Inspector Johnson Okunade, told the court that the defendant on or about December 19, 2021, at about 2am, at Itapaji-Ekiti within Ikole Ekiti Magistrate District, did steal one cow valued at the sum of N500,000 property of Suleiman Mohammed.

Inspector Okunade also said on the same date, the defendant threatened to kill Suleiman Mohammed.

He said the defendant thereby committed an offence contrary to Section 390(9) 86 of the Criminal Code Cap C16 Laws of Ekiti State 2012.

Counsel to the defendant, Tope Salami, urged the court to grant his client bail, adding that he would comply with the bail conditions.

The chief magistrate, Mr Abdulhamid Lawal, granted the defendant bail of N200,000 with two sureties in like sum who must be resident within the court's jurisdiction.

The court adjourned the case until February 9, 2022.



Arms recovered from bandits in Katsina State

Photo: Tijjani Ibrahim

## Court remands 32-year-old over murder

From Raphael Ogbonnaie, Ado-Ekiti

A chief magistrates' court in Ado-Ekiti has ordered the remand of a 32-year-old man, Omotoso Busayo, in the correctional centre over murder.

Police prosecutor Inspector Johnson Okunade told the court that the defendant was suspected to have committed the murder of Omolade Olankanmi, aka Omoemi, Samuel Oluwatimilehin, aka

S.T. and four others, and was a member of Supreme Rite secret cult.

Inspector Okunade said the offence is punishable under Section 319 of the Criminal Code Cap C16 Laws of Ekiti State 2012 and Section 4(1) of the Secret Cult Abolition Law 2017.

The prosecutor urged the court to allow him to duplicate the case file and send it to the DPP for legal advice.

Attempt by counsel to the

defendant, Barr O. J. Abiola, to persuade the court that the charges were concocted to remand his client did not convince the court.

The chief magistrate, Mr Abdulhamid Lawal, ordered the remand of the defendant in the correctional centre in Ado-Ekiti.

"The defendant is to be remanded in prison custody pending the issuance of DPP's advice and I hereby adjourn the case till January 10, 2022," he said.

## Security guards burgle employer's store

From Hameed Oyegbade, Osogbo

Two security guards in Ikirun, Osun State, Abdulkareem Ibrahim and Abdulkareem Abdulazeez, have been arrested for allegedly burgling the phone store that they were employed to protect.

The Commissioner of Police in the state, CP Wale Olokode, paraded the suspects at the police headquarters in Osogbo, the

state capital, at the weekend.

The CP said the suspects were employed to protect the phone store but they burgled it and carted expensive phones and accessories away.

Olokode said the items stolen by the suspects from the phone store included a Redmi10 phone, an Oppo A54 phone, an Oppo A15 phone, two power banks, three MTN wifi 5G, one MP Player Oramo, two headset Bluetooth and one smart

Infinix watch.

The owner of the shop, Mr Abdulsalam Ibrahim, said the phones and accessories carted away by the suspects were worth N1,501,000.

Speaking with *Daily Trust*, the suspects confessed that they burgled the store and blamed the devil for their action.

The commissioner of police said the suspects would be charged to court after investigation.

## 4 guards arrested for denying police boss access to Magodo estate

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

There was a mild drama at the entrance of Magodo Estate on New Year's day when some private security guards stationed at the entrance into the highbrow estate prevented the Lagos police boss, Hakeem Odumosu, access into the area.

It was learnt that the guards stood their ground, insisting that Odumosu must first call the person he was going to visit before he would be allowed into the estate.

An altercation erupted between the policemen on the convoy of the police commissioner and the guards.

Consequently, Odumosu was said to have ordered the arrest of four of the guards on duty while one was left behind to secure the gate.

But a female resident of the estate rushed out demanding the immediate release of the four arrested security men.

A witness said the lady was also arrested along with the guards.

The arrest of the security

men later went viral on social media.

Reacting to the social media post, the state Police Public Relations Officer, Adekunle Ajisebutu, said the incident occurred at the entrance into Brooks Estate, Magodo, Isheri.

He said Odumosu, who was recently promoted to the rank of Assistant Inspector General of Police, was on his way to meet a strategic partner at a function after going round visiting some places in the state to ensure the safety of Lagosians.

He said the police boss

was accompanied by his armed security details and was driven in his official car bearing an official number plate and a pennant, including all the paraphernalia of the office. "On reaching the estate's gate, he was properly introduced notwithstanding the visible security details in uniform including a dispatch rider in his convoy. Yet he was prevented from entering the estate by some overzealous private security guards.

"All appeals to the security men to allow the

CP go to see someone at a function where an urgent matter bordering on security was to be discussed fell on deaf ears even when they had foreknowledge of his coming.

"After about 30 minutes humiliation, Odumosu ordered the arrest of four of the security men, leaving one. However, in order not to make the estate porous, the Commissioner of Police immediately posted well-armed policemen at the gate to support the security man left behind.

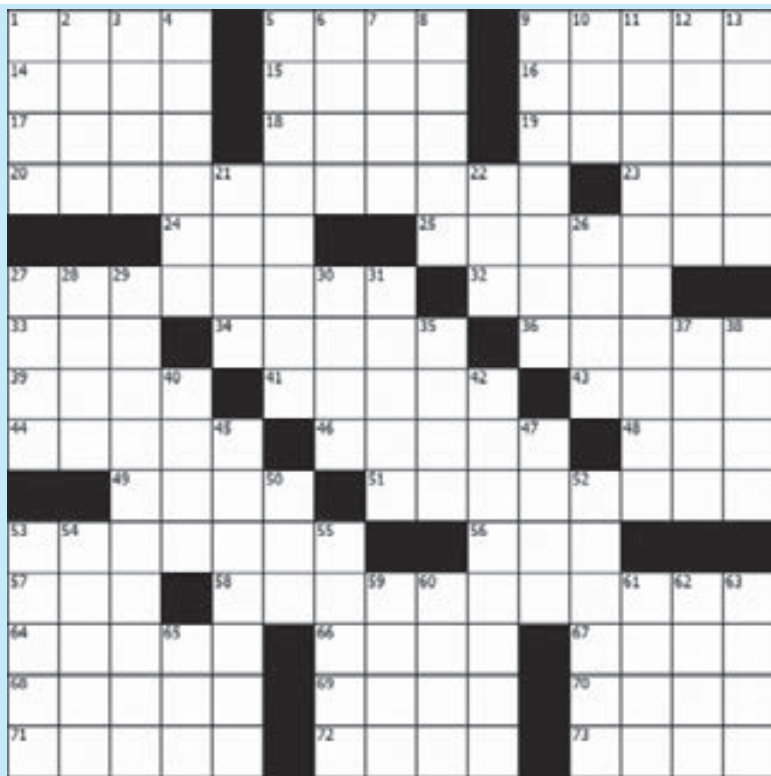
"A few minutes later,

a female resident of the estate later identified as Adebola Fatiregun, who didn't witness the incident but heard of it, stormed the gate in anger, inciting other residents against the commissioner of police and his aides. She was also arrested for inciting violence and conduct likely to cause a breach of peace.

"All those arrested were taken to the Isheri Police Division where they made statements. They were subsequently released a few minutes after, following intervention of notable individuals," he added.

18

EASY CROSSWORD >>

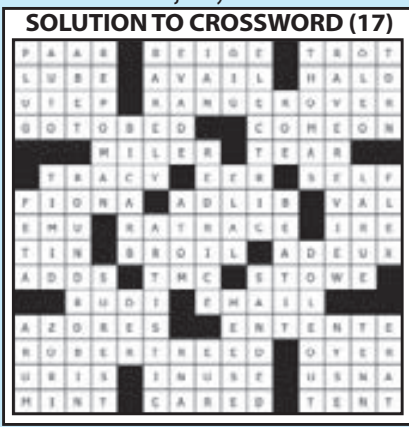


Across

- 1. A couple words to Brutus
- 5. "If I Only \_\_\_ Brain"
- 9. Some types
- 14. Ransack
- 15. Fail to name
- 16. One old enough to know better
- 17. New currency on the Continent
- 18. Flat-topped elevation
- 19. Neatly smart in appearance
- 20. Subject of "Signs"
- 23. Musical note
- 24. Cyclotron particle
- 25. The first people to play crosswords
- 27. Essential nutrient
- 32. Seal in the juices
- 33. Like some vbs.
- 34. Joist and transom, for two
- 36. Like a depth finder
- 39. Radiate
- 41. Something to let off
- 43. Actress Ward
- 44. Titled ladies
- 46. George of "Just Shoot Me!"
- 48. Type of cage
- 49. Honoraria
- 51. Spokes, e.g.
- 53. Casual workdays
- 56. Chess pieces, informally
- 57. Hang back

Down

- 1. Util. output
- 2. Get the show on the road
- 3. Bullish sort
- 4. Heaven on earth
- 5. Hulled corn preparations
- 6. No. or So. continent
- 7. Kind of jockey
- 8. Rohmer's "\_\_\_ of Winter"
- 9. Some colorful flowers
- 10. She's "sweet as apple cider"
- 11. Do it on the cheap
- 12. Modify
- 13. Eye irritations
- 21. Honey's place
- 22. Grimley and Norton
- 26. New Mexico art colony
- 27. Contended
- 28. Rombauer or "La Douce"
- 29. Sign of fitness
- 30. King Cole and Turner
- 31. Arabian chieftain (Var.)
- 35. Michener genre
- 37. Rival of Bjorn and Jimmy
- 38. Dispatched vehicles
- 40. \_\_\_ off (started a hole)
- 42. Splurger's necessity
- 45. It makes the briny briny
- 47. In a willing manner
- 50. Wd. fragment
- 52. Do a longshoreman's job
- 53. Botches
- 54. "Piano Concerto for the Left Hand" composer
- 55. Top of a platter
- 59. Handle difficulties
- 60. Pitcher with a big mouth?
- 61. Result of cogitating
- 62. President or possibly his car
- 63. He's in the mood for love
- 65. Soapmaker's solution



SUDOKU >>

How to play: The number 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3 x 3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid. There is only one correct Solution to each sudoku.

Good luck!

18

Solution to Sudoku 17

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

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

SNAPSHOT >>

Tesla owner blows up his Model S with dynamite instead of paying \$22,000 (about N9m) to repair it



For the first 900 miles, Tuomas Katainen's modified 2013 Tesla Model S worked fine, he said. Then water leaks and error codes forced him to call a tow truck to take it in for repairs. After about a month, the shop told him the faulty battery needed to be replaced, at a cost of about \$22,000. In addition to the hefty fee, the work would need to be authorized by Tesla, which was apparently not very enthusiastic about prior work that had been done on the car. Rather than shell out half the cost of a new Tesla to fix an old one, Katainen decided to do something different. He contacted some of his favorite YouTubers, including Lauri Vuohensilta of Hydraulic Press fame. After removing the lithium-ion battery, motors, and other expensive components, the crew hauled the chassis out to an old quarry on the outskirts of Jaala, a remote village about two hours from Helsinki, Finland. The demolition experts from the YouTube channel Pommijätkät (Bomb Dudes) strapped 66 pounds of high explosives to the car and surrounded the area with slow-motion cameras. As they were finishing the setup, a helicopter swooped in and dropped a mannequin with the face of Tesla CEO Elon Musk, which they strapped into the driver's seat of the doomed sedan. The crowd retreated to a blast shelter, where Katainen was given the honor of pressing the button and sending his former ride to vehicular Valhalla. After a short pause, the 14 hotdog-shaped charges erupt into a blinding ball of fire, sending a massive shockwave rippling out from the car. Footage from a drone flying through the cloud of shrapnel and smoke shows a gray and black smudge where the car used to be.

- Business Insider

SIGN LANGUAGE >>

Funny billboards in Ghana



- pinterest

# INTERNATIONAL

## SUDAN

### PM Hamdok resigns after deadly protest

Hamdok resigns less than two months after he signed a political agreement with the military. Sudan's Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok has resigned, less than two months after he signed a political agreement with the military.

Hamdok late on Sunday said a roundtable discussion is needed to come to a new agreement. Hamdok, a former United Nations official seen as the civilian face of Sudan's transitional government, was reinstated in November amid international pressure in a deal

that called for an independent technocratic Cabinet under military oversight led by him. That deal, however, was rejected by the pro-democracy movement, which insists that power be handed over to a fully civilian government tasked with leading the transition.



■ Firefighters at the South African Parliament roof in Cape Town during a fire incident yesterday Photo: AFP

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Parliament building badly damaged in large fire

A major fire at the South African parliament caused extensive damage on Sunday, collapsing the roof and gutting an entire floor in one building, while a man in his 50s was arrested in connection with the blaze. The fire broke out in the early morning and authorities said the sprinkler system appeared to have been tampered with and so did not work. By afternoon, some 70 firefighters were still trying to contain the blaze in one of the several buildings that make up the parliament complex in the legislative capital, Cape Town. A person was arrested inside parliament, Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Patricia De Lille told reporters, adding that the case had been handed over to an elite police unit called

the Hawks. "It's the role of the Hawks to investigate any attack on political institutions," De Lille said. Parliament said in a statement the suspect was a man in his 50s. There were no reports of any injuries. The cause of the blaze was not yet known but De Lille said that according to a report that she received, a standard maintenance fire drill had been conducted just before parliament closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays and everything including the sprinklers was working. "What was discovered this morning is that somebody has closed one of the valves and so then there was no water to

trigger that automatic sprinkler system coming on," De Lille said, adding that CCTV footage confirmed that somebody was in the building from the early hours of the morning. The precinct has three main sections, the original Parliament building completed in the late 1800s and two newer parts built in the 20th century. Historical artefacts inside the premises are likely to have been damaged or destroyed. The fire initially was concentrated at the old Parliament building, which is located behind the National Assembly, De Lille told reporters. She had initially said firefighters had the situation under control, but the flames later spread to the current Parliament building.

## IRAN

### Iran calls for UN action on US over killing of Soleimani

Iran has called on the United Nations to take formal action against the United States for the assassination of its top general two years ago. Iran says Qassem Soleimani, the then-commander of the elite Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), was in Iraq's capital Baghdad on a diplomatic mission when his convoy was destroyed by missiles fired from a US drone. Thousands march in Baghdad on Soleimani assassination anniversary

In a letter to the UN General Assembly published late on Saturday, the legal department of Iran's presidential office called for "all legal initiatives in its power, including issuing a resolution" to condemn the US government and discourage similar moves in the future. The letter said US governments have, for years, displayed an "excessive unilateralism" in their actions that has granted them the power to violate international laws and agreements. The missive comes shortly ahead of the second anniversary

of Soleimani's killing on January 3. Former US President Donald Trump, who ordered the killing, said at the time that Soleimani was "the world's top terrorist" and "should have been terminated long ago". Iraqi commander Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis and several others were also killed in the attack. The UN rapporteur for extrajudicial killing in July 2020 concluded in a report that Soleimani's assassination was "unlawful" and "arbitrary" and violated the UN charter.

## ISRAEL

### Israel hits Hamas positions in Gaza after rocket attacks

Israel's military said it launched air attacks on Hamas positions in the Gaza Strip, a day after rockets fired from Gaza landed in the Mediterranean Sea. The Israeli military said the attacks late on Saturday hit a rocket manufacturing facility and a military post for Hamas. "As fireworks lit up the skies to celebrate NewYear2022 around the world, a different type of fire came from Gaza-terrorist rocket-fire toward Israel," the Israel military said in a tweet on Sunday. "In response, we just struck Hamas sites in Gaza, incl. a rocket manufacturing site & military posts used for terrorist activity."

No sirens were sounded and Israel's Iron Dome rocket interception system did not deploy, the army said in a statement. Apart from a single incident in September, there has been no cross-border rocket fire since a ceasefire ended an 11-day war between Israel and Hamas in May. The ceasefire, brokered by Egypt and other mediators, has been fragile. Hamas says Israel did not take serious steps to ease the blockade it imposed on Gaza with Egypt's help when the group seized control of the coastal enclave in 2007. More than 260 Palestinians, many of them civilians and children, and 13 Israelis were killed in the May assault on Gaza, during which Israel carried out relentless air raids across the coastal enclave, prompting Gaza fighters to fire rockets towards Israeli cities. Israel keeps Gaza under blockade, tightly restricting movement out of the territory that is home to two million Palestinians. Egypt also maintains restrictions on the enclave. Both cite threats from Hamas for the restrictions. The blockade restricts the movement of goods and people in and out of Gaza and has ravaged the territory's economy and harmed the population of two million.

It was not clear whether the rockets from Gaza on Saturday were meant to hit Israel, but Gaza-based groups often test-fire missiles towards the sea. Hazem Qassem, a spokesman for Hamas, told Al Jazeera that some of the areas targeted by the Israel strikes include agricultural lands. "Our resistance will continue to perform its duty to defend our people and liberate our land and sanctities," Qassem said. "We will stick to our right of resistance until achieving the goals of our people with liberation and return." There were no reports of casualties from Saturday's attack.

## UNITED STATES

### Airport chaos continues as more than 2,600 flights cancelled

Air travel continues to be severely disrupted in the United States, with bad weather in parts of the country adding to the impact of a surge in COVID-19 infections fuelled by the Omicron variant. The US had 2,604 cancelled flights on Saturday, more than half of the 4,529 cancelled worldwide, shortly after 4:30pm (21:30 GMT), according to tracking website FlightAware. Among international carriers, China Eastern scrubbed more than 500 flights, or about one-fourth of its total, and Air China cancelled more than 200 flights, one-fifth of its schedule, according to FlightAware. The US cancellations represent the highest single-day toll since just before Christmas when airlines began announcing staffing shortages as a result of increasing COVID infections among crews. The worst-affected US airline was Southwest, which had to cancel 450 flights nationwide or 13 percent of its flight schedule, according to the site. American Airlines and Delta Air Lines scrubbed more than 200 flights each, and United Airlines cancelled more than 150. SkyWest, a regional carrier that operates flights under the names American Eagle,

Delta Connection and United Express, grounded 480 flights, one-fourth of its schedule. A spokesperson said weather in the cities of Chicago, Denver and Detroit as well as a COVID spike were to blame. Airports in Chicago were hit particularly hard because of difficult weather, with a snowstorm expected in the area on Saturday afternoon and into the night. More than 800 flights were scrubbed at O'Hare Airport and more than 250 at Midway Airport. More than 12,000 US flights have been cancelled since December 24. Airlines say they are taking steps to reduce cancellations. United is offering to pay pilots triple or more of their usual wages for picking up open flights through most of January. Spirit Airlines reached a deal with the Association of Flight Attendants for double pay for cabin crews through Tuesday, said a union spokeswoman. The global air travel industry is still reeling from the highly contagious Omicron variant. Many pilots, flight attendants and other staff are absent from work after contracting COVID, or are quarantined after coming into contact with an infected person.

## INSIDE POLITICS

“Some of the critical election technology for the 2023 general elections must be concluded and procured before the election  
– INEC Chairman, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu

## Kwankwaso, Ganduje trade words over 2019 gov'ship election

From Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu,  
Salim Umar Ibrahim and Ibrahim  
Musa Giginyu (Kano)

**K**ano State Governor Abdullahi Umar Ganduje and his predecessor, Senator Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso, yesterday renewed their political fight over the outcome of the 2019 governorship election which saw Ganduje as winner.

In an interview with the *Punch on Sunday*, Senator Kwankwaso alleged that Ganduje did not win the 2019 governorship election but was imposed on Kano people by powerful forces.

The former governor also described imposition as the worst thing that could happen in a democracy, stressing that those behind Ganduje's alleged imposition were already regretting their action.

Governor Ganduje had in a New Year message a few days ago, hinted that he was ready to reconcile with Kwankwaso. Kwankwaso also said Ganduje's move to reconcile with him was a welcome development.

The governor and some top government functionaries had also visited Kwankwaso over the death of his younger brother, Comrade Inuwa Kwankwaso.

But reacting to the interview, Ganduje in a statement by the commissioner for Information, Malam Muhammad Garba, said contrary to the claims made in the interview, Kwankwaso “managed a well-organised election rigging network particularly in the metropolitan local government areas where the youths, mostly without even voters' card were engaged to perpetrate the act.”

Garba said it was unfortunate that “as a leader who was severally involved in the election process, Kwankwaso is still contesting the result of an election conducted by a statutory body and upheld by courts of law.”

He said the attempt to rubbish the

- Ex-gov denies defecting to APC
- Shekarau, Kwankwaso, Ganduje's social media teams meet
- There is need to douse tension in Kano APC – Kofa



■ Ganduje

Ganduje administration has done Kwankwaso more harm than good which completely negates the spirit of genuine peace and reconciliation he preached to his followers in the last few days.

Malam Garba stated that Kwankwaso should have thanked Ganduje for completing many of the projects he abandoned, saying that the people of Kano were paying the price for the “unparallel policy of continuity” that saw the completion of many projects in the last six years in the state.

**Kwankwaso denies defecting to APC, as Buhari's aide welcomes ex-gov**

A former governor of Kano State, Senator Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso has denied returning to the All Progressives Congress (APC).

There were reports on social media yesterday that Kwankwaso had returned to the ruling party from the leading opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

Following this, the Special Adviser



■ Kwankwaso

on Political Matters to President Muhammadu Buhari, Senator Babafemi Ojuda, welcomed the former governor back to the party.

Ojuda in a Facebook post said, “The news is everywhere that the leader of the Kwankwasiyya Movement, His Excellency, Senator Rabi'u Kwankwaso, has returned to our party, APC. I have not confirmed this yet but if true he is most welcomed.”

“This will also be the best move of his political career. A great mobiliser, brilliant organiser, and thoroughbred politician, Kwankwaso, is the leader of the red cap-wearing multitude. He will be a big addition to our movement for a greater Nigeria.”

But reacting, Coordinator of the Kwankwasiyya's Media Centre, Sanusi Bature Dawakin Tofa, told *Daily Trust* that the reports were untrue.

There are speculations that Kwankwaso, who has been at loggerheads with Governor Abdullahi Umar Ganduje, has perfected plans to rejoin APC to team

up with a former governor of Kano State, Malam Ibrahim Shekarau, to create a stronger force that would humble Ganduje in the 2023 general elections.

**Shekarau, Kwankwaso, Ganduje's social media teams meet**

No fewer than 30 social media activists from the Shekarau, Kwankwaso and Ganduje's political camps on Sunday met in Kano, to sort out their differences and establish a common ground for peace.

The convener of the initiative, Sunusi Abbas Garko said the union is aimed at bringing together future political gladiators to establish mutual understanding, respect for each other, sanitise their political move and see others as brothers and sisters.

“The meeting is aimed at fostering mutual and beneficial relationship among us and to eliminate ‘dirty’ practice of politics, respect each other's opinion and to address issues that are important irrespective of our political camps.”

“It is a meeting of youths who are into politics promoting their political godfathers and interest,” he said.

**There is need to douse tension in Kano – Kofa**

A former member who represented Kuru/Bebeji federal constituency in the National Assembly, Abdulmuminu Jibrin Kofa, has asked major actors in the crisis rocking the Kano State chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC) to sheathe their swords and embrace peace and reconciliation.

Kofa, who is also the Director General of the Ahmed Bola Tinubu Support Group, gave the advice while addressing newsmen yesterday in Kano, after a special prayer session for peace.

## Yari will bring back aggrieved APC defectors – Aide

Engr. Abdullahi Tsafe is the Chief of Staff to former Governor Abdulaziz Yari of Zamfara State. In this interview, he speaks on the chances and benefits of his principal becoming the next national chairman of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC). Excerpts:

By Saawua Terzungwe

**Y**our principal, a former governor of Zamfara State, Abdulaziz Yari, is vying for the office of APC national chairman in the convention slated for February. What are his chances in the race?

You know when you are placed with choices in life you will always look at the person who knows what it takes to do the best. We are talking about the leadership of our great party. His Excellency was the only candidate who served as the secretary of the party at the state level during ANPP.



■ Tsafe

Then he became the state chairman of the party and later the national financial secretary. So with these, there is no doubt that he has the capacity and knowledge of what it takes to lead the party at the national level. Tell me among those contesting who has these qualifications or has held such positions.

Therefore A. A. Yari has everything it takes to be the

next APC national chairman; he is even a professor of politics as far as Nigerian politics is concerned and will not be there waiting for someone to teach him what to do.

**The campaigns have started. How do you intend to reach out to party members in the 36 states to galvanise support?**

We are working tirelessly; all hands are on deck and I believe we shall make it. We have reached out to our teeming supporters across all the zones of our country. But there are other contestants so we don't want to open up on our strategy so that they will not hack into it. We are keeping some of our strategies to our chest.

**How will he tackle the internal crisis rocking the party?**

A. A. Yari is a very good manager of crisis. Remember as chairman of the Nigeria Governors' Forum (NGF), he did a lot to unite the governors.

He will certainly bring his crisis management skills to work.

Even the aggrieved members that defected to the opposition PDP, I don't want to mention names, I was privileged to be with some of them and they all pledged that if A. A. Yari is given the opportunity to serve as the national chairman, they will all come back to APC and work together towards 2023.

They believe that he is the only person that can give them fair treatment because most of the people that left said they did so in anger because they were not given fair treatment but they believe that with Yari onboard, their grievances would be addressed.

**The option of consensus is also on the table. What will happen if it does not favour your principal?**

I don't even believe in consensus. Let us go on direct primary because that is where a politician will show his strength.

## Why I'll contest Kaduna gov'ship in 2023 – Shehu Sani

From Mohammed I. Yaba, Kaduna

Senator Shehu Sani has said he would contest the Kaduna State governorship in the 2023 general elections to clean the alleged mess done by the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) in the state.

Sani, who represented Kaduna North Senatorial Zone at the National Assembly from 2015-2019, made his intention to vie for the governorship seat in an interview aired on Invicta FM and monitored in the state.

He said there was the need to dislodge the APC-led government in the state for another government to come in and deliver true dividend of democracy to the people.

Senator Sani advised the top echelon of his party, PDP, to unite its members to ensure that they form the next government that would respect the will of the poor in the state.



# The changing faces of INEC in 10yrs

By Abbas Jimoh

**T**he Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has evolved in the last 10 years, same way it developed since its creation 23 years ago.

A former Head of State, Gen. Abdulsalami Abubakar's administration dissolved the National Electoral Commission of Nigeria (NECON) and setup the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in 1998.

NECON was established in December 1995 under the military government of late Gen. Sani Abacha to conduct some elections to usher in democracy. However, the elected institutions were not inaugurated before the sudden death of Abacha in June 1998 which aborted the process.

Gen. Abubakar appointed Justice Ephraim Akpata as the pioneer INEC chairman.

Akpata had to deal with 26 political associations, giving only nine provisional registration as political parties for the 1998/1999 elections, which were eventually whittled down to three parties.

After Akpata died in January 2000, then civilian government of President Olusegun Obasanjo appointed Abel Guobadia as new INEC boss, after the Senate confirmation in May 2000.

Guobadia was responsible for the 2003 elections which were marred by widespread violence and other irregularities.

In June 2005, Guobadia retired and was succeeded by Prof. Maurice Iwu who led INEC till April 28, 2010.

A former Vice-Chancellor of Bayero University Kano (BUK), Prof. Attahiru Jega, who took over from Iwu, conducted two general elections (2011 and 2015).

## Smart Card Reader (SCR)

In the build-up to 2015 general elections, INEC under Jega introduced the Smart Card Reader (SCR) machines for the verification of voters and their voting cards to minimize fraud and rigging.

The introduction of the card reader was hailed by many Nigerians but a group of four 'minor' political parties which claimed to be acting on behalf of 15 political parties opposed it and urged INEC to suspend its usage for the 2015 elections.

The 2015 general elections were adjudged the most credible, free and fair elections since the return of democracy in 1999, partly due to the use of the SCR and other technological innovations.

Many Nigerians believed INEC under Prof. Jega recorded a mileage in the conduct of credible elections in the country.

Apart from the SCR, the introduction of Permanent Voter Cards (PVCs) by Jega during the 2015 elections for the verification



■ Yakubu

and accreditation of voters was seen as a sterling innovation that may have reduced incidences of electoral malpractices, which left a dent in the democratic development of the country.

There was also the use of vice chancellors of universities and heads of other tertiary institutions as returning officers which many also saw as bringing sanity and a measure of integrity into the process and which also added value to the election management body.

However, in one of the critical incidences of Jega's tenure, the 2015 general elections were originally scheduled to take place on February 14, but INEC decided to postpone the polls by six weeks. The delay generated controversy with some accusing the then ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) of meddling in the electoral process.

At an event organized by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington DC on June 11, Prof. Jega explained that the six-week delay was ultimately integral to the success of the elections.

He said INEC used the six-week window to fine-tune the electoral process and that also allowed voters to acquire uncollected PVCs among other 'gains'.

Some of the seeming innovations for which INEC under Prof. Jega thrived, like the use of the Direct Data Capture (DDC) machines for the registration of voters were initiated by his predecessor, Prof. Iwu.

Before the conduct of the 2015 elections, there was the registration of voters for the 2015 elections through what was known as Continuous Voter Registration (CVR) exercise.

At the end of the exercise, 68.8 million voters were registered, albeit with introduction of

technologies.

## Short-comings

However, the device either by omission or commission, did not checkmate the incidence of child-voters.

The situation in some parts of the country, the rate at which children under the constitutional voting age of 18 participated in the general elections was alarming.

Many of those who believed that it was not really Uhuru with Jega, argued that it was either the then chief electoral umpire was biased to have allowed that to go unhindered or was incompetent because the children had a smooth ride through all the stages of the election - registration of voters, verification, collection of PVCs, accreditation to vote and actual voting on Election Day.

## Enter Yakubu

Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, a lecturer, guerrilla warfare expert, and Professor of Political History, prior to his appointment as INEC chairman, served as the executive secretary of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND).

Following his assumption of duty as INEC chairman on November 9, 2015 with only half of the members of the commission, he was faced with the immediate task of conducting the Kogi and Bayelsa states governorship elections scheduled for November 21 and December 5, 2015 respectively.

The Kogi governorship election was particularly challenging as it threw up a unique situation in the history of electoral contest in Nigeria.

Not only did a candidate in the election die after the commencement of polls but before the declaration of results, the number of votes cancelled in 91 polling units (PUs) as a result of various electoral malpractices exceeded the margin of lead

between the two leading parties and could affect the final outcome of the election.

This situation was not envisaged in the existing electoral legal framework, thus to resolve the legal conundrum, the commission used the most proximate section of the Electoral Act by requesting the party of the deceased candidate to replace him for the supplementary election held in 91 PUs on December 5, 2015.

The commission accepted the nomination of the runner-up to the deceased candidate in the party primary election. This decision was later affirmed by the Supreme Court.

Also, between November 9, 2015 and November 9, 2020, the commission conducted 11 end-of-tenure/off-cycle governorship elections in Kogi (November 2015), Bayelsa (December 2015), Edo (September 2016), Ondo (October 2016), Anambra (November 2017), Ekiti (July 2018) Osun (September 2018), Kogi (December 2019), Bayelsa (December 2019), Edo (September 2020) and Ondo (October 2020).

There were also by-elections into 178 electoral constituencies comprising 21 senatorial districts, 47 federal constituencies and 110 states' houses of assembly constituencies occasioned by the death of the incumbent and nullification of the original election by the Election Petition and Appeal Tribunals.

The commission also institute registration of eligible voters and maintenance of the national register of voters, apart from inauguration and institutionalisation of all-year-round CVR as prescribed by law at LGA and other designated levels resulting in the registration of 14,283,734 new voters.

The commission also procured upgraded Direct Data Capture Machines (DDCMs) with finger print scanners and camera.

There was also the revision of regulations, guidelines and manuals to abolish separate accreditation and voting procedure.

This was done with the introduction of the Continuous Accreditation and Voting System (CAVS) to address the possible disenfranchisement of voters and the mandatory use of the Smart Card Reader (SCR) for the accreditation of voters.

INEC equally instituted the discontinuation of the use of Incident Forms to address fraud and the requirement by poll officials to paste results at each polling unit in a new Form, EC60E.

The commission established Voting Points (VPs) and Voting Point Settlements (VPSs), equal in status to Polling Units (PUs) to cater for voters in new settlement areas.

There was also the development

and dissemination of the INEC policy on conducting elections in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There was the first supplementary to regulations and guidelines for the conduct of elections, the supplementary regulations and guidelines for the activities of political parties and supplementary guidelines for election observation in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the major landmarks by the commission is the launching of the INEC Voter Enrolment Device (IVED).

Also, on June 28, 2021, INEC launched its online voter registration portal for the first time. This was to enable eligible Nigerians who are 18 years and above to pre-register online and thereafter complete the process at any of the designated centres.

The IVED was to serve the physical registration of voters; enable fingerprint and facial authentication of voters on Election Day through a process known as the Bi-modal Voter Accreditation System (BVAS).

The IVED thus replaced the Smart Card Reader (SCR) for voter accreditation on election day.

Under the Prof. Yakubu administration, upon his reappointment for a second term in December 2020, INRC embarked on the process of expanding voter access to polling units.

For 25 years, the commission had 119,974 PUs and 56,872 Voting Points (VPs).

At the end of the four-month exercise, the commission successfully converted the VPs to PUs, bringing the total number of PUs to 176,846.

This was regarded by many as a miracle because all attempts by the commission to create new PUs in the last 25 years had been met with opposition and dogged by conspiracy theories. However, the commission was able to achieve the feat through massive consultations with all stakeholders and the strategic presentation of the nature of the problem.

Speaking on the changing faces of INEC in the last 10 years, Mr. Rotimi Lawrence Oyekekanmi, the Chief Press Secretary to INEC Chairman, Prof. Mahmood Yakubu, told *Daily Trust* that the commission's achievements far outweighed its challenges and that the benefits of democracy and good governance are in the interest of the nation and that of Nigerians.

"The commission cannot succeed without the support of Nigerians who are the participants and seemingly owners of democracy and all the processes of democratic development that can ultimately lead to good governance and national development," Oyekekanmi said.

NIGERIA STOCK EXCHANGE MARKET CAP. ▶ N21,825,404TR (0.01%) ↑ ALL SHARE INDEX ▶ 41,813.27POINT (0.01%) ↑ MARKET TURNOVER ▶ 359,959,511BN SHARES

(Last updated, Thursday, December 30, 2021)



NSE GENERAL INDEX

COMPANY NAME	MARKET(NM)	PRICE	CHANGE	TRADES	VOLUME
<b>BANKING</b>					
ACCESS BANK PLC	323,461.55	9.10	1.11	244	34,046,242
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	273,595.37	8.00	1.27	118	7,448,317
ZENITH BANK PLC	784,912.34	25.00	1.01	229	8,997,821
<b>OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS</b>					
FBN HOLDINGS PLC	412,795.87	11.50	-0.43	181	13,225,591
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES</b>					
MTN NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS PLC	3,704,521.38	182.00	-	124	1,342,118
<b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>					
DANGOTE CEMENT PLC	4,379,410.40	257.00	-	61	46,482
LAFARGE AFRICA PLC	381,754.75	23.70	-1.04	51	613,643
BERGER PAINTS PLC	2,477.99	8.55	-	6	2,230
BUA CEMENT PLC	2,270,604.94	67.05	-	79	297,315
CAP PLC	15,331.65	19.45	-	2	5,600
MEYER PLC	244.37	0.46	-	0	0
PREMIER PAINTS PLC	1,230.00	10.00	-	0	0
<b>EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION</b>					
SEPLAT ENERGY PLC	382,488.96	650.00	-	24	9,178
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>					
ELLAH LAKES PLC	8,500.00	4.25	-	0	0
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	814.00	0.37	-7.50	12	1,325,000
OKOMU OIL PALM PLC	135,455.22	142.00	-	16	2,099
PRESCO PLC	87,800.00	87.80	-	10	51,502
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	6,540.00	2.18	-	15	117,484
JOHN HOOT PLC	280.19	0.72	-	0	0
S C O A. NIG. PLC	675.82	1.04	-	0	0
TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	40,241.51	0.99	-1.01	58	2,533,640
U A C N. PLC	27,660.45	9.60	-	25	437,085
<b>BUILDING CONSTRUCTION</b>					
ARBICO PLC	152.96	1.03	-	0	0
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION</b>					
JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC	35,760.00	22.35	-	28	218,935
<b>REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT</b>					
UPDC PLC	22,086.36	1.19	1.71	28	1,135,959
<b>AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS</b>					
ON TYRE & RUBBER PLC	954.53	0.20	-	0	0
<b>BEVERAGES - BREWERS/DISTILLERS</b>					
CHAMPION BREW. PLC	19,182.27	2.45	-	13	310,697
GOLDEN GUINEA BREW. PLC	829.98	0.81	-	0	0
GUINNESS NIG PLC	85,424.93	39.00	-	24	137,445
INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC	126,251.72	4.70	-	9	104,765
NIGERIAN BREW. PLC	383,851.30	48.00	-	23	29,134
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	200,423.49	16.50	-2.94	154	267,850
FLOUR MILLS NIG. PLC	116,245.76	28.35	-	44	115,608
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	26,962.67	3.40	0.59	48	2,557,919
MULTI-TREX INTEGRATED FOODS PLC	1,340.10	0.36	-	0	0
N NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	1,425.40	8.00	-	2	59,996
NASSCON ALLIED INDUSTRIES PLC	34,972.59	13.20	-	12	30,345
UNION DICON SALT PLC	2,706.05	9.90	-	0	0
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	16,528.18	8.80	-	12	3,932
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	1,121,608.60	1,415.00	-	16	503
<b>HOUSEHOLD DURABLES</b>					
NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC	1,231.72	16.20	-	0	0
VITAFORM NIG PLC	28,143.99	22.50	-	78	933,394
<b>PERSONAL/HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS</b>					
P Z CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	24,219.91	6.10	-	27	326,100
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	76,983.07	13.40	-	26	136,511
<b>FINANCIAL SERVICES</b>					
ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL INCORPORATED	153,218.75	8.35	-3.47	32	844,486
FIDELITY BANK PLC	73,885.73	2.55	-1.54	102	7,529,460
GUARANTY TRUST HOLDING COMPANY PLC	765,210.66	26.00	0.38	223	2,919,567
JAIZ BANK PLC	20,379.29	0.59	3.51	115	97,762,753
STERLING BANK PLC	43,185.63	1.50	2.74	40	30,537,171
UNION BANK NIG. PLC	176,180.55	6.05	-0.82	221	8,947,089
UNITY BANK PLC	6,078.46	0.52	8.33	36	8,252,075
WEMA BANK PLC	30,473.83	0.79	2.60	64	9,352,807
<b>INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES</b>					
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	4,117.00	0.20	-	1	100,000
AICO INSURANCE PLC	25,257.84	0.69	-1.43	40	1,771,829
AXAMANSARD INSURANCE PLC	20,070.00	2.23	-	13	97,827
CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSURANCE PLC	8,242.47	0.77	10.00	27	6,954,341
CORNERSTONE INSURANCE PLC	8,356.54	0.46	-	3	116,000
CORONATION INSURANCE PLC	12,715.59	0.53	8.16	24	5,386,947
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	909.99	0.20	-	0	0
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	1,228.00	0.20	-	2	10,000
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSURANCE PLC	487.95	0.38	-	0	0
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	1,888.59	1.03	-	8	124,249
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	7,140.00	0.51	-	0	0
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSURANCE PLC	6,820.95	0.34	9.68	25	13,836,720
NEM INSURANCE PLC	25,082.39	5.00	3.31	36	3,950,091
NIGER INSURANCE PLC	1,547.90	0.20	-	0	0
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	6,758.81	0.51	-	6	27,350
REGENCY ASSURANCE PLC	3,134.31	0.47	9.30	14	10,467,409
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSURANCE PLC	3,409.34	0.30	7.14	44	11,851,735
STACO INSURANCE PLC	4,483.72	0.48	-	0	0
STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	2,582.21	0.20	-	0	0
SUNU ASSURANCES NIGERIA PLC	2,614.86	0.45	-	0	0
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE PLC	3,200.00	0.20	-	5	2,300,000
VERITAS CAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	2,773.33	0.20	-4.76	13	9,443,069
<b>MICRO-FINANCE BANKS</b>					
NPF MICROFINANCE BANK PLC	3,887.28	1.70	-	1	77
ABREY MORTGAGE BANK PLC	6,720.00	1.04	-	0	0
ASO SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	7,370.87	0.50	-	0	0
INFINITY TRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	5,505.00	1.32	-	0	0
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	2,265.95	0.20	-	0	0
UNION HOMES SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	2,949.22	3.02	-	0	0
AFRICA PRUDENTIAL PLC	12,800.00	6.40	-	27	163,468
CUSTODIAN INVESTMENT PLC	45,878.54	7.80	-	5	9,501
DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	300.00	0.20	-	0	0
FCMB GROUP PLC	59,012.08	2.98	-	34	548,852
NIGERIAN EXCHANGE GROUP	39,282.32	20.00	3.09	153	14,949,186
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	4,116.30	0.80	-4.76	18	1,416,952
STANBIC BIC HOLDINGS PLC	466,451.90	36.00	-	23	264,304
UNITED CAPITAL PLC	59,400.00	9.90	0.51	62	2,040,062
<b>HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS</b>					
EKDCORP PLC	2,886.90	5.79	-	0	0
UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERVICES PLC	994.88	0.28	-	0	0
<b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES</b>					
MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC	1,968.43	1.99	5.29	5	160,580
<b>PHARMACEUTICALS</b>					
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	13,248.39	6.35	-	11	34,822
GLAXO SMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC	7,115.47	5.95	-	10	158,666
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	7,004.45	4.06	-	17	77,011
NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICALS PLC	3,323.52	1.75	-	10	149,837
PHARMA - DEKO PLC	477.00	2.20	-	6	523,532
<b>COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS</b>					
COURTVILLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PLC	1,385.28	0.39	-	8	1,028,907
<b>COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS</b>					
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	588.36	0.20	-	0	0
<b>IT SERVICES</b>					
CSG PLC	2,827.81	1.12	-	0	0
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	324.00	3.00	-	0	0
CHAMS PLC	986.17	0.21	4.76	17	5,141,817
E-TRANZACT INTERNATIONAL PLC	12,539.33	1.89	-	0	0
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES</b>					
AIRTEL AFRICA PLC	3,589,034.69	955.00	-	10	515
<b>ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS</b>					
AUSTIN LAZ & COMPANY PLC	2,192.12	2.03	-	0	0
CUTIX PLC	9,299.78	2.64	0.76	19	443,260
<b>PACKAGING/CONTAINERS</b>					
BETA GLASS PLC	26,473.52	52.95	-	1	30
GREIF NIGERIA PLC	232.39	5.45	-	0	0
TRIPPLE GEE AND COMPANY PLC	475.16	0.96	-	2	92,447
<b>AGRO-ALLIED &amp; CHEMICALS</b>					
NOTORE CHEMICAL IND PLC	100,754.14	62.50	-	0	0

COMMODITIES PRICE

**CRUDE OIL (BRENT)**  
\$73.46

**NATURAL GAS**  
\$4.09

**COPPER**  
\$9,430

**GOLD**  
\$1,798.12

**SILVER**  
\$25.26

**SUGAR**  
\$0.19

**COCOA**  
\$1,595.0

**LIVE CATTLE**  
\$1.23

**COTTON**  
\$0.90

INDUSTRIAL & MEDICAL GASES NIGERIA PLC	3,933.51	9.45	-	0	0
<b>PAPER/FOREST PRODUCTS</b>					
THOMAS WYATT NIG. PLC	77.00	0.35	-	0	0
<b>PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTORS</b>					
JAPPAUL GOLD & VENTURES PLC	2,317.20	0.37	2.70	18	3,784,810
ONADO PLC	54,325.27	4.37	-2.89	48	972,961
ARDOVA PLC	16,932.25	13.00	-2.99	20	258,824
CONOIL PLC	15,266.95	22.00	-1.12	12	206,065
ETERNA PLC	6,585.93	5.05	-	20	490,020
MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC	3,764.11	12.35	-	6	13,603
TOTALENERGIES MARKETING NIGERIA PLC	75,339.90	221.90	-	25	32,033
CAPITAL OIL PLC	1,171.51	0.20	-	0	0
RAK UNITY PET. COMP. PLC.	16.99	0.30	-	0	0
<b>ADVERTISING</b>					
AFROMEDIA PLC	887.81	0.20	-	0	0
<b>AIRLINES</b>					
MEDVIEW AIRLINE PLC	15,796.05	1.62	-	0	0
<b>AUTOMOBILE/AUTO PART RETAILERS</b>					
R T BRISCOE PLC	235.27	0.20	-	0	0
<b>COURIER/FREIGHT/DELIVERY</b>					
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	3,292.76	3.45	1.47	7	151,167
TRANS-NATIONWIDE EXPRESS PLC.	379.77	0.81	-	0	0
<b>HOSPITALITY</b>					
WANTALZERS PLC	642.33	0.20	-	0	0
<b>HOTELS/LODGING</b>					
CAPITAL HOTEL PLC	4,940.61	3.19	-	0	0
IKEDA HOTEL PLC	2,536.13	1.22	-	7	65,000
TOURIST COMPANY OF NIGERIA PLC.	6,379.88	2.84	-	0	0
TRANSCORP HOTELS PLC	55,104.80	5.38	-	3	20,749
<b>MEDIA/ENTERTAINMENT</b>					
DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC	2,400.00	0.20	-	0	0
<b>PRINTING/PUBLISHING</b>					
ACADEMY PRESS PLC.	302.40	0.50	-	1	1,702
LEARN AFRICA PLC.	902.60	1.17	-	7	106,930
STUDIO PRESS (NIG) PLC.	1,058.90	1.78	-	0	0
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC.	1,268.34	2.94	-	6	160,100
<b>ROAD TRANSPORTATION</b>					
ASSOCIATED BUS COMPANY PLC	513.89	0.31	-	8	77,315
<b>SPECIALTY</b>					
EUNISELL INTERLINKED PLC	688.80	2.91	-	0	0
SECURE ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY PLC	1,126.31	0.20	-	0	0
<b>TRANSPORT-RELATED SERVICES</b>					
GLOBAL SPECTRUM ENERGY SERVICES PLC	3,352.00	4.19	-	0	0
NIGERIAN AVIATION ENERGY SERVICES PLC	5,749.73	3.54	2.61	37	1,341,941
SKYWAY AVIATION HANDLING COMPANY PLC	6,605.47	4.88	-	0	0
<b>SUPPORT AND LOGISTICS</b>					
C & I LEASING PLC	3,282.91	4.20	-	2	1,307
CAVERTON OFFSHORE SUPPORT GRP PLC	5,762.88	1.72	-	3	21,000
<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>					
THE INITIATES PLC	329.29				

**DAILY TRUST**  
**Classifieds made easy**  
Booking is Simple and Quick  
**YOU CAN BOOK ONLINE**

**E-booking/E-payment**  
Make payment into Media Trust Account,  
type the material by using our already  
existing format below, attach marriage  
Certificate/Court Affidavits and send with  
evidence of payment to: [dailytrustadvt@gmail.com](mailto:dailytrustadvt@gmail.com)

**ENQUIRIES: TEL:**  
Abuja: 07030054108  
Maiduguri: 08060473379  
Sokoto: 08035039527  
Lagos: 08038600327  
Port Harcourt: 0703 275 7193  
Kano: 08068077562  
Jos: 08033745735  
Kaduna: 08063479316

**Costing:**  
Change of Name - N3,000  
Loss of Documents - N9,450  
Registration of Trustees - N15,500  
Product & Services (B&W) (Colour)  
1 x 1 col N5,000 N8,000  
2 x 1 col N9,000 N15,000  
2 x 2 col N18,000 N27,000  
3 x 2 col N 28,000 N 42,000

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I**, formerly known as **YUSUF SABIU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU GIDADO**. All former documents remain valid. General public and the authority concerned should take note.

**ALI**: I formerly known as **ALI BUKAR LAWAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ZANNA ALI BUKAR**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **MIKAILA ISHAK** now wish to be known and addressed as **MIKAILU ISHAQ TULGU 25/5/1988** All former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

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

**OGUNDANA: I**, formerly known and addressed as **MORADEYO TOLASE RUTH**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OGUNDANA TOLASE RUTH**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

**NABIL I** formerly known as **NABIL LAWALI DOB 05/05/1993** now wish to be known and addressed as **NABIL LAUWALI DOB 05/05/1995**. All former documents remain valid authorities concerned and general public should take note.

**I** formerly known and addressed as **ZAYANU MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **ZAIYANU MUHAMMAD** with date of birth **01 JAN 1992**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

**YUSUF: I** formerly known as **HASSAN HAMISU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HAMISU SULAIMAN YUSUF**. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

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

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

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

**FANNA. I** formerly known as **FANNA ALI JAKANA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FANNA ALI**. All former documents remain valid. With old **DOB 01/10/1988** To New **02/12/1966** General public should please take note

**I** formerly known and addressed as **BILKISU ADAMU MSHELWALA** now wish to be known and addressed as **BILKISU ADAMU** All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

**SAIDU: I** formerly known as **AHAMAD ADAMU** with **DOB 29/08/2000** now wish to be known and addressed as **DAHIRU ALIYU SAIDU** with **DOB 02/08/2002**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **TAJAUDIN BASHIR** now wish to be called and addressed as **TAJO BASHIR MIKAILU** All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

**I** formerly known as **ZAINAB. ABUBAKAR ALMUSTAP** now wish to be known and addressed as **ZAINAB ABUBAKAR AII** former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

**AISHA : I** formerly known as **AISHA ABBA SANDA** now wish to be known as **AISHA BABA SANDA**. All former documents remain valid. General Public should please take note.

**FATIMA: I** Formerly known as **FATIMA UMAR** NOW wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA A. Y. UMAR** All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

**I** formerly known and addressed as **HAMZAT, ANIFAT OLAJUMOKE** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSTAPHA, ANIFAT OLAJUMOKE**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

**BULIYI; I** formerly known as **BILIYI ALHAJI ABDULLAHI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BULIYI ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **HADIZA AHMAD** now wish to be called and addressed as **HADIZA INUSA**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

**I** formerly known as **MOHAMMAD YUSUF GARBA AII** former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

**I BABANGIDA ISA** that my former date of birth was wrong writing, the former date of birth is **01/08/1998** and the correct one is **10/08/1998** All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

**ADEDEJI: I** Formerly known as **Richfield Ojo Adededeji** Now wish to be known and addressed as **Oluwaseun Richfield Adededeji** All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

**I** formerly known and addressed as **IHUOMA ALEXANDRA IGBOKWE** now wish to be known and addressed as **IHUOMA ALEXANDRA NGOLADI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note

**FATSUMA: I** formerly known as **FASIMA MOHAMMED**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FATSUMA MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. GTBank and General public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **BILKISU AHMAD** now wish to be called and addressed as **BILKISU DANLADI ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

**I** formerly known as **MARTIN GJHSEC OSARIEMEN** now wish to be known and addressed as **UHUNOMA OSARIEMEN AII** former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

**AISHATU : I** formerly known as **AISHATU ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known as **AISHATU ABUBAKAR ASHIGAR**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

**AUWALU: I**, formerly known as **AUWAL ABDULLAHI** now wish to be known and addressed as **AUWALU GAINAKO**. All former documents remain valid. And my correct **DOB is 23-04-1982** not **28-03-1982**. General public should take note

**I** was formally known as **WADANAS UMAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR UMAR** all documents remain valid, authority concern and general public should please take note

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

**I** formally known as **Abubakar Kunbo Alhassan** now wish to be called and addressed as **Abubakar Maikudi. DOB 29-08-1998**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

**I** formerly known as **IBRAHIM SULEIMAN JALO** now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM. SARKIN FAWA AII** former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

**AISHA I** formerly known as **AISHA UMAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHA UMAR LAWAL**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

**JIDDA: I**, formerly known as **AUWAL YUSUF** now wish to be known and addressed as **AUWAL MOHAMMED JIDDA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

**I** formerly known as **ZAKI YAJI** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAJI ZAKI** All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public should take note

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

**I** formerly known as **IDRIS SANI** now wish to be called and addressed as **IDRIS MUHAMMAD MALAM**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

**I** formerly known as **KAMILU. IDRIS** now wish to be known and addressed as **KAMILU MALAM IDRIS AII** former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

**AISHA I** formerly known as **AISHA AISHA LABO** now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHA LABO**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

**BASHIR I** formerly known as **BASHIR SAIDU** now wish to be known and addressed as **BASHIR SAIDU**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

**I**, formerly known as **SAMAILA MUSA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD ADAMU** All my documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

**I**, formerly known as **HAJARA MOHAMMED**. Now wish to be called and addressed as **HAJARA MOHAMMED DUNAMA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and general public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **MISS Fadila Musa** now wish to be called and addressed as **MRS FADILA MUSA**. All former documents remain valid NYSC Authority concern and general public to note

**AMINU: I**, formerly known as **AMINU ABDULLAHI USMAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AMINU ABDULMUMINI USMAN**. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.

**DANTATA : I** formally know as **TALATU JAMES**, now wish to be known and addressed as **TALATU JOE DANTATA**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

**JAMILU I** formerly known as **JAMILU ABDULLAHI GAFAI** now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMILU ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

**FATIMA: I** was formerly known and address as **FATIMA KABIR SHEMA** That **I** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS FATIMA KABIR SHEHU** All documents bearing former names remain valid and the general public should please take note.

**I**, formerly known as **ZAINAB MOHAMMED**. Now wish to be called and addressed as **ZAINAB MOHAMMED DUNAMA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **ZAINAB NASIR ABUBAKAR** now wish to be called and addressed as **ZAINAB NASIR IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

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

**GEORGE : I** formally know as **DEBORAH MUSA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **REBECCA GEORGE**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

**MOLJO : I** formerly known as **JENNIFER JURUM JACOB** now wish to be known as **MOLJO JENNIFER KALLAH**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

**SALMA: I** was formerly known and address as **SALMA KABIR SHEMA** That **I** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS SALMA KABIR SHEHU** All documents bearing former names remain valid and the general public should please take note.

**I**, formerly known as **ZAHARADEEN MOHAMMED**. Now wish to be called and addressed as **ZAHARADEEN DUNAMA MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concern and general public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **MOHAMMED MOTAKUWA MAIGARI** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHD. MAIGARI AII** former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

**MUSA: I**, formerly known as **DIKKO FATIMA**, now wish to be known as **MUSA FATIMA DIKKO**. All relevant authorities and the general public are to please take note. All former documents remain valid.

**GARBA : I** formally know as **HALLIRU MUSA YUNUSA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SADIK GARBA**, all former documents remain valid, authorities concerned and general public should please take note

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

**Tanko: I** formerly known as **Tanko Eshaya Esq** now wish to be known and addressed as **Tanko Ishaya**. All former documents remain valid. First bank PLC, Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

**ABDULRAHAMAN I** formerly known and addressed as **ABDULRAHAMAN AUDU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULRAHAMAN ABDULLAHI BASIRKA** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **ZAINAB ISA SANI** now wish to be called and addressed as **SURAYYA SADI INUWA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

**ADANNA: I**, formerly known and addressed as **Miss ADANNA CONSTANCE ERONDU**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs ADANNA CONSTANCE OPURUM**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

**UKASHA I** formally known as **UKASHA ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD UKASHA ABUBAKAR** all former documents remain valid general public should please take note

**DAUDA I** formerly known and addressed as **DAUDA SAIDU** now wish to be known and addressed as **DAUDA SAIDU ALHAJI** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**IBRAHIM: I** formerly known as **ABDULLAHI MADU BURATAI**, but now wishes to be known and addressed as **HABU IBRAHIM**. All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

**MUSA I** formerly known and addressed as **MUSA KHALIM UMAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSA UMAR MUSA** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **ALIYU. SANI. NAMAKA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU SANI AII** former documents remain valid Authority concerned and general public should please take note

**AWOSINA: I**, formerly known and addressed as **OLUYI OKIKITOLUWA OLAIDE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **AWOSINA OKIKITOLUWA OLAIDE**. All former documents remain valid. The general public take note.

**IBRAHIM I** formally known as **IBRAHIM HARUNA** now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM HARUNA KASIM** all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

**FATIMA I** formerly known and addressed as **FATIMA ALIYU** now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA ABDULLAHI DALLATA** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**MOHAMMED: I** formerly known as **YAKUBU MOHAMMED** With Date of Birth as (01/01/1992), but now wishes to be known and addressed as **YAKUBU MUSA MOHAMMED** with date of Birth as (01/01/1997). All formal documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

**MUSA I** formerly known and addressed as **MUSA SULAIMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM SULAIMAN** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**I** formerly known as **MAMUDA IBRAHIM ISAH** now wish to be called and addressed as **MAHMUD IBRAHIM ISAH**. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note. **DOB 1/1/1983**

**ALI: I**, formerly known and addressed as **ALI SHEKWONYA ALI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ALI UMAR SHEKWONYA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

**HOPE. I** formerly known as **IYARONIN IKULI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IYANRONIN HOPE IKULI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

**HUSSAINI I** formerly known and addressed as **USAINI ISAH LARISKI** now wish to be known and addressed as **HUSSAINI ISAH LARISKI** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**KUNUJI: I** formerly known as **IDOWU OLUWASEUN VIAVOH**, now wish to be known as **KUNUJI OLUWASEUN VIAVOH**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

**AMINU: I**, formerly known as **MOHD INUWA** now wish to be known and addressed as **AMINU GARBA USMAN**. All former documents remain valid. NIMC, Polaris Bank, Diamond Bank and General public should please take note.

**SALISU: I** formerly known as **MUHAMMED HARDO SALISU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALISU MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. **POLARIS BANK** And General Public. Should please take note.

**OLAWOYIN: I**, formerly known and addressed as **Miss AWOSANYA DEBBY IDOWU**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs OLAWOYIN DEBBY IDOWU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

**ABDULRASHEED I** formally known as **ABDULRASHEED SANUSI K** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULRASHEED SANUSI KANGIWA** all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

**ABDULLAHI I** formerly known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI USMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI ALHAJI BELLO** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

**Bank Details**

Pay into any of our Accounts:  
Account Name: **MEDIA TRUST LTD,**  
Send your payment mandate to our email addresses

**Bank: Stanbic IBTC Plc**  
**Account No: 0000913253**  
**Sort Code: 221081552**

**Bank: First Bank Plc**  
**Account No: 2002911690**  
**Sort Code: 011084060**

**Bank: UBA Plc**  
**Account No: 1007117397**  
**Sort Code: 033080013**

**Bank: GTBank Plc**  
**Account No: 0024570856**  
**Sort Code: 058083231**

**Requirement for Change of Name**  
**Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit**



**FEDERAL NEURO-PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL,  
BARNAWA, KADUNA**

**INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL VACANCY ADVERTISEMENT  
FOR THE POST OF MEDICAL DIRECTOR/CEO**

The Federal Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital, Barnawa, Kaduna hereby invite applications from interested and suitably qualified candidates to fill the vacant position of the Medical Director (MD/CEO) of the Hospital.

**JOB TITLE:** Medical Director  
**LOCATION:** Kaduna, Kaduna State

**REQUIREMENT:**

- Candidates must be Medical or Dental practitioners registered with the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) of not less than twelve (12) years post-graduation.
- Candidates must possess a current practicing license from Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN).
- Candidates must be fellows of either National Post graduate Medical College of Nigeria or West African Post graduate Medical College or its equivalent register able by the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN).
- Candidates must have been Consultant for a minimum of five (5) years.
- Candidates possessing membership with the Association of Psychiatrists in Nigeria (APN) is an added advantage.
- Candidates must be medically fit (ATTACH EVIDENCE).
- Candidate must be of proven good character and integrity: clinical experience (s)/Medical Research is an added advantage.
- Administrative experience, preferably in a Tertiary Hospital setting is an added advantage.
- Knowledge of Computer/Information and Communication Technology is an added advantage.
- Attraction of funded grant (s) by individual candidate is an added advantage.

**JOB DESCRIPTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- The Medical Director is the Head of the Institution. He is accountable to the Board of Management and

- the Honorable Minister of Health.
- The Medical Director is charged with the responsibility for the execution of policies and matters affecting the day to day Management of the affairs of the Hospital.

**SALARY AND ALLOWANCES**

- Salary and allowances will be in accordance with Public Service Salary structure for this category of officer.

**METHOD OF APPLICATION**

- Fifteen (15) copies of application letters and Curriculum Vitae to be submitted in sealed envelope addressed to:

**The Director of Administration/Secretary to the Board,  
Federal Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital,  
PMB 2187, Barnawa, Kaduna State, Nigeria.**

- Candidate should enclose his/her vision statement for the Hospital in the next four (4) years in not more than 1000 words.
- The Curriculum must include the names and addresses of three (3) referees, one of whom must be a senior Medical or Dental practitioner of not less than twenty(20) post qualification experience and who should be in a position to attest to the candidates' Academic, Professional and Managerial abilities as well as moral character and uprightness. This should be accompanied by recommendation letters from the referees.
- Submission of Applications closes two (2) weeks from the date of this advert.

**NOTE:**

Candidates are to strictly abide by the content of the advert.

SIGNED

**AMB. BABAGANA AJIMI**  
Chairman, Board of Management.



**FEDERAL NEURO-PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL,  
BARNAWA, KADUNA**

**INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL VACANCY ADVERTISEMENT FOR  
THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION**

The Federal Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital, Barnawa Kaduna hereby invite applications from interested and suitably qualified candidates to fill the vacant position of Director Administration (DA) of the Hospital.

**JOB TITLE:** Director of Administration  
**LOCATION:** Kaduna, Kaduna State

**REQUIREMENT:**

- Candidates must possess a good first degree BA/BSc. In either Humanities or social sciences from a recognized Institution of learning.
- Candidates must have not less than twenty (20) years of post-qualification and must have experience in related field.
- Must possess knowledge of Computer/Information and Communication Technology.
- Membership of the Institute of Health Service Administrator (IHSAN) or any other recognized professional certificate is an added advantage.
- Candidates must be medically fit (ATTACH EVIDENCE).
- Candidate must be of proven good character and integrity.
- Administrative experience, preferably in a Tertiary Hospital setting is an added advantage.

**JOB DESCRIPTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- The Director of Administration is the Head of Administration of the institution responsible to the Medical Director/(CEO) for the day to-day General Administration of the Hospital.
- The Director of Administration is the Chief Advisor to the Medical Director on Administrative matters affecting the affairs of the hospital.
- To serve as the Secretary to the Board of Management, in addition the Director of Administration shall take charge of the Administration Department.
- Participate in formulation, execution and review of policies as directed by the Medical Director and or

- the Board of Management.
- Perform other function as the Board of Management or the Medical Director may assign to him/her.

**SALARY AND ALLOWANCES**

- Salary and allowances will be in accordance with Public Service Salary structure for this category of officer.

**METHOD OF APPLICATION**

- Interested candidates are to forward Fifteen (15F) copies of their application accompanied with photocopies of their credential and Curriculum Vitae in a sealed envelope marked "Application for the post of Director of Administration" at the top left hand corner to:

**The Director of Administration,  
Federal Neuro-Psychiatric Hospital/Secretary to the Board,  
PMB 2187, Barnawa, Kaduna State, Nigeria.**

- The Curriculum must include the names and addresses of three (3) referees, one of whom must be a senior Medical or Dental practitioner of not less than twenty(20) post qualification experience and who should be in a position to attest to the candidates' Academic, Professional and Managerial abilities as well as moral character and uprightness. This should be accompanied by recommendation letters from the referees.

- Submission of Applications closes two (2) weeks from the date of this advert.

**NOTE:** Candidates are to strictly abide by the content of the advert.

SIGNED

**AMB. BABAGANA AJIMI**  
Chairman, Board of Management

**DAILY TRUST Classifieds made easy**

**PUBLIC NOTICE Page 2**

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

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

**SALEH: I** formerly known as **SALEH UMARFARUK BUKAR**, now wish to be known as **SALEH UMARFARUK ABUBAKAR**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

**OKONUODOM: I**, formerly known and addressed as **OKON SUNDAY UDOM**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SUNNY OKONUODOM**. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note.

**I**, formerly known as **ABDULGANIYU NAFISAT ADEBOLA** now wish to be known and addressed as **NURUDEEN NAFISAT ADEBOLA**. All former documents remain valid. Zenith Bank and general public should please take note.

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

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

**KHAMISU: I** formerly known as **KANISU MALAM ALI**, now wish to be known as **KHAMISU ABDULLAHI ALIYU**. All former document remain valid. With DOB From 23/09/1978 to 07/06/1980, General Public should take note.

**MUAWIYA I** formerly known as **MAAWIYA SULEIMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUAWIYA SULAIMAN USMAN** with DOB:10/07/1989 not 06/07/1989. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note.

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

**I**, formerly known as **SAUBANA UMAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **SAUBAN ALHAJI UMAR**. All former documents remain valid. First Bank, SOKOTO STATE UNIVERSITY and general public should please take note.



**LOSS OF DOCUMENT**  
This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Letter of Grant File No. COM/2004/52 Situated at Tamburawa Quarters, Bearing the name of **ABDUL'RA'UF TUKUR** No. 1 Ahmad Mai Kwatagi Street, G/Kaya Quarters. All efforts made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the general public to note. If found please return to the nearest police station.

**LOSS OF DOCUMENT**  
This is to inform the general public of the loss of original Occupancy Permit in respect of Plot No. 121A and 121B under TP/KNUPDA/328B, Situated at Western by pass in Kumbotso Local Government Area of Kano. Both the two (plots) is half in size, close to each other and also bearing the name of the same person **MUNTARI IDRIS** sold to **FATIMA LADAN** of 194 Hausawa Layout Court Road Kano State. All efforts made to trace the original document proved abortive. Members of the general public and Authority concerned should take note. If found Kindly return to the nearest police station.

**LOSS OF DOCUMENT**  
This is to inform the general public loss of old allocation allottee paper and receipt of processing fees and the change in respect of plot AP 14 at kubwa BYAZHIN under Bwari area council fct Abuja with 3000sqm belonging to M: **I ORIAKU** all efforts to trace the said documents prove abortive if found please contact nearby police station or call 08035892485 and 07037201064

**KIRAWA CHARITY FOUNDATION**  
This is to inform the public that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part C of Companies and Allied Act 1990.  
**NAME OF TRUSTEES**  
1. Muhammad Muhammad Abubakar - Chairman  
2. Umaru Yakubu Kirawa - Member  
3. Modu Kolo Abba-Buba - Secretary  
**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**  
1. To render humanitarian assistance and engage in the provision of relief materials to vulnerable persons.  
2. To foster mutual co-existence and understanding amongst the youth of Kirawa irrespective of religion, ethnicity, sex and other differences.  
3. To facilitate impactful projects and organize technical lectures, seminars and workshop to students of Kirawa as well as other interventions.  
Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, plot 420 Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi street, Maitama Abuja within 28 days of this Publication.  
**SIGNED BY: CHAIRMAN**

**BAUCHI DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ROUNDTABLE**  
THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY IS INFORMED THAT THE ABOVE NAMED FOUNDATION HAS APPLIED TO CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION FOR REGISTRATION UNDER PART C OF THE COMPANIES AND ALLIED MATTERS ACT, 2020 (AS AMENDED)  
**THE TRUSTEES ARE**  
1. PROFESSOR KABIR TAHIR HAMID - CHAIRMAN  
2. YUSUF ALI GIDADO - SECRETARY  
3. AMINU ALIYU - FINANCIAL SECRETARY  
**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**  
1. TO SUPPORT SKILLS ACQUISITION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE  
2. TO COLLABORATE WITH AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATION'S CONCERNED WITH THE PROMOTION OF PEACE, DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT IN WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE  
3. TO SUPPORT WOMEN AND YOUTH EMPOWERMENT  
4. TO DEVELOP BLUEPRINTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE STATE ECONOMY  
ANY OBJECTION TO THE REGISTRATION SHOULD FORWARDED TO THE REGISTRAR GENERAL CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION PLOT 420, TIGRIS CRESCENT, OFF AGUIYI IRONSI STREET, MAITAMA, ABUJA WITHIN 28 DAYS OF THIS PUBLICATION.  
**SIGNED BY SECRETARY**

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**Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit**



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# TRIBUTE

## Remembering Archbishop Desmond Tutu

By Richard Branson

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.” – Archbishop Tutu.

I’m so sad that Arch has passed away – the world has lost a giant. He was a brave leader, a mischievous delight, a profound thinker, and a dear friend.

It’s hard to express just how much of an inspiration Arch is to the world and to those fortunate to have crossed paths with him. When I think of people with the moral authority of the universe running through them, I think of Arch. He used his incredible moral courage to bridge divides and showed all of us how we have one common humanity.

Our friendship goes back to the founding days of The Elders. When Peter Gabriel and I asked Arch’s great friend Nelson Mandela to form an independent group of global leaders, he turned to Arch to help turn it into reality.

Arch was pivotal in shaping a group who use their voices, their wisdom and their negotiating skills to help resolve conflicts and tackle the greatest challenges humanity faces. He went on to be an incredible chair of The Elders from 2007 to 2013 and an incredible supporter of Virgin Unite’s work around the world.

Of course, as the face and conscience of South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Arch was perfectly placed to turn The Elders’ vision into action. He deservedly won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his work in the fight against apartheid and crucial role in uniting and healing a deeply wounded country.

He was a tireless campaigner for justice, an unwavering champion of human rights and was never afraid to speak truth to power. Through a message of optimism, hope and love, he showed South Africa and the world how to set aside what divides, learn from the past and join together to build a better future.

Arch was one of the most positive, funny, life-affirming people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. He had no airs and graces, and always made everyone laugh. “I don’t know why, but some people accuse me of name-dropping,” he told me once. “I just happened to have lunch with the Queen at Buckingham Palace the other day and she said, ‘Arch, you are SUCH a name-dropper!’”

He formed a wonderful partnership with his wife Leah. I love how they supported each other, and the little details that made up their life together. From



■ Branson (behind Archbishop Tutu) and Nelson Mandela

Arch serving Leah coffee in bed, to Leah nursing Arch when he wasn’t feeling well – the little things added up to an enormous whole. “We are made for loving,” Arch said. “If we don’t love, we will be like plants without water.” All of our thoughts are with Leah and Arch’s family.

On one occasion Leah gently disagreed with him and Arch responded by telling a story of all these hen-pecked men trying to get into the Kingdom of Heaven. On one side, an enormous queue of men were waiting in the ‘hen-pecked men’ line, and on the other side there was one man standing in the ‘others’ queue. St Peter asked this man: “How come you are standing in this queue?” The man responded: “Because my wife told me to!” With Arch, I am pretty certain that St Peter will let him jump any queue. He more than deserves it.

One of the great pleasures of my life was teaching him to swim with Peter Gabriel. He was a fast learner and was soon splashing by us with plenty of giggles. His energy, his passion, and his love for life and humanity shone out through everything he did. I’ll never forget his laugh, and how his smile lit up the room.

Here are some more of Arch’s joyful words to lift us up in this unhappy moment: “We are each made for goodness, love and compassion. Our lives are transformed as much as the world is when we live with these truths.”

Thank you Arch for your love, life, laughter and leadership.

*Culled from Richard Branson blog. Branson is the CEO of Virgin Group*



■ Branson and Tutu

**He was a tireless campaigner for justice, an unwavering champion of human rights and was never afraid to speak truth to power. Through a message of optimism, hope and love, he showed South Africa and the world how to set aside what divides, learn from the past and join together to build a better future**

# SPORT



■ Super Eagles players during a light training session at the MKO Abiola National Stadium, Abuja yesterday

Photo **Jide Olusola**

## Bosso Utd wins FEYSOC tourney in Niger

By **Abubakar Akote, Minna**

Bosso United Football Club of Bosso Local Government Area of Niger State has emerged winner of the Emir of Minna under 14 Federation of Youth Soccer Clubs (FEYSOC) championship.

The club defeated Flash Arrows Football Club of Minna by 2 goals to nil to lift the trophy.

The age-grade championship was organised in honour of the Emir of Minna, Dr Umar Farouk Bahago by the Federation of Youth Soccer Club with the support from the Commissioner of Investment, Dr Jibrin Mustapha.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the finals at the Bako Kontagora Memorial Stadium over the weekend, the Director-General of the Federation of Youth Soccer Clubs (FEYSOC), Niger State Chapter, Alhaji Umar Batako Lapaj promised to resuscitate age-grade football competition in the state.

He lamented over the disappearance of the age-grade competitions, particularly those organized by FEYSOC.

Alh. Batako Lapaj said FEYSOC was the cradle of grassroots football development and as such, they will do their best to see that all FEYSOC organised competitions are resuscitated for the growth and development of the round leather game.

“When you talk of grassroots football development, FEYSOC is number one. Grassroots football development is not complete without FEYSOC because FEYSOC organises all age-grade competitions where hidden talents are discovered and nurtured into stardom,” he said.

# AFCON: Eguavoen expects full squad today as Eagles depart Jan 5

By **Jide Olusola**

The interim Super Eagles coach, Austin Eguavoen has expressed optimism in having the full squad in camp today ahead of the preparation for the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) in Cameroon.

He made this known during the training session he had with 12 players who were available at the MKO Abiola National Stadium, Abuja yesterday.

“We are expecting all the other players in camp tomorrow. There is a lot of energy, speed in camp and this is what we need in modern football.

“I will be looking for commitment and the way we want to play has been broken down to them and they have aligned and the next thing is how they will go about during the training sessions,” he said.

He again expressed his disappointment at the absence of Watford in-form striker, Dennis Emmanuel who pulled out because his club refused to release him for the AFCON.

“I am very disappointed as he is in top form and his unavailability right now is painful and there is nothing anybody can do about it. The club refused despite the fact that the player and the federation

made a lot of efforts and that was the reason why we submitted the list late. I spoke with almost every hour but to no avail. He was eager to play for his country,” he said.

In the same vein, the team coordinator, Patrick Pascal said the technical crew will be expecting the other players who will be released by their various clubs today. He also said the team will depart the country on January 5 to Cameroon.

“We all know the situation we are in as some of the clubs will release their players tomorrow (today) and the coach is doing what he can by training with the ones available now. We are

leaving on the 5th by the special grace of God,” he said.

The names of players in the camp are as follows: Moses Simon (FC Nantes, France), Francis Uzoho (AC Omonia, Cyprus), Henry Onyekuru (Olympiacos, Greece), Peter Olayinka (Slavia Praha, Czech Republic).

Others are Chidozie Awaziem (Alayanspor, Turkey), Chidera Ejuke (CSKA Moscow, Russia), Daniel Akpeyi (Kaizer Chiefs, South Africa), Sadiq Umar (UD Almeria, Spain), Olisa Ndah (Orlando Pirates, South Africa), John Noble (Enyimba FC), Taiwo Awoniyi (Union Berlin, Germany).

## NPFL: Pillars earn first league win as Enyimba lose again

By **Jide Olusola**

It was smiles and relief for the players and coaching crew of Kano Pillars after they earned their first win of the 2021/22 Nigeria Professional Football League after defeating Enyimba 2-0 yesterday in a matchday 4 clash.

Pillars, prior to this game were without a single win and were rooted in the 20th position and were desirous to end the losing streak.

Goals from the legendary captain, Rabiu Ali in the 45th minute and Kokoete Udo in the 60th minute were all that was needed for the Masu Gida to secure all three points.

In other games, MFM left Bauchi empty after losing 3-0 to Wikki Tourists while Enugu

Rangers thumped visiting Niger Tornadoes 4-0.

Defending champions, Akwa United fell to their first loss of the season following



a 2-0 defeat to Nasarawa United while Plateau United secured their second league win with a 3-0 victory over a Heartland.

Table-toppers, Remo Stars who are yet to lose a game

secured a 1-1 draw away against Dakkada FC while Rivers United and Sunshine Stars shared the spoils of war.

Meanwhile, the Matchday 4 action continues today when Abia Warriors welcome Kwara United while Gombe United plays host to Lobi Stars. The last game will be in Ibadan when Shooting Stars hosts Katsina United.

Regardless of the games to be played today, Remo Stars top the table with 8 points while Rivers United is second also with 8 points. Enugu Rangers are second with 7 points.

MFM FC, Shooting Stars, Gombe United and Sunshine Stars occupy the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th positions respectively.

## Getafe ends Real Madrid's 11-match unbeaten run

Getafe's Enes Unal's first-half strike has ended Real Madrid's unbeaten run, which had stretched to 15 games – and back to the start of October 2021 with Madrid missing the chance to open up an 11-point lead at the top of La Liga.

Enes Unal scored the only goal after just nine minutes when he robbed Eder Militao of possession inside Real Madrid's penalty area.

Luka Modric went closest to an equaliser, striking the crossbar with a powerful drive.

Carlo Ancelotti's side have played two

games more than closest challengers Sevilla, who face Cadiz today.

Real dominated



the first half but only forced one save from Getafe goalkeeper David Soria, who did magnificently to tip Modric's long-range drive past the far post.

Real increased the pressure in the second half and went close to salvaging a point through Casemiro, but the midfielder's sweetly struck effort was palmed to safety by Soria.

Prior to this game, Getafe had failed to score in their previous six league meetings with Real, although they did hold them to a goalless draw in April last season.

Their most recent victory in this fixture came back in August 2012. Since then, Real have won 13 of the 15 meetings between the teams.

**THE WHITE PAPER**

with  
**Suleiman A Suleiman**  
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## On Amina of Zazzau, the film

In his *The Political Unconscious: Narrative as a Socially Symbolic Act* (1981), the American cultural critic, Fredric Jameson says that to understand a film, we must first begin by understanding its material history, that is, the history of its production. “Always historicize!”, he admonished.

What he means is that cultural texts like films, novels, art, and even newspaper stories do not tell us much by themselves because they benefit from the range of ideas and narratives prevailing at the time and place of their production. But the prevailing narratives themselves are deeply influenced by the prevailing politics and ideology of the time and place within which, Jameson continues, the author or producer of a text, the act of consumption (watching films, reading novels) and of production (writing, producing) are all intimately bound up, whether those involved are aware of this or not.

In this sense, Jameson concludes, all films—and cultural texts—are political; that is, they have a “political unconscious” which cultural analysis must pierce through to make sense of the text. For Jameson, then, the analyst must move from the text itself, a film say, to the context; that is, the historical, social and political environments of its production. It is only by laying bare the underlying tensions and contradictions between subjects and objects in the text and those in the context can society truly hope to reclaim itself or chart a new path forward.

The beauty of Jameson’s methodical approach to cultural analysis—his ideas weren’t entirely new even at the time—is that it can be applied not only to individual films, but also to whole genres, cinematic periods, and national and global cultural industries. Take the British film industry. Some of the most popular films in Britain of the past decade or so, both in terms of production and reception, have tended to be period dramas about old Kings, Queens, nobles, prime ministers and other national historical icons.

From the analytical perspective very briefly sketched here, we would say that this is not entirely a coincidence or just entertainment, but politics. For Britain as a diminished former Empire, national glory lies, not ahead, but in the past. Harking back into the past in such TV series as *Downton Abbey* also reflects an urge to reclaim an imagined national identity that no longer exists. The past in Britain is the only place where there are no Indians, no Africans or Caribbeans, and no Eastern Europeans. The gloried past is all-white and all-British, these films seem to be saying, a narrative that more recent period dramas like *Bridgerton* challenge. But the longing for this imagined past is at the very core of all Brexit politics in Britain today.

Much the same can be said of almost all American films of any genre, from cartoons to science fiction. American films are obsessed

with world dominance—the persistent national political ambition—in politics, economy and technology; by representing other peoples as “the enemy”, or “the bad guys” (think Russians, Chinese, Arabs, Muslims, but never NATO Europeans); and with pervasive, if now more subtle, racism against blacks. The medium of representation in Hollywood may be film or entertainment but the issues addressed are not only entirely political, but also political in the specific sense understood in Washington and other 50 state capitals.

The Nollywood industry, too, can be read holistically in this way. Religion and religious symbols are pervasive in our films not because religion guides or influences much individual and collective behaviour as prescribed, but because competition for religious space is the most intensely political activity in Nigeria today. We are ready then, I think, to apply this framework to an individual film, in this case, the Netflix 2021 film, *Amina*, based on the historical, perhaps even mythical, story

**What military strategies did she adopt to win her wars? How realistic and ground-breaking were these strategies in comparison to the prevailing military strategies of her time or today’s? What political manoeuvres did she have to make to capture and sustain power over such a long-time? What foods did her people eat, what goods did they trade in and exchange apart from slaves, and how did husbands and wives relate to each other in 16th century northern Nigeria?**

of Queen Amina, the famed female ruler of Zazzau during the 16th century.

The film tells the story of how a young Amina, together with her sister, Zaria, after whom the ancient city is now named, acquired military training, and of the political intrigues and wars that led to her father Barkwa Turunku’s assassination by poisoning and her own ascension to the throne following victory in a civil war. But from the point of view of our analytical framework so far, three things stand out in the film.

First, the film is heavy on slavery, with more than necessary scenes of slaves being sold, bought, and ‘brutalized’ as if it were a film about southern United States in the 18th century. For a film made in Nigeria by Nigerians, and partly funded by the federal government through the Bank of Industry’s Nollywood Fund, this is baffling, but not surprising. In fact, it is easy to trace the intellectual and ideological history of this thematic over-representation of in Amina,

and see where it is coming from.

Anyone familiar with the history of northern Nigeria, that is, the version of it written by the Europeans, which, unfortunately, remains the dominant but not necessarily the ‘correct’ or ‘true’ version, would have noticed that slavery is also a heavy theme in that history. The reason for this is not far-fetched. When the colonialists arrived in Africa, they told stories about themselves, and about Africans that served mainly to help legitimize the conquest itself: that they were here to open up trade, to end ‘corruption’ and internecine wars, to and bring civilization to peoples who still wore leaves and skins, and end ‘heathen’ practices such as the killing of twins, cannibalism, the burying of the living with dead kings, and so on.

The late Nigerian sociologist, Peter Ekeh calls all of these narrative politics of colonial conquest “colonial ideologies” because not all of them were true or true in the sense presented by the conquerors. In the specific case of northern Nigeria, however, most of these stories could not fly because the civilization they met on the ground was already well advanced, even if it looked to the east rather than the west. So, slavery was accentuated and over-emphasized as a major justification for colonial conquest.

Unfortunately, for a film that reportedly took 25 years to make, the producers of *Amina* have reinforced this narrative politics, rather than challenge it, the same way that Nollywood reinforces the idea that Africans barely wore clothes in our recent past and had no more than village politics, rather than empires and states of the Europeans, by repeatedly casting bare-chested men and women fighting over farmlands and village maidens in many of our historical Nollywood films on DSTV.

Happily, *Amina* did not suffer from this last bout of ignorant self-representation as, unlike many other historical Nollywood films, many of the non-slave characters are fully clothed. Yet, the story it tells is rather flimsy and inconsequential from a historical or feminist point of view. The primary focus on Amina’s ascension to the throne, rather than on her rule, which historically lasted over three decades is itself a serious indication of our general incompetence in story-telling. But even within the context of how she took power, the dialogue is generally lazy and unremarkable, and the rendition shoddy and predictable by an ensemble cast.

In the end, we watch a 105-minute-long film about a woman who, 500 years ago, broke a barrier no woman in the United States has yet matched today, without learning how politically and militarily savvy she was. What military strategies did she adopt to win her wars? How realistic and ground-breaking were these strategies in comparison to the prevailing military strategies of her time or today’s? What political manoeuvres did she have to make to capture and sustain power over such a long-time? What foods did her people eat, what goods did they trade in and exchange apart from slaves, and how did husbands and wives relate to each other in 16th century northern Nigeria?

You would expect a serious film about Amina to “retell” all of these things in vivid representational detail. But alas, we may have to wait a further 25 years to learn all these about our own past. Nevertheless, it is not too bad a start.

## SPORT REPORT

### Medvedev, Berrettini suffer shock ATP Cup defeats



■ Daniil Medvedev

Daniil Medvedev and Matteo Berrettini both slumped to shock defeats in their opening matches of the season at the ATP Cup yesterday, but there were no mistakes from Alexander Zverev.

US Open champion Medvedev is leading a Russian team in Sydney depleted by injuries and Covid-19 as they look to defend the teams title won against Italy last year.

But the world No 2, who captured four tour-level crowns in 2021, was stunned by impressive 35th-ranked Frenchman Ugo Humbert despite leading by a set and 3-0.

### Everton crash to pile pressure on Benitez



■ Rafael Benitez

Everton crashed to a 3-2 defeat against Brighton as pressure mounted on boss Rafael Benitez, while troubled Chelsea dropped Romelu Lukaku ahead of their crucial clash with Liverpool on Sunday.

Benitez’s side were booed off at Goodison Park after their dismal run extended to just one win in their last 12 league games.

Everton sit eight points above the relegation zone and Benitez will know results must improve quickly if he is to avoid increased talk of the sack.