

**Kidnappers seize NNPC manager, demand N100m ransom**



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**PDP govs meet tonight as NEC meets tomorrow**



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# HCS: Federal workers to get pay hike

By Habeeb I. Pindiga & Suleiman Bisalla

FEDERAL workers would soon begin to receive higher wages as government has approved salary increases for them and is also working out a new national minimum wage, Head of Civil Service of the Federation Mr. Steve Oronsaye has said.

Oronsaye, who spoke exclusively to *Daily Trust* in Abuja at the weekend, said the new pay structure would soon be communicated to labour unions.

"I am aware that the (labour) unions

are agitating (for pay rise). I am also aware that some increase has been approved for them," Oronsaye said without giving specifics as to the level of the pay rise. He hinted that the approved salary increases would be unveiled after the labour unions indicate their acceptance.

The Head of Service said a committee was working on a new minimum wage for workers. "The minimum wage is still being worked on. The minimum wage is different with salary increase and there is a committee working on it," he said.

Asked if government would respond to the agitations for salary increase by workers, Oronsaye said, "Salary increase is a function of what you have in the budget. However, my candid opinion is that the way we have addressed salary increase has not been perfect. It does not matter that you are in one particular industry; public servants' salary increase should be treated in a holistic manner because all of us buy in the same market."

"So if you increase for A by 100%, you increase for B by 90%, you increase for C by 80%, and the resources are coming from

treasury, it means that the time we address every person without taking your resources into consideration, a time will come when you will not be able to do for some. That is why agitations have always been there.

"I am aware that the unions are agitating. I am also aware that some increase has been approved for them. I do not know whether that has been communicated to them. If it has not been communicated it will be communicated, and I am hoping that if they accept, all well and good. If they don't, they

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PHOTO: AFP

A kimono-clad referee (centre) looks on as two babies held by student sumo wrestlers break into tears during the 'Baby-Cry Sumo' competition at Sensoji temple in Tokyo yesterday. Some 100 babies aged under one took part in the annual baby cry contest.

## Monguno to Jonathan: Abide by PDP zoning or quit

From Isa Umar Gusau, Maiduguri & Ruqayyah Yusuf Aliyu, Kano

ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan was a product of the Peoples Democratic Party's (PDP) rotational presidency arrangement and as such he should be a gentleman and abide by its zoning of power to the North in 2011 or he should summarily quit the party to contest on a different platform, elder statesman Shetima Ali Monguno said in Maiduguri yesterday.

Monguno spoke to *Daily Trust* at his residence in Maiduguri. He was commenting on indications that Dr. Jonathan might contest the elections against his party's decision to zone the presidency to the North in 2011 for another term of four years after the South, through former President Olusegun Obasanjo, ruled the country for eight years from 1999 to 2007.

The elder statesman, who was Federal Commissioner for Mines and

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# Nigeria under civilian dictatorship – Kukah

From Abdullahi Tasiu Abubakar, Yola

NIGERIA is still under a civilian dictatorship and its emergent one-party state status makes electoral fraud easier to perpetrate, the Vicar General of the Kaduna Archdiocese Reverend Father Mathew Kukah said at the weekend.

Speaking in Yola at a workshop on the role of non-governmental organisations and religious leaders in electoral process, Kukah also lamented what he called

Nigeria's tragic experience with governance.

"The story of our nation's experience with governance as a whole has been tragic. We have neither succeeded with democracy nor did we succeed with military rule," he said.

"Nigeria has since returned to civilian rule, but as we can see and we all know, what we have is at best a civilian dictatorship by other means. The overwhelming dominance of the landscape by one party has made electoral

malpractices easier to perpetrate. Our ugly experience in 2007 still haunts us," he added.

He further maintained that "greed and outright stealing of state resources has been the primary focus of those into whose hands the duties and responsibility of governing has been entrusted".

He said religious leaders and civil society groups could work together to ensure that credible leaders emerge as opposed to crooks who simply see politics

as a continuation of their shady businesses.

However, he warned that religious leaders must be careful on how they engage the system and even the NGOs. Some NGOs can be a force for evil depending on who their sponsors are and so leaders must be very careful, he said.

An Islamic cleric, Shay'kh Muhammad Bin Uthman, expressed sadness on the "lamentable realities" of Nigeria's politics that has been characterized by "thuggery, vendetta, crazy

thirst for power, plundering of public resources in the name of leadership, shameless manipulation and falsification of election results, (and) lack of self honour on the part of some of the election organisers."

Representatives of Governor Murtala Nyako of Adamawa State and Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Professor Maurice Iwu all spoke on the need to organise decent elections in the country next year.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



CAMPAIGN posters of Acting President Goodluck Jonathan on a street in Abuja on Saturday.

## IBB charges PDP to lead by example

From Nahimah Ajikanle, Lagos

FORMER military President, General Muhammad Babangida, has challenged the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on the crisis in its leadership, saying the party must allow the rule of law and internal democracy to reign.

Speaking to newsmen at the Presidential Lounge of the Murtala Muhammad Airport, Ikeja, Lagos yesterday, he said the PDP leaders must shun arbitrariness and ensure that due process is followed in its dealings.

According to him, the party should allow internal democracy to flourish, saying, "I recall that one of the elders of the party, Malam Adamu Ciroma and I did say that due process must be followed, therefore if some executives were brought in by the national convention of the party, the only people who could remove them is the same convention, and not by any other arrangement. It is not news, this thing is all over the world, political parties do have some of these problems but the ability to resolve it internally is what they should be preaching now, not party because going after party officials and this and that is not the solution to the problem."

"The PDP as a party must work by the rules, for I hope that whatever happens among them, they should allow due process to take place. I don't believe in the changing of chairman for the sake of chairmanship, and taking members out just like that. Due process must be followed in the handling issues," he added.

He noted that the PDP in the next 50 years is going to transform into a platform that gives room to people's freedom.

## I took over a failed state – Lamido

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

GOVERNOR Sule Lamido of Jigawa State has said that he took over nothing from his predecessor, Alhaji Ibrahim Saminu Turaki in May 2007 but a failed state with schools, hospitals and roads completely dilapidated.

"We inherited 44 ministries with the same number of com-

missioners scattered across the 27 local governments of the state. Our civil servants were collecting nothing but meal tickets because they were not justifying what they had been collecting as salaries," noted Lamido.

The governor spoke at the weekend at an interactive session with delegates of the Nigerian Governors' Forum Secretariat

who paid him a courtesy visit.

He said it took him sometime to restore the hopes of the citizens of the state that the era of redundancy was over in the state, saying now things had begun to change.

"To me, the electorate has honoured me by electing me into office, hence, whatever the present administration does to

them in terms of projects is not by chance, rather by necessity. My primary aim of coming as governor is to correct the past mistakes," he said.

Members who spoke described the governor as the best in educational reform, road construction and health. The forum however urged him to invest more in the education sector.

## Gunmen kill *The Nation* reporter

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

THE media industry in Lagos was again thrown into another round of mourning following Saturday's murder of *The Nation* newspaper's judicial corre-

spondent, Edo Sule Ugbagwu. Edo Sule Ugbagwu was shot dead in his apartment in Egbeda, a densely populated Lagos suburb by two gunmen at about 2pm.

"They were alleged to have demanded from those outside

the premises of the where about of the deceased. They opened fire on him as soon as they sighted him, killing him on the spot", witnesses said.

Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) Mr.

Frank Mba who confirmed the killing said the command had put a 24 hour surveillance on all criminal hideouts in Lagos aimed at apprehending the killers before they run away from Lagos.



FROM left: Honorary Doctorate Degree awardees Governor Gabriel Suswan of Benue State, Senate President David Mark and Mr. Tony Elumelu, GMD/CEO, UBA Plc. at the convocation ceremony of Benue State University, Makurdi, at the weekend.

## Kidnappers seize NNPC manager, demand N100m ransom

BY Hamisu Muhammad & Misbahu Bashir

A management staff of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Engineer Usman Mohammed was whisked away yesterday morning from his Abuja residence by some suspected kidnapers.

Mohammed is the General Manager, Material Management Department of the NNPC.

The kidnapers have already demanded N100 million as ransom, a family source told Daily Trust yesterday.

But the police in Abuja said they are not aware of the incident.

Spokesman of the FCT Police Command SP Mashood Jimoh said he has no knowledge of the incident, adding that: "I need some time to clarify."

Sources said the kidnapers dragged Engr Mohammed out of his house at about 2:00 am on Sunday and zoomed off adding that all efforts by his family to trace him proved abortive.

Engr. Mohammed returned to Nigeria recently from London where he served as a supervisor for the NNPC office in London.

Group General Manager, Public Affair Division of the NNPC, Dr Levi Ajuonuma, said the news of the kidnapping is very shocking. He said efforts to trace him are on by the management of the corporation. He said the corporation will make official statement on the matter when they are fully briefed on the situation.

# Nigeria, US to fight nuke proliferation

NIGERIA and the United States have agreed to work together to counter the spread of nuclear weapons, a senior US official said after a weekend meeting with acting President Goodluck Jonathan.

Undersecretary of state for political affairs William Burns met Jonathan late Saturday as the West leans on the UN Security Council - where Nigeria has a seat - to slap tougher sanctions on Iran over its nuclear programme.

"The United States and Nigeria are determined to live up to our responsibility on nuclear issues," Burns said after the meeting,

which he described as "excellent". Both nations would work together to "both reduce existing nuclear arsenal ... and work against the proliferation of nuclear weapons", he added.

They will also "look for ways in which we can increase cooperation on civilian nuclear energy", AFP quoted Burns as saying.

Burns met Jonathan on the same day that Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was in Kampala to lobby Uganda - the other African member of the Security Council - on the nuclear issue.

Iran has previously offered to

help Nigeria build a nuclear power plant.

Iran faces new sanctions after it refused a nuclear fuel supply deal which would have sent its low-enriched uranium to Russia and France for conversion into high-grade uranium and later returned for its nuclear energy needs.

Last weekend, Iran - which is defying previous UN demands to halt uranium enrichment, and which denies it is on a quest for a nuclear arsenal - said it would lobby all UN Security Council members against sanctions.

Jonathan met US President

Barack Obama a fortnight ago in Washington on his first foreign trip for an international summit on nuclear security.

Nigeria is the United States' biggest trading partner in sub-Saharan Africa, with about a half of Nigerian crude oil production crossing the Atlantic to the US market.

On April 5 the two countries announced a strategic partnership deal focusing on energy, regional security and good governance - the first time that the Obama administration has afforded such status to an African state.

## Jonathan lauds Obasanjo over Aso Villa Chapel

By Mohammed S. Shehu

ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan has commended former President Olusegun Obasanjo over the building of a chapel in the Aso Rock Presidential Villa where prayers could be offered for leaders.

Making reference to Apostle Paul in the scriptures, 1 Cor.3 V 6 "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow," Jonathan said Obasanjo planted

the seed and many watered and God has been blessing it.

Jonathan, according to a statement by his spokesman, Ima Niboro, said this during the 10th anniversary dinner and award night celebration of the Aso Villa Chapel in the State House Abuja.

He said the time has come when men and women should come together in prayers to help the present administration in tackling urgent matters affecting the country especially the issue

of good governance, peaceful co-existence, credible electoral system and combating corruption.

He observed that while the anniversary evokes memories of God's faithfulness to the peace and wellbeing of the country, it should also be a period of stock taking in areas of focus of government.

Speaking also at the occasion, Obasanjo in an emotion-laden voice went down memory lane on the conceptualisation and the

building of a befitting chapel in the presidential villa and said he was blessed and inspired while attending services there during his tenure.

Obasanjo was honoured for his singular effort towards the building of the villa. Governors Godswill Akpabio of Akwa Ibom, Rotimi Amechi of Rivers State, Ikedi Ohakim of Imo State, Adebayo Alao Akala of Oyo State, Martins Elechi of Ebonyi State, Theodore Orji of Abia State and

Garbriel Suswan of Benue State were also honoured.

Others were the pioneer chaplain of the chapel, Professor Yusufu Obaje, Rev William Okoye, Prof. Jerry Gana, Arch Bishop of Abuja John Onaiyekan and Pastor E.A. Adeboye of the Redeemed Christian Church of God.

A book, titled: "The National Altar" a compendium of the history and activities of the Aso villa chapel was presented at the occasion.

## Ali handed over N281.8m to Ogbulafor — PDP

By Maideen Olaniji

THE current national leadership of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) yesterday explained that Dr Amadu Ali-led National Working Commit-

tee (NWC) handed over a total N281,887,273.96 to it.

The rebuttal followed comments made by former PDP national Organizing Secretary Alhaji Dahiru Umar, who said that out of the N4 billion gener-

ated from the sale of nomination forms in 2007 by the party, N1 billion was deposited into the PDP Building Development Fund for the building of the National Secretariat with little information on the remaining N3 billion.

Reacting to the claims, PDP National Publicity Secretary Prof. Rufai Ahmed Alkali described the comments as unfortunate, regrettable and baseless.

Alkali said the total amount of money handed over to the

present NWC in March 2008 was only N281,887,273.96 and wondered "where Alhaji Dahiru got his facts and why he chose the illegal platform provided by a shadowy group to propagate this falsehood."

# Organised labour vows to tackle 'corrupt judiciary'

By Francis Okeke

NIGERIA Labour Congress (NLC) and the Trade Union Congress (TUC) yesterday said their next step in the struggle to create a better Nigeria is tackling the judiciary which they blamed for thwarting the fight against corruption.

The unions stated this during a joint press briefing on a pre-May Day public lecture that will hold in Abuja on April 29 with the theme

"50 years of Nationhood; Challenges of Good Governance, Unity and Credible Elections."

The pre May Day lecture will be delivered by the Vice Chancellor of Bayero University, Kano Prof. Attahiru Jega. Senator Uche Chukwumerije, Dr. K. Agary and Comrade Paschal Bafyau will be panel discussants.

Abuja TUC chapter Chairman Comrade Aliyu Musa said "We know we have good and credible judges in this country and we also

know we have some rotten ones in the judiciary as well. We intend to take our next struggle to the gates of the judicial institutions in this country if what we are seeing today in our efforts to combat corruption in our system is not averted.

"We have seen some ridiculous judgments being given by the judicial arm and by some particular individuals within the judiciary system. We are going to come out against this people publicly and we are going to name and shame them

publicly as well."

He said "we are also sending a serious warning to the judicial arm of government that we are not going to allow what is going on now or the sense that they are immune to what we are doing. We are going to get to them at the right time. We shall not fold our arms and see efforts being made to eliminate corrupt practices in this country and the judiciary is not playing its role."

Meanwhile, the unions also

stated that workers should expect good news as a new minimum wage may be announced by the presidents of two unions at the May Day rally to be held at the Eagles Square, Abuja on Saturday, May 1.

The Joint May Day Implementation Committee led by its Chairman and Deputy President of the NLC, Comrade Promise Adewusi said that negotiations have been concluded on the issue of the new national minimum wage.



COMMANDANT, National Defence College Rear Admiral GJ Jonah cutting the tape to commission two new blocks of flats for senior staff of the College in Gwarimpa, Abuja. Those with him include (from left) AVM Walter Oeujiofor, College Secretary, Malam Jibiru Abdullahi, Special Assistant, Senate Committee on Defence/Army.

## ANPP wants substantive power minister

By Abbas Jimoh

THE All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) has urged Acting President Goodluck Jonathan to immediately appoint a competent technocrat as a substantive Minister of Power.

National publicity secretary of the party Emma Eneukwu said yesterday in Abuja that if the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) led federal government can be sincere, at least for once, they can attest to the fact that they are very incompetent to provide several essential amenities to Nigerians including electricity.

He said that Jonathan's approach to rescue his party by combining his office with overseeing the Ministry of Power cannot yield any meaningful result but rather worsen the situation, the way it played out during former President Olusegun Obasanjo's regime who combined Petroleum Ministry with his office and the nation suffered incessant fuel crisis, even when he had a vice president.

"The position of our party is that the Acting President Goodluck Jonathan should vacate his position as Minister for Power and appoint a credible professional Nigerian as the substantive Minister for the Ministry of Power without further delay," Eneukwu said.

While advising Jonathan to look beyond party affiliation in the appointment, he said that Jonathan presently has lots of accumulated and unexecuted jobs and with no Vice President to assist him, combining the power ministry may lead to further embarrassing situation for the country.

The ANPP also asked Jonathan to take a bold step to identify the forces undermining effective distribution of power as part of his war against corruption.

## Ex-NDLEA boss Lafaji knows fate on Friday

By Adelanwa Bamgboye

A Lagos High Court will on Friday April 30, 2010, deliver judgment in a suit filed by the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) against the former Chairman of National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Bello Lafaji, and his personal assistant, Usman Amali. The trial Judge, Justice Olusola Williams (Mrs.) gave the date to the parties after both the prosecuting counsel Bolaji Ayorinde (SAN) and the defence lawyer Taiwo Oshipitan (SAN) adopted their written addresses.

Lafaji and Amali are being prosecuted by the ICPC on seven-count charge of alleged corrupt enrichment. The ICPC alleged that the accused had in November 2005 conspired to unlawfully receive 164,300 euro from one Ikenna Onochie, a suspect with the NDLEA, being exhibit seized from the suspect in order to release him and his vehicles from custody. The accused were also said to have conspired to use their offices to confer corrupt advantage upon themselves, contrary to Sections 26 and 19 of the ICPC Act, 2000. While adopting his written address, defence counsel, Professor Taiwo Oshipitan (SAN) urged

the court to discharge and acquit the two accused person for lack of evidence adding that the prosecution built its case on mere suspicion. "The whole case of the prosecution is based on suspicion but our criminal law has moved beyond suspicion. When there is doubt in the mind of the court, then the case should be resolved in favour of the defence," he submitted. In his submissions, Prosecuting counsel, Bolaji Ayorinde (SAN), described the suit as a classical case of corruption and manipulation of the system by the accused persons. He further submitted that the facts of the case pointed to only one conclusion, which is the guilt of the accused persons.

Ayorinde said Onochie was arrested with properties including 164, 300 euro was seized from him. Immediately after the arrest, the web of interference became operational. He said Lafaji called a meeting in his house, disbanded Special Task Force operations for no just reason and set aside all guidelines for bail. "It is a conspiracy hatched and followed at the meeting held at Lafaji's house", he submitted.

Ayorinde urged the court to hold that there is enough circumstantial evidence to convict the two accused.

## 'How Africa can overcome economic recession'

By Aisha Umar Agaie

MINISTER of State for Commerce and Industry Josephine Tapgun has said that Africa can surmount the threats of the recession if it can diversify and exploit the available natural potentials the continent is endowed with.

The minister said this at a ministerial meeting on West Africa Common Industrial Policy (WACIP) over the weekend in Abuja.

She said West Africa faces greater challenges today than ever because of slow growth rate and limited response to global economic down-turn.

"A robust industrial sector holds the key to our economic transformation and sustainable development. We must exploit our resources and produce them for local consumption and export, add value to our numerous agricultural produce and earth resources and remain competitive, to overcome the global recession," she said.

She said "There is need to underscore the desirability of putting in place practical measures that would lead us to achieve real milestones in addressing each and every issue related to rapid industrial development and growth in Africa in line with the policy and strategic direction already defined by our policy makers".

PHOTO: FELIX ONIGBINDE



FROM left: Special Adviser to the Gombe State Governor on MDG, Alhaji Shehu Ibrahim Madugu, Gombe State Commissioner for Health, Dr. Mohammed Isa Umar and Special Adviser to the state governor on Special Duties, Saidu Umar, displaying the award presented to the state governor by the Nigeria Medical Association in Abuja on Friday.

## PDP govts meet today as NEC meets tomorrow

By Abbas Jimoh

PDP governors will meet today in Abuja ahead of tomorrow's National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting of the party.

The meeting, slated to commence by 10 pm at the Kwara State Governor's lodge is expected to be attended by the 28 PDP governors in the country.

Though agenda for the meeting has not been made public, there are feelers that the governors may be meeting to take a common stand on the crisis rocking the ruling PDP.

The NEC meeting has been severally postponed due to the non-approval by Acting President Goodluck Jonathan of the proposal of the National Working Committee (NWC).

The NEC meeting is expected to approve guidelines for the party's primaries for the 2011 general elections and which Jonathan was reportedly wary of since it might make it impossible for him to contest the presidency, based on PDP's zoning formula that has zoned presidency to the North.

The PDP Reform Forum, whose members have been suspended, has been campaigning for the sack of Ogbulafor. But the 28 PDP governors are said to be backing the Ogbulafor led national leadership of the party.

## Federal workers to get pay hike

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can then come to the negotiation table. But by and large, it's important that wherever you work you should be happy. If you are not happy, if your stomach is empty, you will have problems."

Oronsaye also defended the tenure system introduced last year for top federal civil servants, saying the policy was successful as it has boosted the morale of workers and improved service delivery. "I will say it (tenure system) has served the purpose. Today, morale is high in service; the service has been completely ventilated. Vacancies have been created; peo-

ple are being trained," he said.

He said the eight-year limit for directors and permanent secretaries was introduced after considering the service career chart, in which "one should put up a minimum of 27 years to become a deputy director...by the time you spend 27 years and you are a deputy director, you have eight years to go."

The head of service said the policy has also checked stagnation and favouritism in the service. "We had a service where we had people who had put in 14 years in one position, at one level. We also had permanent secretaries who had put in 10 to 12 years and still

had 6 years to go," he said.

"In fact there is a particular case I keep citing, about someone who graduated in Law in 1975 and was called to the Bar in 1976. But as I speak to you now, the fellow is still a deputy director. Then someone who graduated in Law in 1987 from the same university with that fellow, called to the Bar in 1988, had become a director since 1995. So what do you say to that? It is injustice," he added.

On the legality of the tenure policy given that it run contrary to existing civil service rules, Oronsaye said, "Civil service rules are not enacted upon; they are dynamic and that is why you

continue to make rules and regulations as situations demand... The only time that it will be illegal is when it is enacted upon so that until you change the law you cannot change the rules. That being the case, what we did was perfectly right. But those who feel it is wrong should go to the law courts."

He said his main preoccupation up till the time he retires in November this year would be training of civil servants and performance management. He said, "Tenure without performance management is nothing. You must tie performance management to how you assess officers."

## Anti-Bankole reps change tack

By Muideen Olaniyi

SOME disgruntled members of the House of Representatives working to bring the era of Speaker Dimeji Bankole to an end have concluded plans to present a motion for the probe of the Speaker over his alleged involvement in the N5.2 billion power contract, it was learnt yesterday.

However, the Chairman of House Committee on Media and Public Affairs Rep Esemey Eyibo said those legislators making such move would fail in their bid to rock the bolt of the House.

The proposed motion expected to be moved tomorrow titled "In the matter of the abuse of members' privileges, breach of trust, non-adherence to known legislative practices and customs as well as gross abuse of office" read in parts: "Speaker Bankole was part and parcel of the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) contract scam which centred on the questionable award and payment for contracts worth billions of naira." The group will then call for the setting up of a committee to investigate the role played by the Speaker in the said scam.

There are speculations that Dimeji Bankole is being targeted by the reps who see him as a threat to acting President Goodluck Jonathan to become substantive president.

## Monguno to Jonathan: Abide by PDP zoning or quit

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[which included Petroleum] under General Yakubu Gowon's administration, said should Jonathan insist on contesting the elections in disregard of the power rotation arrangement, he would throw the country into chaos and create distrust amongst different regions and overheat the polity. He also said he expects the Acting President and all those with presidential ambitions to pursue their cause with some morality and sympathy to the ailing President, Umaru Musa Yar'adua.

"At least, he (the acting President) belongs to the PDP. The party brought him to become the Vice President through rotational arrangement by zoning that seat to the South. I understand that the PDP has already taken a decision and announced the zoning of the position of President to the North in 2011. He should either accept his party's decision or look for an alternative elsewhere. I personally think he should abide by what his party decides, follow the party or quit the party; it's just a matter of principle. If you belong to a party and the party says this, accept it; if you don't accept it, you are a rebel, you quit and look for a greener pasture. Parties and party leaders should go by their parties' gentlemen's agreement. It is expected from a gentleman to respect and

abide by what his party has agreed upon." Shettima Monguno also said "reason, logic and common sense should prevail in the conduct of every adult" and it was for that reason that regardless of geo-political divides, Jonathan was supported to become the Acting President.

He said any attempt by the Acting President to contest the 2011 against the zoning principle of the PDP will not augur well for the polity. "I am afraid if he insists on standing for the Presidency against the wishes of his party, there will be all sorts of confusion, a lot of confusion, a lot of mistrust, a lot also of questions. I am sure there will be more questions than answers. My humble opinion is 'Mr. Acting President, you are a member of the PDP and your party says it has zoned the Presidency elsewhere in 2011, so abide by it'."

Shettima Monguno also said power rotation is a good political option for Nigeria's nascent democracy because the system gives hope and opportunity for diverse groups to partake in the management of public affairs so that one group will not hijack political power entirely. He recalled that back in his days in the defunct NPN, there were lots of zoning arrangements for different political offices from the party's leadership to other offices and the zonings were regarded as gentlemen's agreements which were respected by all party members.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



STUDENTS demonstrating in front of EFCC office in Abuja on Friday, urging it to follow rule of law in the case of ex-governor James Ibori

## Hajj: Saudi govt introduces 49-seater bus

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

SAUDI Arabia is set to introduce a 49-seater bus to ease transportation during Hajj operations before the completion of its rail project, spokesperson of the National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) Uba Mana has said.

Mana said the issue dominated its North West Zonal meeting yesterday in Sokoto, adding that the Hajj Commission is sending seven representatives to Saudi Arabia for training on the new arrangement.

He said from the report received from Saudi Arabia, a 49-seater bus would be introduced to convey pilgrims to their tents in Muna and Arafat.

Mana said there might not be the movement of any official cars in this year's Hajj exercise as no other vehicle would be allowed to operate

during operations.

"The introduction of 49-seater buses would help in solving the problem of transportation during the Hajj exercises between Mecca, Musdalifa and Arafat. There would be a bus leader in each bus, and the bus would take them direct to a particular tent," he said.

Sometime last year in February, Saudi government signed a billion-pound contract with China to build a railway for Muslim pilgrims in Saudi Arabia.

A 230mph rail link between Mecca and Medina will cut the four to five hour-long car journey between Islam's two holiest cities to just half an hour.

The project, according to reports, would cost Saudi Arabia about £1.2 billion and expected to be completed by 2013. While the five rail systems linking Hajj locations, Mecca, Mina, and the Hill of Arafat would cost £3.6 billion.

## Tourism institute trains travel journalists

By Mohammed S. Shehu

THE National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism (NIHO-TOUR) has ended a one-week training workshop for tourism writers and journalists in Kano. The training course, which took place at the Rock Castle Hotel in Tiga, Kano State, was attended by tourism writers and journalists from across the country.

Minister of Tourism, Culture and National Orientation Abubakar Sadiq Mohammed, while speaking at the opening ceremony, said the training exercise was meant to broaden the knowledge and scope of tourism writers and journalists in order to enhance professional practices.

"More so, both the Nigeria Tourism Development Master Plan and the Vision 20: 2020 have provided the desired roadmap

to achieve these goals.

However, the development of the industry in Nigeria cannot be successfully undertaken without a thorough operational knowledge of the sector. Hence, your responsibilities as tourism writers and journalists of educating and keeping all and sundry abreast with developments with reference to facts and figures will be difficult without training and retraining such as this," he said.

Earlier, the Director General of the institute Munzali Dantata advised participants to strive to rebuild the industry which he said has enormous potentials to drive the nation's economy.

He said the training was in line with mandate of the institute to provide training and manpower development for the hospitality and tourism industry with a view to achieving a well-trained workforce and high standard service delivery.

# Ogbulafor: Why we suspended Masari, Nnamani, others

By Muideen Olaniyi

NATIONAL Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Prince Vincent Ogbulafor has shed more light into the reasons why the party suspended 19 key political figures, including former Senate President Ken Nnamani and former House of Representatives Speaker Aminu Bello Masari.

Ogbulafor said the disciplinary committee would determine whether they should be expelled or not in line with PDP Constitution, adding that the party had to take such decision to guard against indiscipline among members.

The embattled PDP National Chairman also said the suspension matter would be discussed during tomorrow's National Executive

Committee (NEC) meeting of the party.

He said: "It is the same people that are saying the party needs reform, that the party is a toothless bull dog. So, we have to show that the party exists and the party has a constitution."

On whether those suspended would be expelled, he said, "No. I don't know. It depends on the decision of the chairman of Disciplinary Committee. The constitution is there. It stipulates what should be done. I cannot sit here and dictate."

He said the decision to suspend Nnamani, Masari and others was not hasty because they were invited them and it was published in the papers.

"After all, if the courts want to serve you, they can publish it in the papers. That is assumed to be service."

## FG to make second payment of monetisation

By Francis Okeke

THE Federal Government has concluded arrangements for the payment of the second and final payments to beneficiaries whose claims were verified and who received part payment last year.

A press release signed by the spokesman of the office of the Secretary to the Federal Government (OSFG) Salisu Na'inna Dambatta said the conclusion of arrangement is in line with the decision of government to pay arrears

of monetised fringe benefits of staff of Federal Government parastatals and agencies funded under the Federal budget.

The statement added that "agencies whose claims were earlier verified and part-payment made to beneficiaries in the first batch are hereby urged update the bank account details of such staff with the view to eliminating shortcomings and ensuring smooth payments."

The statement said the update should include beneficiaries who are yet to receive their first payments due to errors in their bank details.

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## Doma inspects rural roads

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

NASARAWA State Governor Aliyu Akwe Doma Friday inspected some rural roads in the local government areas and development areas adjoining Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) with the plan to open the links and ease commuters' hardship.

The governor who led members of the State Executive Council (SEC) on his ongoing "Meet the People Tour," was on the collapsed Karshi-Takalafiya Road which is part of the 300 kilometres of roads outlined for rehabilitation this year. Works and Transport sub sector has the highest budgetary allocation of N11.7billion. Doma was also on Gitata-Panda-Karu Road which construction project is almost reaching completion. This road will provide a link between the northern part of the state and the FCT upon completion.

The governor did not say when the road would be completed but he had promised late last year that all ongoing projects, especially rural roads, would be completed within the first half of 2010. The governor said he was impressed with both quality and progress on the road, calling it "the best in the state". Both traditional rulers and the people of Panda and adjoining communities commended Doma for the ongoing road, urging him to spur up the contractor for early completion.

The governor also named the construction of multipurpose Primary Healthcare Clinics; provision of boreholes in several communities; rehabilitation of school infrastructures; provision of agricultural inputs and loans to farmers; and support to the Zimbabwe farmers for the promotion of large scale agricultural enterprises as some of the programmes his administration is pursuing the area.

## Kogi monarch charges FG on electoral reform

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

THE Federal Government has been urged to pay serious attention to the issue of electoral reform to guarantee free and fair elections next year.

The call was made Saturday by a traditional ruler, the Ohimege of Koton-Karfe, Alhaji Shuaibu Mamman Lafiya, at the occasion of his 40th anniversary on the throne. The monarch said it was only genuine electoral reform that would restore the lost confidence of the electorate in the leadership of the country.

The celebrant, who attributed his achievements to the mercy of God and the support of his subjects, commended the present administration in the state for according the traditional institution its deserved recognition and support. The highlight of the ceremony was the conferment of traditional titles on some eminent personalities including the Secretary to the Kogi State Government Alhaji Musa Ahmadu.



ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan (right) presenting a plaque to former President Olusegun Obasanjo during the 10th Anniversary of Aso Villa Chapel at the State House, Abuja, at the weekend.

# Presidency: No chance for recycled leaders - Shekarau

From Ibrahim Chonoko, London

GOVERNOR Ibrahim Shekarau of Kano State has said that the current political climate in Nigeria has no place for 'recycled' leaders.

In an interview with the Daily Trust in London, Shekarau said the wind blowing for (political) change would not accommodate the "old brigade" who have had their time but still want to come back.

"Some people feel that the nation cannot afford any alternative", he said, pointing out that it was a challenge for the younger generation to ensure that those past leaders

did not return to the political arena as leaders.

"I am optimistic that Nigerians will not listen to the old brigade, old stories and old styles of handling government, especially when you are talking of military administration", he stressed.

"We want a total democratic process" but not a return to the past, he added.

On the seeming disunity among opposition parties in their effort to wrestle power from the ruling PDP in 2011, the governor said it was not unusual for politicians to have disagreements as they compare notes and assess the political situation in the country.

He expressed optimism that as soon as

the electoral reforms were sorted out by the National Assembly, the parties would be compelled to come together to assess the situation and provide an alternative.

He said Nigerians have had "enough of the deceits, inconsistencies and misgovernance" of the party in government, describing the current political discussions going on in the country as "quite healthy and very likely to produce a better alternative for Nigeria".

Governor Shekarau warned of the consequences of overburdened leadership if the current political arrangement that saw Goodluck Jonathan emerge as Acting President lingers on for too long.

## Group to seek redress over suspension from PDP

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

THE PDP reform Forum will challenge the recent suspension of some of its 19 leaders by the National Working Committee (NWC) because the action violates laid down procedures and the party's constitution, Alhaji Namadi Musa, the Secretary of the forum's strategy committee said in Kaduna yesterday.

In an interview with *Daily Trust*, Namadi said the forum would first explore all party channels, including the Board of Trustees, in order to seek redress. If the forum does not get justice, members would head for the court, he added.

According to him, the "Issue of the non appearance of Masari, Nnamani and co before the working committee should have

been taken to the disciplinary committee. The committee should have sat down, looked at the issue and if need be, write a warning letter to our leaders." Namadi said suspension could only be handed down after three of such letters have been issued and ignored, according to PDP constitution.

The secretary of the strategy committee also said the term "indefinite suspension" which was given to some members of the group was alien to the party's constitution. He said the NWC wanted to just embarrass their leaders, and that was why they suspended them without following the laid down procedure.

Namadi said although Masari and Co were not properly invited to appear before the NWC as most of them just read of the invitation on

the pages of the newspapers, they nonetheless asked to be given a new date because the date that they were asked to appear before the national executive clashed with the meeting of the Reform Group. However, the party refused their requests but went ahead to suspend members of their group, he noted.

According to Namadi, the Reform Group is not after removing Prince Vincent Ogbu-lafor from office, adding that there is a misconception about its aims and objectives. He said that the group wants to effect changes in PDP constitution in order to make it autonomous from government. Namadi recalled the arrangement in the second republic where the party was supreme and the national chairman of the ruling party could summon even the president to his office.

## Scrap dealer sues Speaker over land

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

A Keffi-based scrap dealer, Alhaji Ibrahim Hussaini, has sued the Speaker of the Keffi Local Government legislature in Nasarawa State, Yusuf Mohammed, at the Chief Magistrate's Court over an alleged trespass.

The businessman's counsel, Barrister Abel Samuel, who wrote the court seeking a writ of summons to be served on the Speaker, is seeking redress on "criminal trespass, mischief, criminal intimidation, use of abusive/insulting language and defamation of character punishable under sections 348, 372, 397, 399 and 392 of the Penal Code."

A welder, Ocutukwu Eze, who is using a portion of the land for his venture, joined as second complainant against the Speaker who resides in the Kofar Goriya area of Keffi. The piece of land is opposite St. Peter's Primary School along Keffi-Nasarawa Road.

The Speaker is alleged to have twice visited a plot of land belonging to the first complainant which the complainant has used for his scrap business for five years, and forced him from it, using dozens of thugs who harassed and intimidated the occupants off it.

The complainant's application before the court also alleges that the Speaker and his thugs descended on the occupants, destroying their

wares and other property while also calling them thieves. Alhaji Hussaini told Daily Trust at the weekend that he resorted to court action after he had exhausted all areas of dialogue including series of meetings held by the local government council at the instance of the Keffi chairman, Engr. Mohammed Idrisi Mohammed. He displayed documents supporting ownership of the land, and wondered why a highly placed officer of the council would use thugs instead of legal means to collect the land from him, if he (speaker) was the owner. But the speaker who spoke to Daily Trust on phone yesterday denied that he grabbed the land from Hussaini by any means including intimidation.

# 150 arrested over FCT minister's Bauchi visit

By Nasir Imam

About 150 youths were on Saturday arrested by the Bauchi State Police Command over an alleged breach of peace resulting from a visit by the FCT Minister

Sen. Bala Mohammed to the three senatorial districts in the state.

The youths disrupted traffic flow from the tarmac of the Bauchi airport and police and other security agents had to use tear gas to disperse the crowd that

followed the minister's convoy on foot and motorcycles. The minister, who confirmed the arrest to *Daily Trust* said the state government also refused his request to use the state's stadium, but added that no amount of chicanery or

treachery could suppress the will of the people as clearly demonstrated in the tumultuous welcome he received.

According to him, the state governor, Alh. Isa Yuguda, was not on hand to receive him

because he was out of town. Sen. Bala Mohammed, who paid a courtesy call on the Emir of Bauchi Alhaji Suleiman Adamu, before addressing a rally also paid a courtesy call on the emirs of Katagum, Dass and Jama'are.



From left: Priest in-charge of Catholic Church of Transfiguration Victoria Garden City (VGC) Parish, Rev. Father Francis Anyanwu, Cardinal Olubunmi Okogie, Dean for Lekki Deanery, Monsignor Prof. Francis Ogunmodede, and Vice Chairman of Church Council of the Church, Chief Tony Idigbe, during the 2010 visit to the Deanery at Lekki, Ajah, Lagos.

PIC: OLADIPUPO ODUNEWU

## Agencies battle polio in Zamfara

From Sadeeq Aliyu, Gusau

BASED on findings by health experts that there is a high prevalence of polio mellitus in Gusau Local Government Area of Zamfara State, the state's Ministry of Health in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF and the Partnership for Reviving Routine Immunization in Northern Nigeria [PRRINN] has embarked on a campaign to eradicate the scourge.

The state's Programmes Officer for PRRINN, Hajiya Salma Mijinyawa, who spoke during a film show for women from the skills acquisition centre said traditional rulers and religious leaders were also being sensitised on preventive measures.

## Mark assures on Jos crises culprits

From Nahimah Ajikanle Nuru-deen, Lagos

SENATE President David Mark has said that the Senate would ensure that those behind the crises in Jos are brought to book.

SPEAKING with journalists at the Murtala Muhammad Airport, Lagos, yesterday while returning to Abuja, Mark said the Senate would sup-

port the Federal Government on the implementation of recommendations made by elders in the state and northern governors.

"Northern governors have met and they have some discussed with the governor of Plateau State and the elders have also made their contributions.

I think we will find a solution to crises in the state soon", he said.

The Senate President however refused to comment on calls for the removal of the INEC Chairman Prof Maurice Iwu, saying he was not in a position to say if he should be sacked or not.

"What is the problem with Iwu, you should tell me.

I am a politician, I can't judge," he added.

## PDP lauds confab's action on Edo Speaker

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

THE Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Edo State has commended the Conference of Speakers of Houses of Assembly for turning back the Speaker of the Edo State House of Assembly Bright Omokhodion from its meeting in Makurdi, Benue State.

The Speakers did not allow the Edo State Speaker to attend the meeting on the ground that his election as Speaker was illegal.

Confirming the incident, the Edo Speaker said he was prevented from attending the meeting on the ground that his election was still a subject of litigation. The PDP in Edo State in a statement signed by its Director of Publicity, Okharedia Ihimekpen, commended the Speakers for the action.

"Bright Omokhodion, you would recall forcefully and with the tacit support of the Action Congress (AC) led government with less than the two third required, tried to take over the speakership of the Edo House of Assembly," the statement said.

The statement said after their failed attempt, the former Speaker Zakawanu Garba adjourned sitting, adding, "But to our surprise, Omokhodion has continued to hold AC meetings in the Assembly complex surrounded by AC thugs. As far as the PDP in Edo is concerned, Zakawanu Garba remains the Speaker".

Meanwhile, the PDP in Edo State has continued with its state wide tour under the leadership of the party chairman, Chief Dan Orbih. The tour has taken party executives and supporters to Fugar, Igarra, and Agenebode, all in Edo North area of the state.

## ...Crises offends sense of decency, justice – ACF

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

THE cycle of killings in Jos and its environs is very disturbing and it offends the senses of common decency and justice, the Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) has said.

THE forum in a statement by its National Publicity Secretary, Mr. Anthony

Sani, said Plateau is not the only state to experience ethno-religious crises, but that others were able to overcome theirs.

"Remember the Holocaust, heaps of skulls in Colombia, fields of graves in Bosnia and Rwanda as a result of power and the notion that, "My religion is better than your own" or 'My tribe is superior to

yours" yet these communities have reconciled.

They are a living testimony to what true reconciliation from genuine forgiveness can do.

That should tell the people of Jos and environs that reconciliation, forgiveness and peaceful co-existence are possible.

The responsibility of overcoming the differ-

ences which divide the people lies on the leaders, be it religious, ethnic or political.

The people must know that only peaceful co-existence can enable them to face their challenges.

God or Allah is never neutral on evil and good. The people of Jos and environs cannot redefine evil," the forum said.



PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

FROM right: Former Minister of Women Affairs, Obong Rita Akpan; Minister of Women Affairs, Mrs. Josephine Anenih and Chairman, Senate Committee on Women Affairs and Youth Development, Senator Ene Ekaette during the minister's interactive forum with the past ministers in Abuja on Friday.

## 'FG to focus on partnerships not patronage'

By Aisha Umar Agaie

MINISTER of Foreign Affairs Odein Ajumogobia said Nigeria will focus on building strategic political economic and social relationships that will foster partnerships, collaboration and cooperation rather than patronage and aid.

He said: "As foreign minister, the mantle that falls on me and my state minister is to evaluate existing policies and create new priorities to meet the dynamics of our strategic national interest and priorities."

The minister made the statement during a briefing with the diplomatic corps at Transcorp Hilton Hotel in Abuja.

He said the purpose of the briefing is to formally meet diplomats in Nigeria as official representatives of their various governments and set the tone and a broad framework for future consultations. Ajumogobia said he will continue with the policies of his predecessor Chief Ojo Maduekwe to ensure that Nigeria occupies its rightful position in the comity of nations.

Acting dean of the diplomatic corps and the ambassador of Congo Marie Louise Kombe said the corps has some difficulties in Nigeria which include security, electricity, protocol and land matter but we will not like to discuss it now until our next meeting.

# Balarabe Musa asks opposition to exploit PDP crisis

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

THE leadership crisis rocking the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP) presents a great opportunity for the opposition parties to strategize again and wrestle power in 2011, National Chairman of Conference of Nigeria Political Party (CNPP) Alhaji Balarabe Musa said yesterday.

Speaking on phone to Daily Trust the former Kaduna State governor said the crisis

has again exposed PDP to Nigerians and the world at large, adding that the political party is populated by politicians with self-serving motives.

He said now would have been the perfect moment for opposition political parties to takeover power but for the fact that the opposition itself is in disarray.

Musa said Acting President Goodluck Jonathan has not shown any commitment to reforming the electoral system for a credible

election despite the promise he made when he visited United State of America.

He also said that nothing good would come out from Jonathan's administration with regard to electoral reform.

The PDP Reform Forum has accused its national chairman Prince Vincent Ogbulafor of 'ineptitude and corruption' and asked him to quite office. But the National working Committee of the party had suspended the 19 members of the reform forum.

## Stakeholders urged to promote respect for copyright

By Sunday Williams

DIRECTOR General of Nigerian Copyright Commission Adembo Adewopo has called on development partners and communities to join efforts in promoting respect for copyright and place premium on books as catalyst for social, economic and cultural development.

In a goodwill message on the World Book and Copyright Day, the director general said the theme of this year's celebration: 'Towards a viable sustainable book culture,' acknowledges the role of books as a vehicle for boosting human knowledge.

He said the commission is also facilitating an ongoing process of amendment of the Nigerian Copyright Act in a bid to address and improve on existing regime of protection of copyright in the digital world.

He called on all stakeholders in the copyright industry to collaborate at various levels towards creating a viable environment for a sustainable development of the book industry.

Adewopo called on authors and copyright owners to take advantage of the scheme to notify the commission of the existence and particulars of copyright ownership of their works.

## Iwuanyanwu tells Ogbulafor not to resign

By Muideen Olaniyi

FORMER presidential aspirant on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Chief Emmanuel Iwuanyanwu has warned the party's National Chairman Prince Vincent Ogbulafor against the option of resigning his position as a result of the ongoing intimidation from some party members.

Speaking with newsmen in Abuja, Iwuanyanwu accused Igbo politicians of being behind the plots to oust Ogbulafor and the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Professor

Muarice Iwu.

He said the Igbo leaders would not support any other Igbo man that would take Ogbulafor's place, adding that the current plots were for selfish motives.

"Igbos continue to shout that we are marginalised but at every stage, they continue to destroy themselves.

"Look at what happened when Igbos were given the Senate President. Evan Ewenrem came there and he left, Chuba Okadigbo, Adolphus Wabara and you know, within a period, over five senators came to that position.

"Today, Senate Presidency is zoned to North Central and David Mark has been there and there is no vicious attack on him by his people. The South West has got the Speaker of the House of Representatives and there is no vicious attack on him by his people.

"People talk about reform; the constitution of the PDP has made adequate provision on what people should do to carry out reform. You don't have to set up a parallel body in PDP to have reform. The question of reform does not make any sense. If you have reform to make, go ahead," Chief Iwuanyanwu added.

## Minister seeks support of past women leaders

By Akor Ojoma

MINISTER of Women Affairs and Social Development Iyom Josephine Anenih said the ministry needs the support of both its past and present leaders to improve the lives of women and other vulnerable members of the society.

Mrs Anenih made the call at a special interactive forum for former ministers, past and present permanent secretaries of the ministry, directors general of the National Centre for Women Development, Presidents

of the National Council for Women Societies among others in Abuja.

She said the interactive forum is for both past and serving leaders of the ministry to share experiences, to recruit the past leaders into a compulsory partnership with the ministry and to appreciate and celebrate their contributions to the sustenance of the ministry and the welfare of Nigerian women, children and persons with disabilities.

"The ministry must build on the gains you secured, and is inviting you all to become partners and channels of advocacy as we con-

tinue to work towards a better future for every Nigerian woman, child and disadvantaged person," she said.

Permanent secretary of the ministry Alhaji Idris Kuta said the platform was also an avenue to discuss emerging issues on women and social development, gender advocacy, child development, disability matters, and other issues related to the ministry's mandate.

Senator Eme Ufot Ekaete advised the women leaders to imbibe the culture of lobbying the national assembly for its initiatives as it is important for democracy.

# Hunger forces suspect to accept charges

From Ahmed Mohammed, Jos

HUNGER forced one of the nine suspects arraigned before the Federal High Court in Jos to accept charges against him by the prosecution counsel on Friday during the trial of suspects in the Dogo Na Hauwa village raid that led to the death of over 100 people in March 2010.

Prosecution counsel, Mr Makama, had read the charges

against the suspect and when the judge asked him after it was translated to him in Hausa he pleaded guilty.

The defence counsel, Ahmed Garba, raised an objection and the suspect later changed his plea to not guilty, saying he was confused because he was taken to court without break fast.

The judge, Justice Binta Bala Aliyu, then asked all the suspects if they were hungry and

they answered in the affirmative. The judge then ordered the prosecution counsel to provide food for them.

After the breakfast, they were charged with unlawful assembly, conspiracy and possession of illegal fire arms which is contrary to Section 15(2) of the Economic Financial Crimes Commission Act 2004 punishable under the same law.

Speaking to newsmen, a prosecution counsel, Mr E. Ochepe, said the suspects take their break fast between 8:30am and 9:00am while in police custody but that they were brought to the court before their breakfast was ready that day.

All the nine suspects pleaded not guilty and the presiding judge adjourned the case to May 27, 2010.

## Shema denies going after Yar'adua loyalists

From Lawal Ibrahim, Katsina

GOVERNOR Ibrahim Shema of Katsina State has denied dissolving the state's working committee of the PDP to chase ailing President Umaru Musa Yar'adua's loyalists and take full control of the party in the state. Shema who was addressing party supporters during the state congress in Katsina yesterday blamed the sacked exco and their accomplices of using Yar'adua's name to cause confusion and further their selfish interest.

He said his administration acted on the constitution of the party which provides for two terms of four years each to dissolve the EXCO whom he said have been in the office since 2001.

He pointed out that every member of the party in Katsina, including himself, was President Yar'adua's supporter and therefore urged people to ignore those whom he said were bent on causing confusion within the party.

## FG to review Damaturu-Biu road contract

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

THE Federal Government is to review the contract for the repair of the 130 kilometer highway between Damaturu in Yobe State and Biu in Borno State which was awarded by Federal Roads Maintenance Agency (FERMA) because of the failure of the contractors to make progress.

Minister of Works Senator Mohammed Sanusi Daggash who stated this in Damaturu yesterday said the road was strategic because it links many major towns in Yobe, Borno and Adamawa States, adding that its deplorable state had been affecting the people.

"What is necessary to be

done will be done because the road is of great importance to us", the minister said. The Damaturu-Biu road which was constructed in the 1970s was left in serious condition of disrepair, a development which makes the less than two hour journey very difficult for motorists.

He said following a request by the Yobe State government, his ministry was looking at the possibility of creating a by-pass of about 25 km in Damaturu for the dual carriage way just like what obtains in Jama'are, Bauchi State and Wudil in Kano State. The Maiduguri-Kano road contract was awarded by former President Olusegun Obasanjo at the cost of N180 billion.



MR. Adegunle Adeosun, Executive Director, Commercial and Retail Banking South, Union Bank of Nigeria. Plc (2nd left) presenting car keys to Mr. Aderibigbe James Adebayo, customer, Agodi branch, winner at the Ibadan regional draw. With them are Mrs. Taiwo Ige and Mr. Wale Okunade Agodi.

PIC: OLADIPUPO ODUNEWU

## LG provides solar-powered boreholes

From Abdulfatai Abdulsalami, Sokoto

ALHAJI Mohammed Babba, the Chairman of Tambuwal Local Government Area of Sokoto State says his administration has awarded contracts for the construction of 10 solar-powered projects in 10 wards in the area.

Babba told newsmen in

Tambuwal at the weekend during a tour of projects that N 40 million had since been paid to all the contractors while the projects were expected to be completed in six months.

He said the local government had so far committed over N47 million to the construction of 55 hand-dug wells across the 10 wards of the area and that several hand pumps were also con-

verted to motorized ones while over 30 concrete wells were also provided for the people.

"This gesture is aimed at providing adequate potable water for the people of the local government as it is always said water is life while if you provide clean water for the people you have solved more than half of their health problems", he said.

He said assorted drugs

worth over N12.7 million were bought for free distribution to the people of the area. This gesture he explained, was part of efforts to complement the free medical care programme of the state government.

He said the local government had earmarked about N20 million for the construction of 6 kilometers of road in Tambuwal.

## Bauchi NBA protests hike in fees

From Muhammad Abubakar, Bauchi

THE Bauchi State chapter of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) has condemned the recent hike in filing charges by the state judiciary, saying due process was not followed and that it had already gone to court to challenge the new hike.

The state NBA Chairman Barrister Mathias Tsuwa told newsmen that the association received a letter from the Chief Registrar of the Bauchi State High Court conveying the new legal regime on filing fees signed into law by the Chief Judge of the state.

"Upon careful perusal of the reviewed filing fees we discovered that it is the highest in the whole country and indeed the entire West Africa because by the said new regime of filing fees an unprecedented 5 percent was imposed for any monetary claim in the High Court while two per cent was imposed for the Magistrates Court", he said.

He said what the hike meant was that poor litigants in the state cannot demand high compensation as they may not be able to pay the new fee.

Reacting to the development, the Bauchi State Chief Judge Justice Suleiman Darazo urged the NBA to be patient as the judiciary had written to it on the matter and that he had promised to look into it. The Chief Judge who was speaking through the Chief Registrar Aliyu Baba Usman said, "It came to us as a surprise that they are taking the matter to court."

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## Kebbe LG spends N287m on dev projects

From Abdulfatai Abdulsalam, Sokoto

KEBBE Local Government Area of Sokoto State has embarked on development projects worth N287million, the chairman, Alhaji Bala Kokani, said at the weekend.

According to the chairman, 40 per cent of the amount has since been paid to the contractors as mobilisation fees. Alhaji Kokani said in Kebbe during a monitoring tour of projects across the state that the projects include 10 solar powered boreholes to be sunk with about N 100.74 million to be located in Dukura, Gaddace, Guru, Tungar-Lambo, Kuchi, Gurundi, Indare, Tune, Faku and Runtuya-Yamma. Kokani also stated that about N99.07 million

was set aside for the construction of 10 upgraded dispensaries in Sangi, Arusaya, Gadace, Karma, Nasagudu, Ungushi, Umbutu, Faku, Dukura and Girkau.

Similarly, 10 mosques are being built with over N20.6 million in Kuchi, Sabla, Mazoji, Kunkuru, Sadau, Illela, Sabon-Garin Arusaya, Yarruda, Ungushi and Asara. Kokani further announced that contracts worth over N15.9 million were awarded for the construction of 10 Islamiya schools at Sabon-Gari, Kuchi, Margai, Kebbe, Rafin-Gora and Girkau.

In the same vein, over N 42.1 million out of the amount is being committed to the building of five Juma'at Mosques at Nasagudu, Sabon-Birni, Zugu, Murtunu and Umbutu.

# Police ban hawking along Riyom/ K Vom way

From Mahmud Lalo, Jos

THE Plateau State Police Command has banned hawking along the Riyom and K Vom Railway crossing in the state. Police Public Relations Officer ASP Muhammed Lerama said in

a statement that, "There is a total ban on hawking along the K Vom and Riyom axis of the express".

He added that already, law enforcement agents had been instructed to arrest anyone caught flouting the order. The statement also

commended the Presidential Advisory Committee on peace on the Plateau for its visit to Jos last week.

Lerama said Riyom Local Government chairman and nine others were helping the police in its investigation of the incident that occurred

on April 18, 2010 at Tahoss in Riyom Local Government Area. The statement also asked the traditional ruler of the community, ward heads and youths leaders in the area to report to the Criminal Investigation Department of the command in Jos.

## Sokoto NBA members disown letter

From Abdulfatai Abdulsalam, Sokoto

SIXTEEN members of the Nigeria Bar Association (NBA) in Sokoto State have dissociated themselves from a letter written to its national president by the chapter's vice chairman and secretary and reportedly published in a national daily of March 31, 2010. The members in a statement in Sokoto at the weekend said, "The attention of the undersigned members of the NBA, Sokoto branch has been drawn to the above mentioned subject matter published in the Daily Trust Newspaper of March 31 2010 on page 3 titled Re : Sokoto NBA tackles Akeredolu over comment on CJNI; a rejoinder".

They maintained that at the meeting of the association held on March 27, 2010, the branch did not deliberate on the views purportedly attributed to the national president of the NBA.

## Poor leadership inhibits youth dev-Wali

From Ruqayyah Yusuf Aliyu, Kano

RETIRED Justice of the Supreme Court and Chairman of the Kano State Law Committee Justice Bashir Wali has attributed youth unemployment and restiveness to the inability of Nigerian leaders to effectively harness the human and material resources since the country gained independence.

Justice Wali was speaking at a dinner hosted by graduating students of Mas-

ters in Business and Commercial Law (MBCL), class 2008/2009 of Bayero University Kano on Saturday. He said it was unfortunate that Nigerian leaders had failed to utilize the youths in order to achieve development objectives.

He said, "To harness our human resources primarily entails building human capacity especially the youths in the form of knowledge and skills which are necessary in all spheres of attaining a sustainable development. Additionally,

the rest of the unskilled population need be channeled and effectively utilized in areas such as agriculture and other unskilled jobs".

He said the problems with Nigerian youths emerged when the country abandoned agriculture where the teeming unskilled youths could be utilized and the country's economy boosted with the discovery of crude oil.

He further said that resulted in the increasing rate of unemployment and restiveness among youths.

The retired Justice also attributed the problem of unemployment and restiveness among Nigerian youths on the political instability and failed socio-economic politics faced by the country since independence.

Also speaking, the Dean, Faculty of Law, Bayero University Kano, Dr Aminu Kabir urged the grandaunts to utilize the knowledge they acquired during the study by way of ensuring that justice and fairness prevails in whatever they do.

## Niger orders ministries to absorb corps members

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE Niger State government has made it mandatory for all ministries and parastatals in the state to absorb members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) posted to them for their primary assignments.

In a statement yesterday, the Secretary to the State Government Dr. Muhammed Kuta Yahaya said the state government had to step into matter because rejection of corps members was on the increase. "The Niger State government will not condone indiscriminate rejection of corps members by MDAs as the present administration led by Dr Muazu Babangida Aliyu has put every machinery in place to ensure the welfare of corps members in the state," he said.

## Peace must return to Plateau - Tapgun

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

MINISTER of State for Commerce and Industry Ms Josephine Tapgun at the weekend said peace must return to Plateau State.

The minister, who was on a visit to the state expressed concern over the violence in the state, saying people of the state must learn to live in peace with one another.

Tapgun also visited the state governor, Jonah Jang, the Gbong Gwong Jos Da

Gyang Buba, as well as Christian and Muslim leaders in the state.

The minister stated at every point that peace was an essential ingredient for development and that all hands must be on deck to return the state to its former status as the home of peace and tourism.

She told stakeholders that the Acting President was desirous of a better life for the people, but that it could only be achieved in an atmosphere of peace. She

urged the people to unite and support the current administration towards achieving its objectives. She also called on them to support her as the representative of the state in the federal cabinet.

The stakeholders in their separate responses told the minister that they had no doubt that she would give a good account of herself. They urged her to stay focussed and assured her that the problem in Plateau was only a phase which will soon pass.

## Foundation gives N200m free drugs to haemophilia patients

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

THE Haemophilia Foundation of Nigeria (HFN) has distributed drugs worth N200 million to persons suffering from Haemophilia in the country free, the President of the foundation, Mrs. Megan Buckie Adediran has disclosed. Speaking during this year's World Haemophilia Day celebration in Kaduna, she said the drugs were distributed through the Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital, the Lagos State University teaching Hospital, the Uni-

versity of Ibadan teaching Hospital, the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital and the National Hospital, Abuja.

"In the past five years, we have distributed drugs worth N200 million to patients in the country, but it is still not enough. Our new strategy as a body is to provide treatment for all those suffering from haemophilia," she said.

To this effect, she said the foundation intends to have a comprehensive national patient registry of all those suffering from haemophilia in the country.

According to her, the number of persons living with haemophilia is about 10,000.

"Patients, family members as well as those treating them need to know and take advantage of the power of unity. We need to come together as a community," she said.

**"In the past five years, we have distributed drugs worth N200 million to patients in the country"**

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results are also encouraged to apply provided the results would be available by the time of matriculation.

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In all these cases, candidates must also satisfy the requirements for matriculation viz: five credit passes at the GCE/WAEC SSCE/NECO SSCE/NABTEB Certificate examinations

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1. Igbinedion University, Okada
2. IUO Liaison Office at No. 69, Airport Road, Benin City, Edo State, Tel: 052-254942
3. Admissions Office: Igbinedion Education Centre, 218/220 Murtala Mohammed Way, P.O. Box 24, Benin City, Edo State, Tel: 052-258766
4. 187, Adeleke Adedoyin Street, Victoria Island Lagos, Tel: 01-2621376.
5. Intercontinental Bank Branches throughout the country
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7. Zenith Bank Branches throughout the country
8. Alvana Model Secondary School, Owerri - Onitsha Road, Owerri, Imo State
9. Bereton Montessori Primary School, Plot 270 Stadium Road, G.R.A. Phase IV, Port Harcourt Tel: 084-239839, 571578; 08068737968
10. Hussey College, 2 (Senior); Upper Erejuwa Street, Warri, Delta State
11. Government Secondary School, Garki, Abuja
12. International School, ISI, University of Ibadan
13. El-Amin Int. High School, Minna (Near NECO Headquarters)
14. Oyemekun Grammar School Akure
15. Barrister Tony Onyia, No 7c Murtala Mohammed Way, Kano, Tel 08037861029
16. Sea-dust (Nig) Ltd. 2A Coronation Crescent, Opposite Lugard Hall, Kaduna, Tel: 08023511624; 062-373707
17. Katsina Education Trust Fund, No. 2 Gobarau Road, Gobarau Quarters, Katsina
18. Blessed Osas School, 200 Bama Road (Behind UMTH), Maiduguri. Tel: 08036380952
19. For overseas candidates, forms can be obtained from: Mrs. S. Jutla, The Secretary 72, Winton Road,

Hampstead Garden Suburb,  
London N20TX  
Telephone: +44-208-458-1417.

#### SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS

Completed application forms must be accompanied with Photostat copies of academic certificates/statements of results, birth certificate and certificate of Local Government Area of origin. All applications are to be addressed to:

**The Registrar**  
Igbinedion University, Okada  
P.M.B. 0006

Benin City  
Edo State, Nigeria

Applicants are encouraged to send completed forms to the Registrar Igbinedion University or bring them along to the screening centres.

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Candidates who choose to apply online should log on to the Igbinedion University's website, [www.iuokada.edu.ng](http://www.iuokada.edu.ng), click on the Online Application Tab, complete and submit the online form, and make a printout of the successfully completed application confirmation page. The confirmation page which MUST carry a Registration Number should be enclosed in an envelope along with a certified bank draft of N6,500 drawn on any reputable bank made payable to Igbinedion University Okada for handling fees and other charges, and forwarded in person or by courier to:

**The Registrar**  
Igbinedion University, Okada  
P.M.B. 0006

Benin City  
Edo State, Nigeria

**Please note that any confirmation page without a Registration Number will not be processed**

Any applicant who experiences difficulties with online application should please call Mr. Harry Omorogbe on 08037170685, Admissions Officer on 07032924219, or the PRO on 08078286940

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Screening of applicants will take place in the following centres on **Saturday July 17, 2010** (candidates are to report at the (preferred) screening centres closest to them)

**Benin City:** Igbinedion Education Centre (IEC) 218/220 Murtala Mohammed Way, Benin City, Edo State, Tel: 052-258766; **Lagos** (Sunnyside Group of Schools, 3 Tinubu Road, Ilupeju Estate, Palmgrove Lagos); **Port Harcourt** (Bereton Montessori Primary School, Plot 270 Stadium Road, G.R.A. Phase IV, Port Harcourt); **Abuja** (Government Secondary School, Garki, Abuja)

**Time:** 10 am

Candidates who chose Igbinedion University, Okada as their first and second choice JAMB (UMTE) should also attend the screening exercise.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE UNIVERSITY OPENS FOR THE 2010/2011 ACADEMIC SESSION ON 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2010.**

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Mr. Edwin O. Okoro  
Registrar



# Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON [www.dailytrust.com](http://www.dailytrust.com)



## FG denies \$1 bn loan as Jonathan signs 2010 budget

OUR prayers are that they execute even 80% of the budget since they don't care about us.

What baffles me much about this country is that our politicians, despite been the least

active, are the most paid and yet they never care about the poor.

I think their bonuses are enough for them so let them kindly execute the budget

please.  
**Usman Ahmed Danbaba**  
[danbaba1986@yahoo.com](mailto:danbaba1986@yahoo.com)

## PDP suspends Masari, Odili, Nnamani



**AMINU Bello Masari**

BUT all those that have been mentioned are very prominent people who Nigerians have great respect for. Why are they now trying to pull everything apart? I will consider this as a mistake because they are all human. I am appealing to the party's leaders to call them back and settle their individual differences.

**Abubakar Chika Maru**  
[abubakarsuleiman2009@yahoo.com](mailto:abubakarsuleiman2009@yahoo.com)



**DR. Peter Odili**

It is a great development for the party. I am happy for them, we anticipate more of this so that all the few ideological once in the PDP will be eliminated and the party left for those that can't handle anything. PDP has failed Nigerians and that is what the PDP reform forum is trying to point out.

**Usman Ahmed Danbaba**



**KEN Nnamani**

...Jonathan in action. PDP Reform Forum, attempts at the removal Ogbulafor and Bankole...replacing them with loyalists... An agenda is being unfolded.

**Umar Masari**  
[masari31@yahoo.com](mailto:masari31@yahoo.com)

The confusion in the PDP is a good thing. But our prayer is for an earthquake to hit at the very heart of the PDP and for a tsunami to sweep away into the abyss, anyone who survives the quake! The PDP has become a behemoth, a dragon threatening to consume us all. May the PDP scatter like the builders of the Tower of Babel into the four corners of the wind without trace!

**Pita**  
[justpita@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:justpita@yahoo.co.uk)

I think with the likes of Nnamani, Okorochoas and Masari, I am of the opinion that their agenda will not favor those that don't want this country to move forward. However, they should let the public know the fundamental aim of their forum so that Nigerian's can fathom why they were suspended.

**Steve Tim**  
[gudmanstevetmi@yahoo.ca](mailto:gudmanstevetmi@yahoo.ca)



**ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan**

## Jonathan gets President's allowances

GOOD thought! It's only appropriate to give him the President's allowance. But if that means denying the president his allowances, then RMAFC and National Assembly should take a careful look. It's a way of encouraging the Acting President.

**Okpukpan**  
[nnynok@yahoo.com](mailto:nnynok@yahoo.com)

## Northern govs tell Plateau: Put aside indigenes, settlers

ENOUGH is enough. Let this be the last meeting for the resolution of Jos crises. Any re-occurrence should attract the imposition of a state of emergency to bring an end to the lingering crises and killing of innocent people.

**Yakubu Jikamshi**  
[jikamshi@yahoo.com](mailto:jikamshi@yahoo.com)

Meetings would not end Jos crises but action. How many such meetings have been held in futility?

**Isa Mariri**  
[isamariri@yahoo.com](mailto:isamariri@yahoo.com)

The governors are not serious. The situation in Jos is beyond rhet-

oric. Since the crisis in Jos started which of the governors has cared to visit the victims? Meeting without implementation of the resolutions is equal to a waste of time and energy. It is motion without movement. Everybody knows the truth and that is to punish all those identified to be behind the crisis from either side. Unless such is done, a solution to the crisis will be a mirage. I am aware of a state which tried and convicted a murder suspect within 4 months, but in the case of Jos almost 8 years after the committal of an offence, yet no one has so far been convicted.

**Lamara Garba Azare**  
[lamaragarba@yahoo.com](mailto:lamaragarba@yahoo.com)

## Military discovers more corpses from Riyom highway attack

WHO is a Northerner? Why is religion a key factor? What good has religion done to Arewa? Peace will forever elude Northern Nigeria until the issue of religion is addressed holistically. Who will inherit the land when we are all dead?

**Ningi**  
[ngreespit8@yahoo.com](mailto:ngreespit8@yahoo.com)

While I support the hanging of the Berom youths who stopped passengers on the road and killed them, I also would state that those caught in the killing at Nahawa village to be tried in a state court. They committed the crime

against the state and not the FG. Knowing the antecedents of our courts, once a case is taking to a federal high court, it will become brotherhood issue and justice will not be met. This will generate accumulated grievances and others would commit more murders because of delayed justice.

**Mustafa Ali**  
[mustafaa@yahoo.com](mailto:mustafaa@yahoo.com)

I pray that no more bloodshed should be experienced in Jos and proper punishment should be given to every guilty hand.

**Deyire Y Umar**  
[deyireumar@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:deyireumar@yahoo.co.uk)

## Alleged fraud: Ogbulafor to be arraigned on Monday

OGBULAFOR should resign immediately. A man who holds such a position of trust should realize that by hanging on, he is dragging his party into the mud.

**Ephraim Osazuwa**  
[ephyosa@yahoo.com](mailto:ephyosa@yahoo.com)

This is very disgraceful indeed. The PDP seeking to present itself to the people once again for leadership of the country is embroiled in a crisis of monumental significance. If any organization has a law that prevents its members from exercising the freedom to express a contrary view to what they are doing, then it has no cause to survive. Ogbulafor will eventually find that he has dug his own grave and fast tracked the implosion in the PDP. He should first go and absolve himself from the corrupt charges of yester years before seeking to lead. Jonathan himself must show determination to clean the stable. The Reformists should now stand firm and let this country self-cleanse.

**Merem Emeribe**



**PDP National Chairman Vincent Ogbulafor**

[emeokoro@yahoo.com](mailto:emeokoro@yahoo.com)

From the events unfolding, 2011 may turn out to be tough.

**Hassan Sabo**  
[hsaboj@yahoo.com](mailto:hsaboj@yahoo.com)

Only Allah knows the truth and those behind the scenes. Why is that most of our leaders are always characterized by corruption? May almighty Allah give us leaders who put their people first.

**Jamilu Mohammed**  
[danjani1@yahoo.com](mailto:danjani1@yahoo.com)

## I didn't revoke FCT plots - Minister

THERE'S nothing wrong in revoking the allocations that did not conform to due process. Allocations that are questionable in approach and show elements of favoring the elites should be screened thor-

oughly. Any allocation that satisfies laid down processes should be unencumbered. Let us bring sanity to the system please.

**Okpukpan**  
[nnynok@yahoo.com](mailto:nnynok@yahoo.com)

## 19 die in Niger auto crash

SINCE our planes are not safe and our federal roads are death traps, we are begging the federal government to bring back the trains because they are safer.

**Abubkr Badru Jkamshi**  
[damurna@yahoo.com](mailto:damurna@yahoo.com)

The root cause of all this is nothing but bad roads. The government has do something about this if truly they are good leaders

**Zayyan Umar Kamba**  
[zayyanzakiiyya@yahoo.com](mailto:zayyanzakiiyya@yahoo.com)

## FG to stop funding medical treatment abroad

TALKING is not the answer... doing it is actually what Nigerians are waiting to see.

**Chukwudozie Duru**  
[chidoduru@yahoo.com](mailto:chidoduru@yahoo.com)

This is a very good move by President Jonathan. Those people who love taking medical treatment abroad should bear the costs themselves. Good move.....

**Babajide**  
[sirjide4real@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sirjide4real@yahoo.co.uk)

This is a step in the right direction. This will benefit all Nigerians and not the few privileged people that have been enjoying this. I wish our Acting President success and good luck in his drive to save Nigeria from ruin.

**Lawrence Ayodele**  
[pastorayodele@landmarkstars.com](mailto:pastorayodele@landmarkstars.com)

## Rimi: The beginning of the end (II): Who succeeds him?

Who becomes the next successor (*Khalifa*) to the late Abubakar Rimi who died of a heart failure as a result of an armed robbery attack on April 3rd, is the one million naira and most asked question in Kano today among his followers; much more than who becomes the next governor of the state. Take it or leave it, this is the Rimi enigma! This is a question that will continue to be asked, especially among his supporters and admirers yearning for a genuine, reliable, inspiring, charismatic, defensible and committed democratic leader who will continue with the struggle against oppression, subjugation and poverty.

But before we try and answer this question, it is imperative to understand who Rimi was and what he stood for all his life. Whoever emerges as his *Khalifa*, must have some good qualities like those of Rimi in order to enjoy the confidence of the followers. From the testimonies of his supporters and commentators alike, Rimi was a very sincere and courageous person who always frankly spoke his mind in whatever he believed in. He was very outspoken and a one-man army to whatever cause he was championing. He therefore became the voice of the voiceless in pursuit of justice and defender of the defenceless in the struggle for the redemption of the masses. He was

In fact, he missed being robbed with Rimi by whiskers as he left him in Bauchi to rush to Kano to attend a rally at his constituency the following day

a devoted and consistently consistent leader fighting for the welfare and dignity of the people honestly and a patriot par excellence. His ideology obviously was anchored on the philosophy of the late Malam Aminu Kano of blessed memory and NEPU's "democratic humanism" (a socialist rooted ideology but coloured with deep Islamic orientation). Because he joined NEPU at a very tender age, he imbibed its philosophy, values and radicalism.

Ordinarily, the undisputed *Khalifa* would have been Sule Lamido, the Jigawa state governor who followed Rimi for several years and thoroughly imbibed the ideological, radical and rhetoric of the PRP where he was its National Youth Leader. That is why no governor in Nigeria talks of the *talakawa* (peasants) but him! He was a devoted follower of the Imam up to 1999 when Rimi singlehandedly nominated him to succeed him as the Chairman of the Nigerian Agricultural and Co-operative Bank (NACB) when he was appointed minister of Communications by General Sani Abacha. Similarly, when he declined the offer to be made Minister of Foreign Affairs by President Olusegun Obasanjo and the president requested him to recommend someone to replace him, he recommended Sule Lamido without any hesitation. Lamido was then Rimi's alter ego without doubt. But their relationship went sour when Lamido shifted

## Ujudud Shariff

ujushariff@dailytrust.com

his loyalty to Obasanjo and ditched Rimi. This state of affairs lasted until a few years ago when they somehow reconciled. As it was not a secret to the followers, Lamido was and in fact still is seen as a traitor and somebody who betrayed Rimi and aligned with his greatest political enemy. It is therefore almost impossible to the devoted faithful to ever trust Lamido as the perception following him is following Obasanjo!

Hence, with no anointed *Khalifa* to keep the movement intact, the most probable outcome is that the factionalization of the followers is almost a certainty. Because there is no functional structure in the Rimi's camp of the PDP, it is very hard to keep the group together. And unfortunately because he never anointed anybody as his successor as Malam Aminu Kano proclaimed him as his *Khalifa*, it is thus very difficult for anyone to be so recognized as one.

The nearest one can go to recognize anybody is Usman Sule Riruwai, who was the AC governorship candidate in the 2007 elections in Kano State. Somehow since after the elections, he became the closest person to Rimi like his shadow. They travelled almost everywhere within the country and he accompanied and represented the Imam to most social functions. In fact, he missed being robbed with Rimi by whiskers as he left him in Bauchi to rush to Kano to attend a rally at his constituency the following day. The simple fact that he was the closest to Rimi and he accompanied him almost everywhere, and he has some of Rimi's attributes, he stands a very good chance of being so accepted by the supporters. Another person that also stands a good chance is Hon. Muktar Abdulrazaq Gora, a former member of House of Representatives and an unquestionable loyalist to the core of several decades standing. There are also other potential successors around who were with Rimi at one time or the other but now in other political parties as the major criterion is adherence to the ideology (AKIDA) of change. But sentiments aside, we are also realists in this realm of politics. As they say, if it is not Rimi, it is not Rimi! Our best hope is to keep and nurture his ideals in the struggle to redeem the masses in whatever capacity one finds himself or herself. Rimi era is gone like his mentor, Malam Aminu Kano, but their memories are forever. We cannot even mention any of his eight children as the probable *Khalifa*. As leadership of a political movement is not hereditary, none stands a chance at least for now.

We will end this discourse by appealing to both the Federal and Kano state Governments to immortalize Rimi by naming some public institutions after him for his illustrious contributions to the fatherland. Though dead, his ideas and philosophy of change will remain forever; we will surely miss him but on second thought, we thank God for saving him from witnessing another electoral mess, scandals, and uncertainties that the 2011 elections portend for Nigeria.

Shariff is a disciple of Rimi



By Chinedum Odenyi

## Yar'adua, emotion and the constitution

Since November 23, 2009 when President Umaru Musa Yar'adua disappeared from public radar on account of acute pericarditis, a lot of water has passed under the bridge. There has been the leadership vacuum created by his sudden sequestration and the emotive reactions that largely attended the situation. It created a cauldron that threatened to careen towards a political crisis, throwing up a series of demonstrations and civil reactions. It even cast a shadow at the door-steps of the military, evoking the now-receding images of forceful take-overs.

The behaviour of soldiers in neighbouring Niger Republic within the period, who threw away a recalcitrant President Tandja became ominous and echoed through the security structure in Nigeria. There has been the disunity within the Executive Council of the Federation instigating a still-born memorandum Dora Akunyili was to present to the Council.

While some of her colleagues considered it upstart and a craving for heroism at the expense of her boss, others saluted it as the patriotic dénouement of a gathering storm. When the National Assembly, goaded by leaders across the spectrum of life in Nigeria, pulled a rat out of a hat by the invocation of a doctrine of necessity principle to break the logjam, and vest Vice President Goodluck Jonathan with presidential powers, albeit in acting capacity, Michel Aondoakaa, the much-vilified Attorney General of

It even cast a shadow at the door-steps of the military, evoking the now-receding images of forceful take-overs

the Federation, expectedly was the first victim of the unravelling of the conundrum. He was confined to a no portfolio Department in the Executive branch.

The volcanic ash is settling. Jonathan has settled into the presidential seat, and acting or not, the cabinet of President Yar'adua has become a footnote in history. Nigeria is breathing again.

The train is moving again, but there still remains one matter unresolved: what to do about a too-sick-to-return-to-office Yar'adua. His present condition, physiologically and politically, cannot be sustained. The ruse to continue to keep him in the Presidential villa, like an apparition, does not do justice to the man's legacy, nor does it dignify his family pedigree and so long as it lasts, lends Nigeria out as an effeminate country, incapable of

decisions, incapable of separating impassioned state matters from the family wishes.

Yayale Ahmed, the Secretary to the Federal Government gave inkling when he said, on why the Federal Executive Council did not invoke Section 144 of the Constitution to declare the President incapacitated, that the Council was treating Yar'adua with sympathy. That seems to be the official position: do not impeach or remove a sick man just because he got sick while performing his official duties; the Acting president is in the saddle, the engines of state business are humming again; if the family prefers that their paterfamilias be kept in a ghoulish state in the villa, question that not. Former Minister of Finance and Chairman of Yar'adua Campaign Organisation in 2007, Adamu Ciroma would not understand the heck about removing the man from office when his powers have been vested in some other person.

But that is exactly where Dr. Ciroma and Alhaji Yayale miss or get the point. Action Congress National Publicity Secretary, the voluble Lai Mohammed said emotion should not be allowed to becloud the constitution in resolving the quagmire Yar'adua's illness has become. I agree.

Section 144 could not have found itself in the Constitution if it did not envisage that our common mortality will catch up with a President of this Country some day and he gives in to that ever-present reminder of our mortality: ill-health. When that happens, it is not for us to question God why he brought the illness upon us. It is for us to try what we can to remove the illness and where we cannot, accept it as one of those manifestations of our human imperfections and move on.

It is dangerous to continue to treat the situation with sympathy. Presidential office is not an inheritance. The occupier knows that someday he would leave, on his own feet, or on some other persons' hands. President Yar'adua, a fine man, has succumbed to the debilitation of the human body, which he himself knew would come, given his medical history.

It is therefore time for the Executive Council to request the Senate President to constitute a five-man Medical panel to determine the capacity of our President to continue in office.

Emotion is only good in public service to inspire a people, not to be ruled by it for such feelings do not have any formula for application. The emotional approach, as we are seeing now, does nobody no good; not Nigeria, not Yar'adua, not Jonathan, not the populace whose lives have been on the pause button, not the political class whose chattering seems to further exacerbate the confusion.

Odenyi wrote from Wuse II, Abuja.



By Daniel Nyam Gwash-Gombe

## House helps, or child abuse?

Some people call them house aides while others know them as house helps. Both, although called differently, mean one thing except distinguished through sex hence male is referred to as House Boy and female is House Girl. What is critical and universally condemned worldwide now is the evil associated with the practice. The beneficiaries of services of this class of youth are the elite. The practice was inherited from our colonial masters. They introduced the house servant job as a means of establishing a superiority status, which they claimed to enjoy in the Nigerian society as colonial officials.

The system has continued to flourish several years after the departure of the colonialists. The same Western world is fighting assiduously to do away with the practice in their countries; and in others with which they are in adversarial relationship. Although concerted efforts are being taken towards the eradication of the evil practice through country-to-country coordinated campaigns, Jos, Plateau State appears notorious in encouraging the ugly practice and unwilling to abandon it. Among activities which families of the elite class engage these boys and girls, whose ages are usually between 14 and 25, include cooking, washing, running of errands, and bathing of children and a host of other menial engagements. Newly introduced to these chores is the act of drafting them to poultry, grinding of pepper and guinea-corn, maize, millet and others.

Apart from low salary, as paltry as 2,000 naira or 3,000 naira per month, the servant, as it is popularly called but which their employers feel uncomfortable to admit, resume work as early as 6.00.A.M and would close as late as 8.00 P.M. Most of them trek long distances to and from their respective homes. They leave home when the day is still dark and would return under the same situation, weak, exhausted and exploited too.

They have just one day to spend with members of their respective families and it is Sunday. Most if not all are school dropouts whose parents could not afford to pay for their education. They claim to be contributing to the up-keep of their families. They are in thousands and completely without hope for education and see themselves as unlucky members of the Nigerian society whose aspirations and hope are already terminated.

This is mindful of the fact that children that they keep are of their ages and pressuring their education while their own education is completely ruined both them and their kin would perpetually remain as slaves to the educated and influential in the society.

Development and future of their respective communities is being ruined too and made hopeless. This is a generation that has found itself existing under severe doldrums and to whom all about Nigeria is a mirage and game of fairy tales. These innocent but deprived boys and girls are also exposed to dangers. Many of them lost their lives in the circled violence of Jos while some of them are being assaulted sexually either by their masters or their close relations. This has been going on silently because the girls are afraid of losing their jobs.

This practice is evil and re-enacts slavery, which has long been outlawed and made a crime internationally. This therefore means, a step, cogent and concrete must be taken towards stopping the ugly practice. It is an abuse and contrary to child rights law, which many states governments have cleverly dodged or avoided.

Although it is very clear to everyone that putting the practice under check by government would yield little or no positive results, however weak action would be far better than no action at all.

Hope of the poor is the legislature. The Plateau state government needs to act fast by way of legislation. The exercise is doing a lot of damage to the state in terms of development education wise. The evil of the practice is enormous and greater than that identified of commercial motorcyclists for which a law has been passed by the Plateau state legislature. It has exposed some short falls in the poverty eradication programme of the state government too. The state government must review its programmes bordering on poverty eradication. Job of house helps flourishes in the state due to poor impact of these programmes, which the authorities should believe faithfully and re-align the programmes.

Looking at what is happening in Jos, it would be difficult to reconcile it with the existing policy of education for all by the year 2015. That hope looks bleak to youth of the state-serving as house aides.

It's undisputable fact that they need protection as free citizens of the country. The question is how can they be protected?

The writer can be reached at [tildegombe@yahoo.com](mailto:tildegombe@yahoo.com)

## Your Letters

Send your letters to [letters@dailytrust.com](mailto:letters@dailytrust.com)

### Acting President got it wrong

that discriminates and violates against the fundamental rights of bona fide citizens of Nigeria, an assertion that in itself contravenes the provisions of chapter Four of the 1999 constitution.

Muhammad Tanko Shittu, Jos, ([tankoshittujos@yahoo.com](mailto:tankoshittujos@yahoo.com))

Consider it unbecoming of a leader to have raised the "indigene-settler" monster that has for long been threatening the integrity of our dear country Nigeria in the eyes of international community. It is primitive to even bring up the issue in this 21st century.

For Dr Goodluck Jonathan, the acting president to assert that Muslims are "settlers" in Jos is an indication of a biased leader

They should respect Abubakar Atiku's right to freedom of association by allowing him back into the PDP fold

### Adamawa, PDP and Atiku

Consider it a big shame for Adamawa State that, at time when the whole country is celebrating the death of garrison politics, Senator Jibril Aminu and Murtala Nyako are battling hard to keep it alive.

My understanding of what is going on there is a display of sheer cowardice. They should respect Abubakar Atiku's right to freedom of association by allowing him back into the PDP fold. Enough of this garrison nonsense!

Emmanuel Madaki, Jenta Street, Jos.

## Text us on 08 131 8000 30

### No hooray?

IS the 10 years of ACF worth celebrating? When the seeming influence of *Ohaneze* and *Afenifere* over their political office holders is glaring, the ACF remains a soft pedalling toothless dog. That is why illiteracy, poverty and *almajirci* remain the exclusive trade mark of the north...

YUNUS A. Kabo, Kano State, 08022180636.

### None merited

AS Arewa Consultative Forum (ACF) is celebrating her tenth anniversary with a theme: "Fighting Corruption and Social Conflict for Development," I want to chal-

lenge its leaders tell us what corruption are they fighting, while Maj. Hamza Al-Mustapha and others are have been behind bars 10 years without Justice?

GERALD A. Simon, Garki, Abuja, 07035605979.

### Cheating does not pay

IT'S too late in the day for a PDP Reforms Forum. Northern and southern elites only call for changes when they are not in power and their personal interest is touched. The patriotic leadership you are not ready for, will solve your problems and bring about progress to Nigeria. NASIRU Usman, Musawa, Katsina State, 07069219802.

### It's PDP affair

ZONING as a political instrument is integral part of the PDP constitution, and not enshrined in the Nigerian constitution. Therefore Nigerians need a leader that will make policies that will have positive impact on them; where the president is coming from does not matter.

AWWAL A Ali, Abuja, 07033419033.

### Look East

CHINA model is best and should be adopted and applied in Nigeria to end the rampant stealing of public money, SJ Zango, +234 8035745783.

# DAILY TRUST

## EDITORIAL

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

## Joy Emordi should not be in the Senate

**M**rs Joy Emordi of the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP) was until recently the senator representing Anambra Central Senatorial District. She lost her seat when the court overturned her election and declared her All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) opponent, Mr Alphonsus Igbeke, the rightful winner in the 2007 poll. The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) duly issued Mr Igbeke with documentation recognising him as senator-elect for the senatorial district. We were therefore astonished that last week Mrs Emordi appeared at the Senate and took the seat that Igbeke should be occupying. She was shown on national television taking part in screening of ministerial nominees. Allowing Emordi to take the seat that does not belong to her is a travesty of the law and due process, because the Appeal Court nullified her election and declared Igbeke winner.

Armed with INEC's certificate of return as the rightful senator for Anambra Central, Igbeke went to the Senate to be administered with the oath of office and allegiance to formerly admit him as a member of the upper legislative chamber. Inexplicably, the Senate President refused to swear him in, claiming that the Appeal Court had given contradictory judgment in the case and that since Emordi has gone back to court for clarification, the 'status quo' had to be maintained, with Emordi returning to her seat while Igbeke has to await the clarification. This is specious and self-serving; it is a baseless argument. Indeed, if either of them has to keep away from the Senate for some spurious need for clarification, it is Mrs Emordi; her certificate of return was invalidated with the issuance of one to Mr Igbeke.

The Senate which is a law-making body, has chosen in this case to become an interpreter of the judgment of a competent court of law and even executor of the interpretation of the ruling to suit its whim. This is unacceptable and should not be allowed to stand. The principle of separation of powers does not confer on the Senate the right to interpret and implement court rulings at its discretion. What is required of it is to obey a court order no matter how unpalatable its leadership might consider it. If it were concerned about fairness, it should have asked both contenders to await any clarification from the court, although we think that would still represent injustice to Mr Igbeke. Justice and fairness therefore demand that Igbeke be sworn in immediately.

The problem of waiting for clarification of the so-called contradictory rulings is that of Emordi, not Igbeke who has been declared winner. Emordi's approach to court for clarification does not amount to an appeal or a stay of execution of the victory awarded to Igbeke.

This particular episode once again brings to focus the need to amend the electoral law and make clear provisions for the conclusion of all electoral disputes before apparent winners are sworn in into office. If this is done, the issue of persons with dubious mandates to be later overturned by the courts will not arise. It is ridiculous, to say nothing of the injustice that inheres that today, nearly three years after the 2007 elections, some governorship and other elections cases have still not been decided.

It is not for nothing that the space in which senators conduct business is called hallowed chambers; actions such as the one the leadership of the Senate has taken against Igbeke do much to turn the essence of that description on its head. The Senate should retrace its steps in this matter by immediately swearing-in Igbeke. It should also have the courage to expunge from its records of proceedings Emordi's appearance and purported contributions in the activities of the Senate from the day her election was nullified. Nigerians expect that in the Senate are men and women who are mature, perspicacious, fair-minded and decent, and who would act in ways that edify the nation and promote democracy and the rule of law.

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## Akunyili and rebranding Nigeria initiative

By Gbenga Kayode

**“I am about the only one left of my generation that fought for Independence. I would be very sad if I die leaving Nigeria behind the way she is now. My goal is to help... see Nigeria better governed; then, one might leave,”** an elder statesman and one of the founding fathers of modern Nigeria, Chief Anthony Enahoro was quoted as making this earnest assertion a few years back.

Certainly, such a soul-searching equally applies to all patriotic Nigerians of uprightness to rise to the challenge of quitting the beaten track of institutionalised corruption as a way of life, and re-orientating the citizenry towards playing a meaningful role as responsible members of the global community. This must have persuaded the likes of Prof. Dora Akunyili, the Minister for Information and Communications to fly the idea of “Re-branding Nigeria Project” in order to encourage Nigerians to consciously “work on themselves”, so as to change the pervading negative perception of the country in the comity of nations.

Perhaps, regarding the onerous task of re-branding the country as a moral burden and a sense of responsibility at this critical time of the nation's history, while communicating positive attributes inherent in millions of Nigerians to particularly, players in the international system that the country, popularly regarded as the most populous Black nation on earth, after all is not all about destructive social malaise called corruption, Prof. Akunyili and her team in the Ministry in 2009, initiated the Re-branding Nigeria Project.

Subsequently, President Umaru Yar'Adua, another well-reported Nigerian of integrity and values-based leader, approved the implementation of the proposal, thus giving birth to the current national campaign centred on the logo bearing Nigeria with the slogan, Good People, Great Nation, ruling the airwaves for sensitisation towards the socio-political well-being of the country.

**I**n her welcome address on the re-branding efforts, Prof. Akunyili, said of the object of the endeavour: “Every Nigerian is as worried as each other on the perception of our country and her citizens and the ill-treatments they receive outside our shores. We cannot afford to watch the life raft of our nation sink.... A few undesirable elements in our midst have been uncharitable to our fatherland through the wrong values they display within and outside the country and every Nigerian is paying dearly for it.... We will

refuse to allow our national spirit to be broken.” She has urged all to “take advantage of our aggregate strength to mould a better nation.”

However, shortly after her Ministry's determined implementation of the Re-branding Nigeria Project since 2009, the programme began to generate a flurry of reactions, both disparaging and encouraging, by a section of the Nigerian populace resident at home and abroad, as reflected in headlines and meriting attention by bloggers on the Internet, newspaper and magazine columnists on the propriety or otherwise of the national image-oriented

citizenry to appreciate the simple fact that if the image of this country remains poor, a pitiable nation and pathetic people.

“We rather believe that we should tackle the problem from within rather than from outside. When we successfully dismantle serious brand eroders within, foreigners and Nigerians in the Diaspora will have no other choice but to adapt to our new values, behavioural patterns and mannerisms,” Akunyili declared in an address to Nigerians soliciting their support to join in the campaign.

**A**dding his voice to the call on Nigerians to support the current efforts at achieving national re-orientation and rebirth in his article

**This strategy persuades the citizenry to appreciate the simple fact that if the image of this country remains poor**

programme.

While some of the criticisms against the project were predicated on her alleged inexperience in government information management system, possible official indifference to ensuring the success of the project, and eventual likelihood that the Nigerian system might rubbish her hard-earned reputation at the end of the day.

**B**ut to Akunyili, despite the initial overwhelming torrent of cynicisms against her taking up the position of the Federal Government's chief spokesperson, she has rather remained undaunted in her stead to continue to toe the line of truth and integrity in the discharge of her “sacred” official responsibilities as the Minister for Information and Communications, even to the admiration of many Nigerians.

Recalling what makes her tick in this respect, she once commented in a piece on how her family background, regarding the utmost value of forthrightness, has had an invaluable influence on her: “I also imbibed a culture of contentment and zero tolerance for corruption. This is because in our traditional village settings, corruption was most unacceptable.”

According to Akunyili, her approach is a designed programme to arouse Nigerians' dormant passionate patriotism. This strategy persuades the

titled: “Rebranding Nigeria: An Appraisal”, Mr. Dan Agbese, a veteran journalist and respected columnist at Newswatch Magazine, once wrote: “If we get our acts together with say, credible elections, energy or security, the image of the country would improve automatically. It would not need re-branding any more. It makes sense to re-brand now, if only to encourage us to get our acts together to make Nigeria an improved country in which some things work.”

Waxing spiritual in his comment on the need to support the current attempt by Akunyili's Federal Ministry of Information and Communications, through the Rebranding Project, Uduzeli Kingsley, in a recent contribution to an online forum said: “The question everyone needs to ask is: “What exactly is re-branding of humanity? Re-branding is likened to the experience in the Noah's time, when the obedient and good like-minded persons responded to the call, while the nonchalant were wiped-off. I wish to use this medium to awaken the youths, discover yourself and impact your vicinity for good, either through writing books, music or seminars, as we the noble elites have chosen to do. This country starts from you, your family and the society at large. We must affect our generation for good.” Thus, as a Nigerian living at home or abroad, where do you stand?

Kayode wrote from Lagos



# FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE

## ZONAL SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP ON DESTINATION INSPECTION SCHEME FOR STAKEHOLDERS

The Federal Ministry of Finance is organizing a National sensitization workshop on the Destination Inspection Scheme (DIS) for importers and other stakeholders in the industry. The stakeholders include, but not limited to; Importers, authorized Customs Clearing Agents, authorized dealer banks, shipping lines, Air Carriers, and other related Agencies.

### The objectives of the workshop are to:

- Create greater awareness of government policies on the Destination Inspection Scheme for Importers and the general public;
- Apprise the importers with the full knowledge of import Guidelines and the need to comply with them;
- Forge co-operation among all the stakeholders of the scheme for efficient trade facilitation;
- Educate Nigerian Importers and the general public on the benefits of trade facilitation;
- Acquaint Nigerians on sanctions for illegal trade in Nigeria, and
- Emphasize the importance of obeying the law.

The workshop shall hold in all the six geo-political zones of the country as follows:

**Date:** 28th - 29st April, 2010

**Time:** 8.30 am

North West - Tahir Guest Palace, No.4, Ibrahim Natsugunne Rd, Off Ahmadu Way, Kano

North East - Forshams Event Centre, No.3, Dipcharima Rd, Off Shehu Laminu Way, Old GRA, Maiduguri

North Central - Kwara Hotel, Ilorin

**Date:** 4th - 5th May, 2010

**Time:** 8.30am

South West - Airport Hotel, Ikeja, Lagos

South South - Presidential Hotel, Port Harcourt.

South East - De-Lumen Suits, GRA, Onitsha

This Advertorial also serves as an Invitation for participation and attendance by all Importers and other relevant stakeholders.

**Permanent Secretary**



## BAREWA OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

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We heartily, congratulate you as an eminent and renowned man of honour and integrity as you are installed as the CHANCELLOR of Benue State University, Makurdi.

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On behalf of the members of National Executive Committee (NEC) of Barewa Old Boys Association (BOBA) and the entire membership of the Association, we wish you many more years of meritorious service to the University and to our motherland. May Allah continue to give you guidance, courage, wisdom and good health as you face the challenges ahead.

Dr. M. S. Abdulrahman, OON (B1372)  
*Secretary General*

Dr. U. A. Mutallab, CON (B1075)  
*President BOBA*



**FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, YOLA**  
(School of Postgraduate Studies)  
**OFFICE OF THE DEAN**

FUTY/SPGS/84/Vol.1

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION INTO FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME  
POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR 2009/2010 ACADEMIC SESSION**

Applications are invited from suitable qualified candidates for admission into full-time Postgraduate Diploma programmes, Full-Time and Part-Time Masters and Ph.D. Degrees programmes in the Federal University of Technology, Yola for the Year 2009/2010 academic session commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2010.

**1. SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY**

**a) Department of Agric. Economics & Extension**

- (i) PGD Agric. Econs.
- (ii) PGD Agric Extension
- (iii) M.Sc. Agric. Econs.
- (iv) M.Sc. Agric Extension
- (v) Ph.D Agric. Econs.
- (vi) Ph.D Agric Extension

**b) Department of Animal Science**

- (i) PGD Animal Science and Range Management
- (ii) M.Tech. Animal Production and Range Management
- (iii) M.Tech Animal Biochemistry and Nutrition
- (iv) M.Tech Breeding and Genetics
- (v) M.Tech. Poultry Production and Management
- (vi) Ph.D Animal Production and Range Management

**Specialization:** Animal Production & Range Management, Animal Biochemistry and Nutrition, Animal Breeding & Genetics, Poultry Production and Management.

**c) Department of Crop Production and Horticulture**

- (i) M.Tech Agronomy.
- (ii) M.Tech Crop Protection.
- (iii) M.Tech Crop Breeding
- (iv) M.Tech Post-harvest Physiology and Storage Technology.
- (v) Ph.D Agronomy
- (vi) Ph.D. Crop Breeding
- (vii) Ph.D. Crop Protection
- (viii) Ph.D. Crop Production
- (ix) Ph.D. Post-harvest Physiology and Storage Technology.
- (x) Ph.D. Storage Technology

**d) Department of Fishery**

- (i) PGD Fisheries Technology
- (ii) M.Tech. Fisheries Management and Aquaculture
- (iii) Ph.D Fisheries Management and Aquaculture } (No Admission for 2009/2010)

**e) Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management - (No Admission for 2009/2010)**

- (i) PGD Forestry
- (ii) PGD Wood Technology
- (iii) PGD Wildlife Management
- (iv) M.Tech Forest Economics and Policy (FEP)
- (v) M.Tech Wildlife Management and Conservation
- (vi) Ph.D. Wood Technology
- (vii) Ph.D. Forest Resources Management
- (viii) Ph.D. Forest Economic and Policy
- (ix) Ph.D. Wildlife Management and Conservation
- (x) M.Tech. Forest Biology and Ecology
- (xi) M.Tech Forest Resources Management

**f) Department of Soil Science**

- (i) M.Tech Soil Science
- (ii) Ph.D. Soil Science

**Specialization:** Soil Chemistry, Soil Fertility & Plant Nutrition, Soil Conservation, Water Management, Pedology and Soil Physics.

**2. SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

**a) Department of Agricultural and Environmental Engineering**

- (i) M.Eng Farm Power and Machinery Engineering
- (ii) M.Eng Soil and Water Engineering
- (iii) Ph.D. Soil and Water Engineering
- (iv) Ph.D. Farm Power and Machinery Engineering

**b) Department of Mechanical Engineering - (No Admission for 2009/2010)**

- (i) M.Eng Design and Solid Mechanics Engineering
- (ii) M.Eng. Production and Industrial Engineering

**c) Department of Chemical Engineering - (No Admission for 2009/2010)**

- (i) M.Eng. Process Engineering
- (ii) M.Eng. Ceramic and Polymer Engineering

**3. SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

**a) Department of Architecture - (No Admission for 2009/2010)**

**b) Department of Building**

- (i) M.Tech Construction Project Management - (No Admission for 2009/2010)

- (ii) Ph.D. Building

**c) Department of Geography**

- (i) M.Sc Geography -
- (ii) M.Sc Rural Development
- (iii) M.Sc Environmental Resource Management
- (iv) Ph.D. Environmental Resource Management
- (v) Ph.D. Rural Development
- (vi) Ph.D. Geography

(No Admission for 2009/2010)

**c) Department of Surveying & Geo-informatics**

- (i) PGD Surveying & Geo-informatics
- (ii) M.Tech. Surveying & Geo-informatics
- (iii) Ph.D Surveying & Geo-informatics

**e) Department of Urban and Regional planning**

- (i) PGD Urban and Regional Planning - - - -
- (ii) PGD Urban Management
- (iii) Master in Urban and Regional Planning (MURP)
- (iv) Ph.D. Urban and Regional Planning

(No Admission for 2009/2010)

**4. SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**a. Department of Management Technology**

- (i) Masters in Business Administration (MBA)

**Specialization:** Accounting, Finance, General Management, Marketing, Industrial Relations and Personnel Management, Production Management/Operations Research.

- (ii) Masters in Public Administration (MPA)

**Specialization:** Human Resource Management, Public Policy, Local Government and Administration, Programme Planning and Budgeting

- (iii) Postgraduate Diploma in Management (PDGM)

**Specialization:** Accounting, Banking and Finance, Personnel and Human Resources Management, General Management, Marketing and Management, Management Information System.

- (iv) M. Phil/Ph.D. Management

- (v) Ph.D. Management

**b) Department of Information Technology**

- (i) M.A. English for Specific Purposes - (No Admission for 2009/2010)

- (ii) Ph.D. English for Specific Purposes

**Specialization:** English for Science, Media, Technology, Law, etc

**5. SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

**(a) Department of Biological Sciences**

- (i) M.Tech Botany - (No Admission for 2009/2010)

- (ii) M.Tech Zoology with specialization in Aquaculture and Fishery Management, Applied Entomology and Parasitology, Applied Hydrobiology and Fisheries Management. - (No Admission for 2009/2010)

- (iii) Ph.D Botany with specialization in Cytogenetics, Plant Breeding, and Plant Pathology.

- (iv) Ph.D Disease and Parasitology Control

- (v) Ph.D Zoology with specialization in Aquaculture and Fishery Management, Applied Hydrobiology and Fisheries and Applied Entomology and Parasitology

**(b) Department of Biochemistry**

- (i) M.Tech Biochemistry - (No Admission for 2009/2010)

- (ii) Ph.D Biochemistry

**Specialization:** Industrial Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Protein Chemistry, Human and Animal Nutrition, Toxicology and Molecular Biology.

**(c) Department of Chemistry**

- (i) M.Tech Analytical Chemistry
- (ii) M.Tech Industrial Chemistry

(No Admission for 2009/2010)

- (iii) Ph.D Analytical Chemistry

- (iv) Ph.D Industrial Chemistry

- (v) Ph.D Organic Chemistry

- (vi) Ph.D Physical Chemistry

**Specialization:** Research Projects undertaken should be relevant to a specialized area of Analytical Chemistry and Industrial Chemistry.

**(d) Department of Geology**

- (i) M.Sc Applied Geophysics

- (ii) M.Sc Mineral Exploration

## APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION INTO FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR 2009/2010 ACADEMIC SESSION (Cont'd)

- (iii) Ph.D Applied Geophysics
- (iv) Ph.D Mineral Exploration
- (e) **Department of Mathematics and Computer Science**

- (i) M.Sc Mathematics
- (ii) Ph.D Mathematics
- (iii) Ph.D Computer Science

f) **Department of Microbiology**

- (i) M.Tech Microbiology - (No Admission for 2009/2010)
- (ii) Ph.D Microbiology

**Specialization:** Environmental Microbiology, Food Microbiology, Industrial Microbiology, Applied Medical Microbiology.

g) **Department of Physics**

- (I) PGD Physics - (No Admission for 2009/2010)

**Specialization:** Electronics, Energy Physics, and Geophysics

- (ii) M.Tech
  - (a) Solid State Physics (General)
  - (b) Solid State Physics with Electronics
  - (c) Energy Physics
- (iii) M.Sc
  - (a) Theoretical Physics
  - (b) Solid State Physics
  - (c) Geophysics .....

(No Admission for 2009/2010)

- (iv) Ph.D Physics

**Specialization:** Solid State Physics (General), Electronics, Geophysics, Energy Physics, Medical Physics and Nonlinear Optics.

h) **Department of Statistics/Operations Research**

- (i) M.Tech Operations Research
- (ii) Ph.D Operations Research

i) **Department of Mathematics and Computer Science**

- (i) M.Sc. Mathematics
- (ii) Ph.D. Mathematics
- (iii) Ph.D. Computer Science

6. **SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE EDUCATION**a) **Department of Science Education**

- (I) Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)
- (II) M.Ed. Educational Management
- (iii) M.Tech. Ed. Biology Education, geography Education, Chemistry Education, Mathematics Education and Physics Education
- (iv) Ph.D. Educational Management

(No Admission for 2009/2010)

b) **Department of Technology Education**

- (i) Postgraduate Diploma in Technology Education (PGDTE)
- (ii) M.Tech Industrial Technology Education
- (iii) Ph.D Industrial Technology Education

c) **Department of Vocational Education**

- (i) M.Tech Agricultural Technology Education - (No Admission for 2009/2010)
- (ii) Ph.D Agricultural Technology Education

7. **ADMISSION REQUIREMENT**

The following may qualify for admission into the specified postgraduate Programmes:

7.1 **Postgraduate Diploma**

- (a) Graduate of FUTY or any other recognized University.
- (b) Holders of the Higher National Diploma (HND) with at least an Upper Credit pass in relevant Discipline.
- (c) HND Holders with lower credit in relevant discipline but with a minimum of five years relevant post qualification experience.
- (d) Holders of other professional qualifications which may be acceptable to the Board of the School of Postgraduate Studies and Senate of the University.
- (e) In special cases candidates may be admitted after passing such tests, examinations etc., as may be prescribed by a Department/School.

7.2 **Masters Degree**

- (a) Holders of first Degree of FUTY with First or Second Class Honours in relevant subjects.
- (b) Holders of equivalent qualifications from other recognized Universities
- (c) A Candidate with a degree lower than Second Class Honour may be eligible if either:
  - (i) He/She has good relevant Postgraduate Diploma with at least an Upper Credit, Pass or
  - (ii) He/She has Higher National Diploma (HND) Plus

- (iii) Postgraduate Diploma with Upper Credit or Distinction.
- (iv) He/She Passes any prescribed qualifying Examination for Admission.
- (v) He/She has a minimum of five (5) years post qualification experience.

- (d) Holders of any other qualifications with or without relevant experience which are acceptable to the School of Postgraduate Studies Committee, the Board of Postgraduate Studies and the Senate.

7.3 **Doctor of Philosophy**

- (a) Candidates who hold a Masters Degree of FUTY with GPA 3.5 (on a 5 points scale) (b) Candidates with equivalent qualification from other recognized Universities.
- (c) Candidates with any other qualifications with relevant working Experience which are acceptable to the Postgraduate School Board and Senate.

8. **DURATION OF PROGRAMME**(a) **Postgraduate Diploma Programme**

(Course work and Project Report)

- (i) Full-Time: 2 Semesters 12 Calendar Months
- (ii) Part-Time: 4 Semesters or 24 Calendar Months

(b) **Master's Degree Programme:**(i) **Full-time Master's Degree** by Course Work/Thesis.

**Minimum duration**

3 Semesters or 18 Calendar Months

**Maximum duration**

6 Semesters or 36 Calendar Months

(ii) **Part-time Master's Degree** by course Work/Thesis/Dissertation

**Minimum duration**

4 Semesters or 24 Months. 30 Months in some specialized fields

**Maximum duration**

8 Semesters or 48 calendar months

(c) **Ph.D. Programme:**(i) **Full-Time Students**

**Minimum Duration**

6 Semesters or 36 Calendar Months

**Maximum duration**

10 Semesters or 60 calendar months

(ii) **Part-time Students**

**Minimum Duration**

8 Semesters or 48 Calendar Months

**Maximum Duration**

12 Semesters or 72 calendar months.

9. **METHOD OF APPLICATION**

Interested applicants for all the Programmes can obtain application forms from the SECRETARY, SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES, FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, YOLA, ADAMAWA STATE, on payment of non-refundable fee in cash or Bank draft payable to "Federal University of Technology, Yola" through Spring Bank Jimeta-Yola as follows:

- (i) Ph.D/ MTech/MA/M.Sc/MBA/MPA Fees - Five thousand Naira (N5,000.00)
- (ii) Postgraduate Diploma - Three thousand Naira (N3,000.00)

10. **SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORMS**

- (i) Completed forms should be accompanied with one(1) self-addressed envelope (each Measuring 22.5 cm x 10cm), (9" x 4") and carrying current postal stamp to be used for the receipt of the application; and marked "PG Application for Admission." All applications should be returned to the Secretary, School of Postgraduate Studies, Federal University of Technology, Yola on or before two weeks from the date of advertisement.

- (ii) Applicants are required to make a **THOROUGH ARRANGEMENT** with their previous institutions to forward copies of their **Transcript to the Secretary, School of Postgraduate Studies** at the Federal University of Technology, Yola.

MRS J. M. GUNDIRI  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR/SECRETARY (SPGS)

# INTERNATIONAL

## 55 killed in Darfur border clashes

AT least 55 people were killed and 85 wounded in fighting between the south Sudan army and Arab nomads from the western region of Darfur, a tribal chief said yesterday.

"We have 55 dead and 85 wounded in our camp," after fighting along the sensitive border between Darfur and south Sudan on Friday, Mohammed Issa Aliou told AFP.

"There are many members of the Rezeigat tribe who are heading to the (site of the clashes) in order to help out.

There are also reinforcements from the south Sudan army coming from three cities -- Raja, Aweil and Wau," said Aliou, one of the heads of the Rezeigat tribe, which is based mainly in Darfur. "The tension is high," he said.

He said the Arab nomads had been searching for new pastures and water for their cattle near the border with the southern state of Western Bahr al-Ghazal.

The south Sudan army said on Saturday it had been attacked in the Balbala sector of Western Bahr al-Ghazal, but said the attackers were from the northern-based central government army, not Rezeigat tribesmen.

"A company of 120 SPLA soldiers was attacked on Friday night by armed men wearing uniforms of the northern army that were heavily equipped," Major General Kuol Deim Kuol of the southern former rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army said.

The Sudanese army denied it had been involved in the fighting.

## Zuma breaks taboo in launching S/African HIV tests

SOUTH African President Jacob Zuma revealed his HIV status yesterday as he launched a scaled-up counselling and testing campaign in the world's worst affected country.

"After careful consideration, I have decided to share my test results with South Africans," said Zuma, who said he had tested negative recently.

"The purpose is to promote openness and to eradicate the silence and stigma that accompanies this epidemic," he said.

Zuma, who told a court in 2006 when charged with raping a HIV-positive woman that he had showered rather than worn a condom to ward off the risk of HIV, revealed he had been taking regular HIV tests.

## Burundi's president to run for second term

BURUNDI'S President Pierre Nkurunziza, a former rebel leader and born-again Christian, has been chosen as the ruling party's candidate for June elections.

The 45-year-old Hutu was elected unanimously at the weekend to run for a second term in the June 28 vote, by 1,669 delegates who travelled to the Cndd-FDD congress from across the tiny central African country.

"God has the number one place in our party," Nkurunziza told a cheering crowd in the Burundian language Kirundi. "And just as God did when we were elected in 2005, no one can prevent His will from being done once more."

Backed by an Evangelist choir, Nkurunziza sang and danced on stage with his four-year-old son, before driving off in an open-top car to the cheers of thousands of supporters.

Nkurunziza was elected president by the Burundian parliament in 2005 as the country emerged from 13 years of civil war that pitted the Tutsi-dominated army against Hutu rebel movements. From May through September, the country holds a marathon series of polls including the presidential vote in which Nkurunziza will seek re-election, this time by universal suffrage.

Party leader Jeremie Ngendakumana said Nkurunziza was chosen for his record on promoting free primary school education, healthcare for pregnant women and infants, and for building schools, roads and orchards.

"I am confident, I am certain our candidate is going to win in the first round, since he is a president close to the people who has made a contribution to development," Ngendakumana told AFP.

Nkurunziza will be facing close to a dozen rivals in the election, including the main opposition leader Domitien Ndayizeye, also a Hutu, and the former Hutu rebel leader Agathon Rwaswa.

Human Rights Watch has

urged Burundian authorities to prevent pre-election violence,

as fierce competition between the ruling party and four or five

strong opposition movements fuels tension between militants.



PRESIDENT of Burundi Pierre Nkurunziza waves to the crowd during a meeting in Gijumba at the weekend.

## Bomb blast kills five in Ethiopia

FIVE people were killed and 20 injured when a bomb blast ripped through a cafe in an Ethiopian town near the border with Eritrea, a local official told state television yesterday.

The attack occurred in Adi Haro, a northern settlement near the volatile frontier where both countries have maintained a heavy military presence due to an unresolved border row.

"The suspects targeted the cafe on Saturday afternoon, market-day, and five people have been killed and 20 others injured," local administrator Mikelle Abraha told state television, adding that some of the injured were in serious condition.

"It was carried out by Eritrean agents who crossed the border to sabotage the upcoming elections," he added.

Ethiopia holds elections on May 23, the first national polls since the 2005 general election was marred by violence.

Prime Minister Meles Zenawi has accused some of the opposition

candidates of having links with Eritrea and local armed groups allegedly supported by Asmara.

Authorities have blamed Eritrea of organising past attacks in the capital by arming the separatist Oromo Liberation Front and the Ogaden National Liberation Front, while Asmara has accused Ethiopia of supporting its armed groups.

An Eritrean rebel group told AFP on Saturday it has killed 18 government soldiers and injured 20 more in predawn attacks in southern Eritrea. Eritrean President Isaias Afewerki has often dismissed his country's foreign-based opposition as "puppets" linked with its larger neighbour. Some 80,000 people died in the 1998-2000 conflict, many in brutal World War I-style trench warfare.

A UN-backed boundary commission charged with demarcating the border handed the disputed town of Badme to Eritrea but Ethiopia has so far refused to implement the ruling.

## International

# Hungarians vote in second round of general elections



THE leader of the Hungarian right-wing opposition Fidesz party, Viktor Orbán, gives a press conference in Budapest.

HUNGARIANS went to the polls yesterday for the second round of general elections that could give the right-wing Fidesz party a crucial two-thirds parliamentary majority.

With warm spring weather beckoning, turnout at 1:00 pm (1100GMT) was at 27.1 percent, down from 35.9 percent at the same time on April 11. Polling was running smoothly compared to two weeks ago when it had to be extended by more than three hours due to a backlog of voters.

Fidesz already won a landslide 52.73 percent of votes in the first round on April 11, taking 206 seats in the 386-seat parliament.

In Hungary's complex electoral system, some 2.5 million voters were eligible to vote in yesterday's second round, which was being contested in 57 constituencies where no clear winner emerged two weeks ago, though Fidesz was leading in almost all of them.

Securing a two-thirds majority would give Fidesz the power to alter the constitution, change electoral and media laws, reduce the number of local governments and slash the number of deputies in parliament.

Analysts said the ruling Socialists must secure victory in at least 10 constituencies to block Fidesz and its charismatic leader Viktor Orbán. However, they said this was unlikely to happen as the left-wing party had been unable to mobilise its voters between the two rounds.

In Hungary no single party has ever had a two-thirds majority. Orbán, who was prime minister in 1998-2002, has promised to create one million jobs over 10 years in a country of 10 million, and pledged tax cuts to relaunch the economy.

Hungary was one of the countries hardest hit by the global recession and had to be bailed out to the tune of 20 billion euros (26.7 billion dollars) by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the European Union.

That rescue package came with stringent conditions attached. In a recent investors' note, Goldman Sachs predicted that Fidesz "will eventually agree to a new IMF-backed stabilisation programme" which would "help tip Hungary into a 'positive equilibrium'".

"But more belt-tightening and spending cuts could see Orbán's landslide victory turn sour very quickly. Polls opened at 6:00 am (0400GMT) and were due to close at 7:00 pm (1700GMT), with first partial results expected by 10:00 pm.

In the first round, the far-right Jobbik party secured its first ever parliamentary seats by taking 16.67 percent of the votes, behind the ruling Socialists with 19.3 percent. The new left-wing green LMP party also passed the five-percent threshold for parliament, with nearly 7.5 percent.

## Mexico security official's convoy ambushed, 4 dead

GUNMEN armed with assault rifles and grenades attacked a convoy carrying the top security official of the western state of Michoacan at the weekend, killing four and wounding 10 in Mexico's second brazen ambush in as many days.

Public Safety Secretary Min-

erva Bautista was among the wounded but was recovering from non-life-threatening injuries, according to the state attorney general's office. She was traveling in a bullet-resistant sport utility vehicle.

State Attorney General Jesus Montejano told the local Milenio

television station that the attackers used assault rifles, grenades, a grenade launcher and a powerful .50-caliber sniper rifle whose rounds are capable of penetrating bullet-resistant materials.

"In the ambush, they used concentrated fire from these types of weapons, forcing her and her

escort to crash into a trailer truck that they had pulled across the road," Montejano said.

The dead included two of Bautista's bodyguards and two bystanders. Of the other nine people wounded, most were bystanders, including two girls ages 2 and 12.

## UK apologizes to Vatican over Pope visit jokes

BRITAIN'S Foreign Office issued a hasty apology yesterday to Pope Benedict XVI after publication of an internal memo in which officials joked he could open an abortion clinic, launch a range of condoms or sing a duet with Queen Elizabeth II during a four-day visit in September.

The document, sections of which were published in the Sunday Telegraph newspaper, also proposed the pope could bless a gay marriage, and acknowledge the clerical sex abuse scandal by establishing a hot line for abused children, or honouring abuse whistleblowers.

Junior officials wrote the memo following a brainstorming session intended to discuss ideas for the visit, the first to Britain by the head of the Roman Catholic Church since Pope John Paul II in 1982.

Though some included advice for Britain's government on how to approach the abuse scandal, the ministry condemned many of the proposals as "ill-judged, naive and disrespectful."

Britain's ambassador to the Vatican, Francis Campbell, met senior Vatican officials to offer a formal apology and one individual involved in drafting the memo has been transferred to other duties, the ministry said.

## Cubans hold municipal elections; belie criticism

CUBA held elections to fill municipal assemblies across the island yesterday in a vote the communist government says belies criticism in Washington and Europe that Fidel Castro's half-century old revolution is not democratic.

Almost all of Cuba's 8.4 million eligible voters were expected to turn out for the vote — which will choose 15,000 people to fill seats in 169 municipal assemblies.

Those elected won't be dealing with big geopolitical issues such as how to thaw frozen relations with the United States, or what measures must be taken to revitalize a near-dormant economy.

Lenia Rojas, a 44-year-old office worker who cast a ballot in the Havana municipality of Playa, said she voted because she wanted a say in picking the elected officials who will have the greatest immediate effect on her life.



The Chairman and Members Board of Trustees of the Cargo Defence Fund invite Stakeholders in the Shipping Industry to the

**LAUNCH OF ITS CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP TO HOLD ON WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2010**

The Cargo Defence Fund is a Public- Private Synergy for assistance to Importers and Exporters in the pursuit of their Claims Recoveries and Legal Remedies.

**Chairman of the Occasion:**

**Alhaji Bashir M. Borodo MFR**

President, Manufacturers Association of Nigeria

**Presentations:**

- **WHAT NIGERIA IS LOSING DUE TO ABANDONMENT OF LEGITIMATE CARGO CLAIMS**

**Dr. K.E. Usuh, Former Managing Director, Nigerian Shippers' Council**

**Discussants**

**Mr. Romeo V. Barberopoulous MFR,**

- Chairman M.A.N Export Promotion Group: Economic View

**Mr. Chidi Ilogu**

- Principal Counsel, Foundation Chambers: Legal View

- **BENEFITS OF THE CARGO DEFENCE FUND**

**Ms A.N.Ogo, Secretary, Cargo Defence Fund**

**Date:**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2010**

**Venue:**

**Sheraton Hotel (The Club), Ikeja, Lagos**

**Time:**

**10.00 am**

**For more information:**

**Mr. Phillip Eduwa  
0803 313 6466**

**Mrs. Ala Dublin-Green  
0803 718 2037**

COMMISSION DU BASSIN DU LAC TCHAD



LAKE CHAD BASIN COMMISSION

BOITE POSTALE 727 N'DJAMENA - TCHAD  
 Tél. : 00235 22 52 43 45 / 22 52 40 29 Fax : 00235 2 52 41 37  
 E-mail : lcbbc@intnet.td

## NOTICE OF RECRUITMENT

The Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) is a sub-regional organization established in 1964. The member countries are: Cameroon, Libya, Niger, Nigeria, Central African Republic (CAR) and Chad. Its mandate is : manage natural and water resources of Lake Chad in a rational, sustainable and equitable manner; conserve and protect the ecosystems of the conventional basin; preserve and promote transboundary peace and security in the conventional basin.

In line with its reorganization, LCBC, after carrying out in the first time the recruitment of the key officers, hereby advertises vacancies for the recruitment of technical and support staff in the following positions reserved for the member countries nationals:

1. GIS and Remote Sensing Officer
2. Hydrologist
3. Documentaries
4. (2) Bilingual or Trilingual translators
6. Financial Accountant
7. Procurement Accountant
8. Groundwater Expert
9. Bilingual Secretary
10. Wetland Ecologist Expert
11. Expert for socio economical projects
12. HR Administration
13. HR Development
14. Technical Assistant.

The working location is N'Djamena, Republic of Chad. Candidate may apply for one or several positions. Applications files will be made up of the following documents:

- A duly signed CV
- Certified true copies of the last university degrees
- A letter of motivation (why you are applying for this particular position).

Detailed information can be obtained either at the LCBC Headquarters in N'Djamena, or on the website: <http://www.lakechadbc.org>, or at the office of the 1st Commissioners to LCBC:

- ▶ Libya: General Water Authority, Tripoli
- ▶ Niger: Ministry of Water, Environment and Desertification Control, Niamey
- ▶ Nigeria: Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Abuja
- ▶ Cameroon: Ministry of Economy, Planning and Territory Development, Yaounde
- ▶ CAR: Ministry of Water, Forestry, Hunting and Fishery, Bangui
- ▶ Chad: Ministry of Water, N'Djamena

Applications should be deposited at the office of the 1st Commissioner to LCBC or at the Headquarters of LCBC, PO Box 727, Telephone: +235 252 4145, Fax: +235 252 4137, Email: [lcbbc@intnet.td](mailto:lcbbc@intnet.td) latest 26th May 2010.

Dr. Abdullahi Umar GANDUJI  
 (Executive Secretary, LCBC)



## International

### Japanese islanders stage mass rally against US base



JAPANESE protesters gather in a rally against the US airbase at Yomitan in Okinawa prefecture.

NEARLY 100,000 protesters attended a rally on Okinawa yesterday to demonstrate against a US air base in a row that is dominating Japan's national politics and souring its ties with Washington. Okinawa governor Hirokazu Nakaima, the speaker of the Okinawa assembly and most of the may-

ors of the Okinawa prefecture's 41 towns joined the huge protest near Kadena Air Base, the Asia-Pacific region's largest US military facility. Under a blazing sun at an athletics ground on the subtropical island, protesters applauded and whistled as speakers addressed them from a podium.

UN HABITAT  
 FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



#### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME  
 (UN-HABITAT) REGIONAL OFFICE FOR AFRICA AND  
 THE ARAB STATES (ROAAS)

Post Title: Programme Officer (Secure Tenure) Abuja, Nigeria  
 Duty Station: Abuja  
 Duration: One Year (Initially)

**Background:**  
 The Federal Government of Nigeria, in collaboration with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) has established a Country Office in Abuja, Nigeria to promote cooperation between Government of Nigeria and UN-HABITAT towards achieving the goals of the Habitat Agenda of "Adequate Shelter for All" and "Sustainable Human Settlements Development in an Urbanizing World". It will also assist the Federal Government of Nigeria to work towards achieving the Millennium Declaration Goals on Slums. The Office, located in UNDP premises in Abuja, will be part of the Regional and Technical Cooperation Division of the UN-HABITAT and shall fall under the direct supervision of the Regional Office for Africa and Arab States (ROAAS).

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the guidance and direct supervision of the Habitat Programme Manager located in Abuja, the successful candidate will have to:

- Develop substantive programmes in Urban Planning, Shelter and Rights, Access to Basic Services, Environment and Slum Upgrading;
- Identify and formulate programmes to promote shelter delivery for the poor urban population;
- Ensure effective and efficient execution of UN-Habitat executed projects in the country by providing appropriate technical and management support to the projects through field visits and monitoring of project activities.

#### Competencies

- ▶ Communication: strong conceptual

skills combined with a proven ability to write technical documents addressing a variety of audiences.

- ▶ Planning and Organizing: must be able to work with a high degree of responsibility and with minimal supervision.
- ▶ Accountability: should be able to perform her/his duties under pressure and with deadlines.
- ▶ Respect for Diversity: familiarity with multicultural working environments a requirement.
- ▶ Managing performance: management and supervision of a variety of locally recruited project staff in his/her country of assignment.

#### Qualifications and Experiences:

Prospective candidate should possess an advanced degree in either Urban or Regional Planning, Economics, Architecture, or Social Sciences, field with a minimum of 5 years experience in programme development and management. Candidates must be self-motivated and results-oriented, with the ability to make distinguished individual contributions within a functional team. Computer skills (word processing, spreadsheet and data base management) are essential. Fluency in English and one national language required.

Interested candidates should submit within three weeks from the date of this advert their CVs in sealed envelope marked top left corner 'RECRUITMENT' and addressed to:

The Habitat Programme Manager for Nigeria,  
 UN-HABITAT PROGRAMME SUPPORT  
 OFFICE (HAPSO), UN-HOUSE  
 Plot 617/618 Diplomatic Zone, Central Business  
 District, Abuja, Nigeria

Signed:  
 Habitat Programme Manager for Nigeria



# FEDERAL CHARACTER COMMISSION

Plot 64, First Avenue, Off Shehu Shagari Way, Central Business Area, Abuja



**VISION:** Achieving Sustainable National Consciousness to which all Citizens can Subscribe with Conviction

**MISSION:** Channelling Public Investments towards Balanced and Sustainable Development

## THE IMPERATIVE OF THE FEDERAL CHARACTER PRINCIPLE

The Federal Character Commission has been the object of increasing public attention in recent times. This is the natural fallout from the enhanced visibility which the Commission now enjoys as a result of its robust intervention in the recruitment processes of MDAs throughout the Federation.

Naturally too, reactions have been wide and varied, approximating the extent of the public understanding of the Federal Character principle on the one hand, and the evaluation of the Federal Character Commission as the organ for its enforcement on the other.

Besides, some of the media coverage and reportage of the opinions aired by some eminent citizens (at fora which are only remotely concerned with the Federal Character Principle) have been largely self-seeking and misleading. For example, nothing could be more ludicrous than the futile effort by a national tabloid to interpret what the Senate President, David Mark, was supposed to have meant by "the sentiment of Federal Character".

From these points of view, it has become increasingly clear that the ghost of the discredited "Quota System" has not been truly expelled from our thinking. It is still being confused with the Federal Character Principle of proportional and equitable representation in the distribution of political and bureaucratic posts. Without any iota of doubt, the "quota system" is arbitrary and unscientific, both in conception and application. When it held sway, its focus was merely numerical, and without regard to the quality of representation. It thus became subject of abuse.

Conversely, the development and continued observance of scientific formula for proportional representation at all tiers of Government remain the core value and pre-occupation of the Federal Character Commission. In all circumstances, the principle of Merit shall be preserved.

Paragraph 4 & 5 of the Federal Character Commission's "Procedures for Recruitment" states categorically:

- (i) Only candidates who have met the basic minimum requirements for each position shall be shortlisted for interview or any other selection process. **Under no circumstances shall an unqualified candidate be shortlisted purportedly on the basis of Federal Character consideration.**
- (ii) The best and most competent candidates from each State of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory shall be shortlisted to compete for positions reserved for their respective States/Zones.

The requirement and practice of selecting the best candidates for appointment is well known to all MDAs.

Anyone with a modicum of familiarity with the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will note that the Federal Character Principle is not all about jobs. Although the issue of job placements tends to capture the headlines, the second mandate of the Federal Character Commission is more important. In the words of Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'adua, GCFR, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria: **"whereas providing equal opportunities benefit the individuals employed, the provision of socio-economic amenities in a just and equitable manner impacts on whole communities"**.

Ultimately, the Federal Character Commission is satisfied to note that much of the apparently unsalutary comments allegedly targeted at the continued retention of the Federal Character Principle in the Constitution actually strike at the root of those same opportunistic tendencies to abuse it. The Federal Character Principle, therefore, remains the panacea for the fear of marginalization and domination, as well as those factors which engender it, in such a plural society as ours.

A corner stone of national unity is the practice of equity. EQUITY IS OUR BUSINESS AT THE FEDERAL CHARACTER COMMISSION.

Secretary to the Commission



## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Plot 272 Samuel Adesujo Ademulegun Street

Central Business District Abuja

e-mail: [sec@sec.gov.ng](mailto:sec@sec.gov.ng)

website: [www.sec.gov.ng](http://www.sec.gov.ng)

### SUMMARY/ KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW AND AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Pursuant to Section 313(1) of the Investments and Securities Act, 2007, the following new rules and amendments were made by the Commission to the existing Rules & Regulations. The rules came into effect on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March, 2010 in accordance with Section 313 (3) of the ISA 2007.

#### NEW RULES

The following new rules were created: Rules 15A, 40 (B) (i) (iv) (h), 50, 56(xv), 59(B) and (c), 60, 64(7), 71, 71(ii), 90(viii), 90(2), 100(i) (a)(iv), 100(6) (B), 225, 226(B), 227, 229, 230, 232, 233, 234, 249(A) and 307(A).

#### AMENDMENTS

The following existing rules were amended: 15, 40, 64 (4) (a) (iii), 69(2), 70(6) (ii), 73, 109 B (vi) and Rule 100(7). Below are the key highlights of the rules.

#### 1. Rule 15 A- Approval of Appointment of Executive Directors and Directors of a Market Operators.

Rule 15 A was created to empower the Commission to approve the appointment of Executive Directors and provide for the minimum qualifications for appointment as Directors of Capital Market Operators.

#### 2. Rule 40(D) Bonus Issues

Rule 40(D) was created to provide for the registration of Bonus issues.

1. The new rule also defined "Bonus",
2. It provides for the registration requirements of bonus issues of public companies and items that should accompany an application for registration.
3. It provides for the Commission to register Bonus Issues within 7 working days of the receipt of the application, provided that the applicant has complied with all registration requirements.

A company is now required to forward the Commission's approval together with the Bonus shares certificate to the Registrar within 1(one) working day of the receipt of the approval.

#### 3. Rule 40(B) (i) (iv) (h) Validity Period of Account.

(a). Rule 40 B(i) (iv) (h) was created to determine the validity period of account to be submitted to the Commission, which shall not be more than 9 months old for corporate bodies and not more than 12 months old for States/ Local Government/Federal Government and supranational bodies.

(b) Rules 40 (3) was amended to reduce the volume of documents to be filed where an Issuer had filed similar documents with the Commission.

#### 4. Rule 50 Condition for approval of Initial Public Offer and listing by introduction.

The rule empowers Quoted companies to undertake an IPO of pure equity or convertibles or listing by introduction if it has:

- i. 3 years financial track record;
- ii. Track record of distributable profit for 2 out of the immediately proceeding 3 years,
- iii. Positive shareholders funds.

#### 5. Rule 50 (i) - The existing rule 50 now becomes rule 50 (i).

- i. The new rule 50 (i) gives the Commission the liberty to reject any registration requirement that does not conform with the requirements of the ISA 2007 and the rules and regulations made thereto.
- ii. Rule 50 (2) was created to provide for the Commission a 6 weeks

maximum time within which to process and approve an application filed with it.

- iii. Rule 50 (3) provides for a declaration for full disclosure by an Issuer. The declaration must be signed by the CEO, Company Secretary and the Chief Financial Officer, of the Issuer.

#### 6. Rule 50 (A) - Conditions for approval of subsequent Public offer.

The new rule 50 (A) provides that subsequent capital raising shall be approved by the Commission only upon satisfactory utilization of previous issue proceeds.

#### 7. Rule 56 (xv)- Incorporating forecast on oversubscription in the offer documents.

A new rule 56 (xv) was created to require companies that want to absorb 15% of its over subscribed offer to disclose it in the offer document.

#### 8. Rule 59 (B) - All parties meetings.

The new rules provide that there shall be at least 2 all parties meetings before opening an offer and the Commission shall, where necessary, review the minutes of same.

#### 9. Rule 59 (C) - Pre offer waiting period (Fixed price offers).

The new rule provides for at least one (1) week pre offer waiting period before the opening of an offer, which shall be the period from the date of the execution of offer documents to the date the offer opens.

#### 10. Rule 60 (D) - Extension of offer period.

1. The new rule provides that before granting an extension, issuers latest audited accounts shall remain valid throughout the extension period and the new closing date shall be the reference date for the purpose of computing any penalty for late submission of allotment proposals..

2. Rule 60(e) provides that if the extension is granted, penalty shall not be charged.

#### 11. Rule 64(i) - Opening of interest yielding account for offers proceeds.

The amendment requires Issuing Houses with the Receiving banks to deposit issue proceeds in separate interest yielding account for offer proceeds.

#### 12. Rule 64 (4)(a)(iii) - Absorption of oversubscription.

The amendment to the rule limits companies from absorbing more than 15% of the offer size.

#### 13. Rule 64(7) - Interest on Return Monies.

The new rule provides that interest not below CBN MPR + 5% shall be paid to unsuccessful applicants in public offer where returned monies are not dispatched in compliance with the rules.

#### 14. Rule 69 (2) - Basis of Allotment.

The rule was amended to enable all subscribers to a public offer to have at least a minimum to be allotted out of the units offered, which shall be a minimum pro-rating approach. In the case of a right issue, the allotment for the renounced shares shall be pro-rated.

Cont'd

15. **Rule 70 (6) (ii) - Subscription level for issues not underwritten.**  
The rule was amended to provide that any issue that is not up to 50% subscribed shall be aborted.
16. **Rule 71 (ii) - Listing of securities after allotment clearance.**  
The new rule requires issuers to list securities not later than 30 days after allotment clearance, where applicable.
17. **Rule 73 Cost of Issue.**  
The rule was amended to provide that total cost of issue shall not exceed 4.3% of the gross total proceeds from the issue excluding underwriting fees.
18. **Rule 75 - Amount to be underwritten.**  
This rule was amended to provide that Underwriting of public issues shall be at the discretion of the issuer:
19. **Rule 75 A - Underwriting of Rights Issues**  
A new rule was created to provide that -:  
i. Rights issue may be underwritten at the discretion of the issuer, but subject to the prior consent of the shareholders.  
ii. Shareholders shall pass a special resolution that in the event of an under subscription, pre-emptive rights shall be waived for the underwriter to take up the unsubscribed shares.
20. **Rule 76 - Underwriting capacity/commitment**  
This rule was amended to set a level for underwriting commitment by a single underwriter at not more than 3 times its shareholders funds for equity offering, and 4 times for fixed income securities.
21. **Rule 90 - (Private Placement) - Conditions for approval of offer.**  
The new rule was created to provide that all subsequent capital raising shall be approved only upon satisfactory account of utilization of previous issue proceeds.
22. **Rule 90 (2) - Advertisement of Private Placements.**  
A new rule was created to prohibit issuers from advertising private placement. Violation of the rule would lead to suspension. Any Capital Market Operator engaged in an advisory role on the private placement may also be sanctioned.
23. **Rule 100 - Know Your Customer (KYC)**  
i. Rule 100 (i) (a) (vii) A new rule was created to make provision for "Bank account details" of investors.  
ii. Rule 100(i) (c) was created to provide that Account opening documents shall be completed in triplicate, electronically or other wise with copies being held by;  
a. Stockbrokers.  
b. Central Securities Clearing System (CSCS).  
c. Investors.  
iii. A new rule 100 (6) B was created. It listed acts that constitute suspicious transactions in the Capital Market.
24. **Rule 109 B(vi) - Share Buy-Back**  
The Rule was harmonized with provisions of CAMA 1990 to guard against conflict in application with the ISA 2007.
25. **Rule 200 - Issues and handling of certificates.**  
The rule was amended to provide for additional responsibilities for Registrars. The responsibilities are:  
1. Share certificates received from investors for verification by the Stockbroker shall be forwarded to the Registrar within 24 hours.  
2. The registrar shall within 10 days verify the certificates.  
3. The stockbroker shall confirm the verification with the Registrar after 10 days.  
4. Where the signature of the investors requires Bankers confirmation, the Registrar shall return the certificate and the stockbroker has 2 days to contact the shareholder.
26. **Rule 226 - Depository receipts of Nigerian entities.**  
A new rule was created to provide that Global Depository Receipts (GDR) issue shall be approved only upon satisfactory account of utilization of proceeds from previous raising.
27. **Rule 307(A) - Issuance of corporate Bond. (State and Federal Bonds)**  
The rules apply to all Bond issuance and provide for the conditions and other requirements of issuance of bonds.
28. **Rule 249 A - Money Market Fund**  
A rule was created that defined money market fund and provides for the procedure for its regulation and registration with the Commission.
29. **Rule 227 and 228 - Regulation of Merger, Takeovers and Acquisition. Definition of Partnership and Scope of Regulation.**  
The rules defined partnership and stated the scope of regulation of merger, take over and acquisition under the ISA 2007.
30. **Rules 229 (C) 230, 231, 232(C), 233, 234(B)** were created to provide rules and regulations on merger, and bring it in conformity with the ISA, 2007.
31. **New Rule 234 C - Power to order break up of A Company.**  
The rule empowers the Commission to break up companies where it believes its activities constitute a restraint to competition. The rule lists those business practices capable of restraining competition and creating monopoly and for which the Commission may take the ultimate sanction of ordering the break up of the company in accordance with Section 128 of the ISA, 2007.
32. **Schedule VII - Rules of procedure of the Administrative Proceedings Committee of the Securities and Exchange Commission.**  
The new Rules of Procedure replaced the existing rules of APC contained in schedule vii of the Rules and Regulations. The new rules give complainants unimpeded right to fair hearing.
33. **Schedule X - Methods of calculation of Annual turnover or Assets to be applied in relation to merger thresholds.**  
The schedule was created to give effect to Section 120 of the ISA 2007 and encourage the use of SAS 30 in calculating the value of Assets of companies.
34. **Part B4 - Regulation of Public Companies Pursuant to Section 60 65 of The ISA, 2007.**  
Part B4 of the Rules and Regulations were amended to provide for additional financial reports to be provided by companies for good corporate governance.  
  
The Rules require public companies to appoint compliance officers.  
  
The Regulations also require public companies to file Annual Report, Quarterly Reports, Half year Reports and provide for the submission of earning forecast to the Commission.  
  
The Rules also require the use of Risk Management Theories in accounting policies by public companies.
35. **Guidelines for monitoring of unclaimed dividends by public companies.**  
This guidelines were issued to regulate unclaimed dividends managed by individual public quoted companies.  
The guidelines also provide for the segregation of funds and issues of quarterly inspection of the funds aimed at protecting investors.

## NOTE:

Members of the public and stakeholders are invited to visit the Commission's website [www.sec.gov.ng](http://www.sec.gov.ng) for the full details of the new Rules and Regulations and the amendments thereto.

Signed by Management this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010.



# NATIONAL INSURANCE COMMISSION (NAICOM)

## INVITATION TO OFFICIAL NORTH-WEST FLAG-OFF OF COMPULSORY INSURANCE PRODUCTS IN NIGERIA IN SOKOTO, SOKOTO STATE

The National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) hereby invites all stakeholders to the official North-West flag-off of Compulsory Insurance products under the Nigeria Insurance Market Development and Restructuring Initiatives (MDRI), in Sokoto, the Sokoto State Capital.

### **THOSE TO ATTEND:**

Stakeholders expected to attend include members of the State Executive Council, all Local Government Chairmen in Sokoto State; Managing Directors/CEO of Insurance Underwriting Firms; Managing Directors/CEO of Insurance Broking Firms; Managing Directors/CEO of Loss Adjusting Firms; Managing Directors/CEO of Insurance Agencies; members, Insurance Consumers Protection Association; members, Nigerian Council of Registered Builders; members, Nigerian Council of Registered Engineers, members, Town Planning Council; members, Nigerian Medical Association; members, Nigerian Bar Association; All Consumers of Insurance Products; the Nigerian Police; the Nigerian Fire Service; Chief Executives of Government Agencies and Parastatals; and the General Public.

#### **Special Guest of Honour/Chief Host:**

His Excellency  
Alh. (Dr.) Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko  
(Sarkin Yaman Sokoto)  
The Executive Governor of Sokoto State

#### **Opening Address:**

Hajiya Maryam Inna Ciroma  
Chairman, Governing Board of Directors  
National Insurance Commission (NAICOM)

#### **Keynote Speaker:**

Mr. Fola Daniel  
Commissioner for Insurance/CEO  
National Insurance Commission (NAICOM)

#### **Royal Father of the Day:**

His Eminence  
Alh. (Dr.) Sa'ad Abubakar III  
Sultan of Sokoto

Other Speakers include – **Kingsley Obuvie**, President, ARIAN; **Darlington Mgbojekwe**, President, ILAN; **Alhaji (Dr) Teslim Sanusi**, President, NCRIB; **Wole Oshin**, Chairman, NIA; **Mr. Sunny Adeda**, President CIIN; **Mr. Adeyemo Adejumo**, President, Professional Re-Insurance Association of Nigeria; **Rear Admiral I. S. Areola (rtd)**, President, Insurance Consumers' Association of Nigeria; **Prof Akin Akindoyeni**, President, Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria; **Director**, Sokoto State Fire Service; **Commissioner of Police**, Sokoto State and; **Sector Commander**, Federal Road Safety Commission, Sokoto.

**Date:** April 27, 2010

**Venue:** Sultan Muhammadu Maccido Institute for Qur'an and General Studies, Sokoto

**Time:** 10.00am Prompt.

Signed:

**Mr. Lucky Fiakpa**

For: National Insurance Commission

# BUSINESS

0805 1000 536

## Jimoh Ibrahim takes over Virgin Nigeria Airline

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

BARRISTER Jimoh Ibrahim, Group Managing Director of National Insurance Company of Nigeria (NICON) at the weekend formally announced his taking over of Virgin Nigeria Airways, the nation's official carrier.

The NICON Group boss told newsmen in his office in Lagos that the deal, which was finalised on Friday received the approval of the company's creditor, United Bank for Africa Plc, (UBA) after a vigorous negotiation process.

Now known as Nigerian Eagle Airlines, the airline became wholly owned Nigerian when Virgin Atlantic pulled out in 2008 and consequently led to rebranding with focus mainly on domestic and regional flights. Virgin still owns 49 per cent of the new Nigerian Eagle Airlines with the remaining 51 per cent owned by unnamed Nigerian investors. The airline since then has been riddled with financial crisis.

But Ibrahim said part of the agreement with the bank was to allow the new management inject fresh funds into the airline to enable it cope with the emerging challenges in the aviation sector.

Following the takeover, the new management has redeployed the airline's executive director (finance) although his new portfolio was not disclosed, even as the airline's chief executive officer, Captain Dapo Olumide retains his position.

Ibrahim said at a news conference yesterday that the company's turnaround would start with a diagnostic review of all files and status reports of the company and will take up to two years.

He explained that Olumide was retained because of the vote of confidence passed on him by the board of the airline.

According to him, efforts would be made to safeguard the integrity of the nation through the operation of the Nigerian Eagle Airline.

Ibrahim, who said the new management was not envisaging a geometric growth for the company, said the turnaround process would be conservative and arithmetical, adding that safety and human resources would be his top-most priority.

The Nicon boss said all maintenance contracts would be left completely in the hands of Lufthansa Technik. He has also directed the payment of all outstanding liabilities to the German company.

"We had made payment of all outstanding liabilities to Lufthansa Technik as at close



JIMOH Ibrahim

of hour of business and they will be responsible for the fleet without interference. He directed that the managing director should commence the process of acquisition of three aircraft that is already outstanding and it must be completed before the end of May 2010," a statement from the company reads.

On the future of NICON Airways, Ibrahim said that he ordered the suspension of NICON Airways to give room for it re-launch into the aviation industry and that the present transaction would provide another opportunity for NICON Airways to merge with Virgin Nigeria.

Olumide, who was also present at the news conference assured the staff of the airline to brace up to the challenges that the turnaround programme may pose and assured them that all will be done to ensure a successful outing for

the company. The company, had in its search for potential equity partners hired a consultancy firm, Ernst & Young. There has been "a lot of interest" from the Middle East, says Olumide, but the airline is also targeting potential African investors.

Ibrahim, who is also the board chairman of the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) declined to disclose his percentage of the ownership of the but, there are indications that he has indeed taken a controlling stake in the airline.

Olumide had predicted that a private buyer would want a controlling stake of 51 per cent or more, comprising Richard Branson-owned Virgin's 49 per cent and some of the shares held by Nigerian institutional investors.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE

#### IRS Airlines

Lagos-Abj: 09.45, 11.45, 12.45, (Mon-Fri) 09.30, 12.45(Sat&Sun)  
Lagos-Kano: 06.15(Mon-Fri), 16.30(Sat/ Sun)  
Kano-Lagos: 07.30(Mon-Fri), 10.30(Sat/ Sun)  
Abuja-Kano: 10.30am (Mon-Fri/Sun)  
Kano-Abuja: 11.45, 5.00 Fri, 12.15 Sun

#### DANA Airlines:

Lagos-Abj: 07.20; 08.19, 09.00, 12.15, 15.30, 17.10 (Mon-Fr/Sat/Sun)  
Abj-Lagos: 07.20, 09.45, 11.25, 13.05, 14.40, 17.40 (Mon-Fri/Sat/Sun)  
Lag-Kano via Abj: 08.19, Abuja: 10.00  
Kano-Lag via Abj: 11.25, Abuja: 11.25  
Lagos-Enu: 14.40,  
Enu-Lagos 16.20  
Lagos-PH: 09.27  
PH-Lagos: 12.15

#### Overland Airways

Lagos-Ilorin: 07.15 (Mon-Fri), Ilorin-Lagos: 16.15 (Mon-Fri)  
Abuja-Ilorin: 15.00 (Mo-Fri), Ilorin-Abuja: 08.15 (Mon-Fri)  
Lagos-Ibadan: 07.15 (Mon-Fri), Lagos-Ibadan: 16.15 (Mon-Fri)  
Ibadan-Abuja: 08.00 (Mon-Fri), Abuja-Ibadan: 15.00 (Mon-Fri)  
Kats-Abuja: 07.30 (Mon-Fri) Abuja-Kats: 15.30 (Mon-Fri)

### STOCK MARKET INDEX

Date:	Friday, April 23, 2010
Index:	27,486.62
Volume:	578,086,862
Cap.:	N6,648,339,301,260.00

### TRUST INDEX

Inflation	12.3%
GDP	6.68%
Budget	N4.6tr
Ext. Reserves Acct	\$41.5bn
Excess Crude Acct	\$3.9bn
Poverty Ratio	54.4%
Monetary Policy Rate	6%
Banks	24
Oil Price	\$82 a barrel
Power Supply	2, 500MW
Oil output per day	2.6mbd
Broad Money Supply	N10,618,587.9m
Credit to Private Sector	N10,006,236.9m
Inter-Bank Rate	1.1700%
Treasury Bills	2.02%
Deposit Rate	10.98%
Prime Lending Rate	18.28%

### CBN EXCHANGE RATES

23/4/2010	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)
CFA	0.2808	0.2908	0.3008
DANISH KRONER	26.1183	26.5079	26.5975
EURO	196.7011	197.3682	198.0353
POUNDS STERLING	226.1871	226.9542	227.7213
RIYAL	39.3147	39.448	39.5813
SDR	223.0168	223.8033	224.5597
SWISS FRANC	137.0167	137.4814	137.9461
US DOLLAR	147.43	147.93	148.43
WAUA	222.6996	223.4549	224.2101
YEN	1.5652	1.5706	1.5759

### Bureau de Change Rates

BUYING	
Dollar	N151
Euro	N204
Pound	N236
SELLING	
Dollar	N152
Euro	N206
Pound	N236

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

CBN

# Business

## Atedo Peterside is Cadbury's Chairman

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

CADBURY Nigeria has appointed Mr. Atedo Peterside, as its new Chairman of the Board with effect from 21 April 2010. Mr. Peterside, a seasoned banker and economist, was the

Chairman of the Committee on Corporate Governance in Nigeria that was responsible for the Code of Best Practices for Public Companies in Nigeria, published in 2003.

A broad-ranging par-

ticipant in the Nigerian private sector, Mr. Peterside is the Non-Executive Chairman of Stanbic IBTC Bank Plc and he serves on the Boards of several blue chip organisations and companies in Nigeria

This is coming as the

company also announced its audited results for the full year ended 31 December 2009 with a 5 per cent growth in Turnover to N25.59b over 2008 and recorded underlying operating profits of N154m for the first time since the

rebuilding program commenced. In a statement to announce the filing, the Company spokesman, Mr. Kufre Ekanem, said: "The Directors are pleased with the 2009 operating performance. We have sustained our yearly growth in



Atedo Peterside

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Service	Departure	Arrival	Days Of Operation
Lagos - New York JFK Terminal 4	11:20pm	5.50am	Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday
New York - Lagos JFK Terminal 4	10:00pm	2.40pm	Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

\*Checked baggage allowances: 2 pieces at 30kg each in Economy Class / 3 pieces at 30 kg each in Premier Class.  
\*\*All times local. Arrival next day.

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sales and achieved a return to full year operating profits. The Company posted a loss after tax of N1.2bn for 2009 (2008: N2.75bn loss) resulting from financing costs incurred on its legacy debt portfolio. We continue to face costs challenges in our ongoing rebuilding process. However, the Company's current performance provides a solid platform to revamp its infrastructure and restore the Company to profitability."

According to Ekanem, "Mr. Peterside's professional track record and commitment to good corporate governance requires no embellishing. We are thus delighted to have his leadership on our Board as we intensify our corporate resurgence on the back of our successful Rights Issue."

### CBN to develop framework on non-interest banking

THE Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) is to develop a regulatory and supervisory framework on non-interest banking, the CBN Governor, Malam Lamido Sanusi Lamido, has said.

The apex bank said in a statement on Friday in Lagos that Lamido made the announcement during a visit to the Central Bank of Sudan (CBOS) recently.

It stated that the visit was part of Lamido's activities during the 16th meeting of the Council of Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB) in Khartoum.

The bank said the CBN governor called for the support and cooperation of CBOS in achieving the objective.

It quoted Dr Ahmad Ali Abdullah, Advisor to the CBOS Governor on Non-interest Banking, as assuring the CBN of the Sudanese apex bank's readiness to support Nigeria in the implementation of non-interest banking.

The support, he promised, would be through experience sharing and capacity building. (NAN)

# Business/Agric

## Agric modernisation key to food security -Minister

THE Minister of Agriculture, Prof. Sheikh Abdallah, has said that modernisation of agriculture remained the only way to achieve sustainable food security in the country.

Abdallah stated this on Friday in Dutse during the launching of the Jigawa Tractorisation Project under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement. He stressed that food security would be achieved if agricultural practice was mechanised and talented young Nigerians fully engaged in the business.

He said recent records indicated that Nigeria had about

40,000 units of tractors half of which were not functional, as against the estimated requirement of 1.5 million units.

He blamed the failure of the past administration on budgetary constraints, inadequate repairs and maintenance of facilities, inadequate entrepreneurial ability and the lack of transparency. He said the introduction of the PPP by the Federal Government was designed to enable farmers access machinery for crop production at affordable rates and in good time. The minister also said that the scheme was targeted to

increase the tractor density to 10,000 tractors and implements every three years. According to him, the Federal Government has provided 25 per cent subsidy on the cost of each tractor and commended the Jigawa Government for providing an additional 25 per cent subsidy.

In his remark, the state Commissioner for Agriculture, Alhaji Nasidi Ali, said that the 160 tractors to be distributed to farmers in the state would include disc harrow, disc plough and trailers. He put the cost of each tractor at N7.3 million. (NAN).

## Cattle dealers to probe corruption allegations

THE Amalgamated Cattle Dealers Association in Mubi, Adamawa, State said on Thursday that it would investigate alleged corrupt practice against some members.

The corruption allegation came to light following complaints by some goat dealers.

The goat dealers claimed that they had paid N10,000 per truck to a patrol team of the association during the March strike action to enable them to transport goats to the southern part of the country.

Alhaji Saidu Njidda, the Chairman of the association at the Mubi International Cattle Market, confirmed the development.

Njidda said that the

matter was being investigated for necessary action against the culprits.

Malam Suleiman Ahmed, one of the goat dealers who lodged a complaint, claimed he had paid N10,000 to the patrol team, thinking the money was official fine.

"I later realised it was illegal fine and that was why I reported the matter and requested for the refund of my money," Suleiman said.

The cattle dealers in the North had staged one week warning strike in March, suspending the transportation of livestock to the south.

The action, they said, was in protest against multiple taxation and extortion of their members by some touts and revenue officials. (NAN).

## Dallaje Ingawa Dam to gulp N4.3bn

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

CONSTRUCTION of Dallaje Ingawa dam in Katsina State is to gulp N4.3billion and will be completed in two years.

Managing Director Sokoto Rima River Basin Development Authority Alhaji Danlami Bala Zango disclosed this while speaking to Daily Trust in Sokoto.

The Sokoto Rima River Basin Development Authority boss said construction work for the dam has successfully commenced.

He said the dam is strategic in the nation's quest to achieve food security, even as he noted the socio-economic importance of the dam in the provision of portable water to people in the state.

The Managing Director said remarkable land area has been improved for irrigation with the rehabilitation of Bakalori dam which had suffered a lot of neglect with regards to rehabilitation

According to Alhaji

Zango, the Bakalori dam was rehabilitated at the cost of N300million.

"Only about 4,000 was previously cultivated due to the neglect of the rehabilitation but with this rehabilitation of this year, we have increased the land to about 7,000 hectares that is about 3,000 hectares more", Alhaji Zango stated.

He said more irrigation areas are being constructed in dams across the Sokoto Rima River Basin Authority of Kebbi, Sokoto, Zamfara and Kastina States, adding that in Zube dam about 1,800 hectares are under construction while 2,000 hectares have been increased at Jibiya through rehabilitation.

The Managing Director expressed optimism that: "With all these and with good cooperation of the farmers when they come to cultivating the irrigation areas, certainly food production will be enhanced and that will really touch the lives of the common man and also it will take care of the 7- point agenda of Mr. President, that is food security".



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## Star Feature

# 'I eat tuwo and masa, but not speaking Kanuri, Hausa'

## • A German Prof. speaks on 44 years of life in Nigeria

Conrad Max Benedict Brann, 85, is a Professor Emeritus in the University of Maiduguri, who has become a phenomenon in the university community. Through personal savings, he established a library in his house at the staff quarters. His library, which contains over 5,000 registered books, amongst others, is a must visit for students in his field and even others. Interestingly, Brann never married. Since coming to Nigeria and engaging with public officials, including the police on the highway, he says he at no time offered a bribe. Find out about this and more from a holder of Nigeria's national merit award- MFR, who still has one wish, which he is yet to attain in Nigeria.

From Isa Umar Gusau, Sharafa Dauda & Yahaya Ibrahim, Maiduguri

**I**N 1966, Conrad Max Benedict Brann, a young orphan grasped a rare opportunity - The Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst - DAAD, Germany's Academic Exchange Service, a very important organization in that country, saddled with the responsibility of promoting cooperative international academic and scientific exchange for students and tutors in tertiary institutions, had a slot for the exploration of language use and application in some parts of Africa. Instead, young Brann chose Ibadan in Nigeria to teach Language Education. Prior to that, he had acquired a Masters Degree in Medieval and Modern European Languages from Oxford University UK, and subsequently studied International Relations at the Bruges College of Europe, before going to teach English at Hamburg University from 1952 to 1957. From 1958 to 1965, he worked in Paris as Cultural Relations Officer with the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Thereon, he migrated to Rome, Italy, and since then, his decision to come to Nigeria in 1966 has been rewarding.



PROFESSOR Emeritus Conrad Max Benedict Brann.

**"I think I need to say here that I was never asked to give a bribe by any public official in Nigeria, throughout my stay."**

Rewarding, because 44 years after, the young orphan, now a Professor Emeritus of Languages and Linguistics at the University of Maiduguri in Northeast Nigeria, has specialized in applied Socio-Linguistics and European Languages, and published over 300 items, including books and articles in language policy, planning and management. In an exclusive interview with our correspondents at his Q2 quarters situated in the University of Maiduguri, Brann recounts with nostalgia his life-long experiences.

**D**uring the session, Professor Brann intermittently drank water and enjoined us all to do same, after providing a glass and bottle of water for everyone. Remarkably, he took time to explain why he had to drink some.

"I have to drink water all the time, otherwise I just dry up completely," he cheerfully explained.

As a multi-linguist who speaks five European languages fluently - English, French, German, Italian and Spanish, living in a foreign land, without natural relations, can be lonesome and burdensome. But Professor Brann says the humanitarian nature of his cherished community assisted in easing that burden. "I have this community here (Maiduguri), which I have had now for 35 years. I had another community before that in Ibadan, where I stayed for eight years. The idea to permanently reside here, must have come to me when I was at the University of Ibadan, after I was offered the academic exchange opportunity by DAAD. These years in Nigeria, of course,

have helped me to appreciate the position of African countries and I have had interest in the problems of their languages. I have been to different parts of Nigeria - northern and southern, perhaps because I taught in the south for quite a few years, and probably because after the Civil War, I traveled a lot around the southern cities," he happily disclosed.

Early in life, Brann's family had a tragic experience. He narrated with remorse "I haven't got a family by the way. All my natural family died many decades ago, before the Second World War. I had only one brother who went to America before the War and died there at the age of 87. I never had sisters, only one brother. My dad died during the War. He was not in the military, but he was a victim of the War. My mother too, she died."

The interview with Brann was heading in another direction when he willingly offered to share one of his innermost convictions. Marriage! And to think that such a thorough academic would take time offering explanations for such a decision, was overwhelming. "I never married because I am a celibate. A celibate is somebody who doesn't marry out of conviction, especially from a religious vow to abstain from sex. My conviction is simple. I am and have always been a Catholic. I do not have any sexual relations. I have never had any sexual relations in my life! I had something about 30 to 50 years ago, but nothing definitive. I had some lady friends in southern Nigeria, but they were not necessarily sexual partners. Before I came to Nigeria, I think I had very few female contacts," he narrated with enthusiasm.

Are you wondering why he made up his mind never to get hooked? If you are wondering whether he failed to do so because he felt women were distractions, listen to his reply. "Quite an interesting question! Why didn't I get married? I just did not feel sufficiently

# But I regret Hausa'

attached to the ladies concerned, and therefore never had any sexual relations with any lady in my life," he reaffirmed.

He continued with his narration on how his convictions on marriage all began: "It started actually with my mother, whom I loved very much and she looked after me. These are relations, which cannot be sexual, of course. I greatly loved my mother (pointing at her picture on the wall). She was a doctor and my father's student. My father was a medical professor. As soon as they got married, she gave up her profession. It was customary then for married women not to exercise their profession."

"I was interested in having a child of my own, but not physically. I have been interested in children, but I have never had one. It is the lack in my life. That is true and I have come to accept it. Surely, I must have regretted it," he ended on a sad note. Curiously, one member of the team sought to know whether if he was

**Brann's love for Nigeria and Nigerians is confirmed by his decision to live the rest of his life in Maiduguri.**

given a second chance, at his young age, to go back and marry, what would his decision be? He burst into laughter and said: "Ha, ha, ha! That is entirely a supposition. It doesn't have any value. Would I go into marriage? I can't tell you. I do not make such suppositions," he said.

Despite his accomplishments, the phenomenon called Conrad Max Benedict Brann has lived 44 years in Nigeria without achieving one of his heartfelt desires. He confesses that as a professor of Languages and Linguistics and a member of the Kanuri Studies Association (KASA) he would have crowned his achievements, if he had learnt how some local languages- Kanuri and Hausa. "I am into the development of the use of Kanuri and other languages in education. But I must say that I regret not having learnt to speak Nigerian languages. I seem to have been stuck in a lot of things. I am interested in the use of these languages in public and private activities, but I haven't learnt to speak any of them. It is a fact. I would have loved to speak languages like Kanuri or Hausa."

Interestingly, Professor Brann eats all Nigerian dishes. First, he acknowledged that he likes to eat tuwo (maize flour). Upon persistent enquiry into the local dishes relished by Brann, he admitted thus. "I like to eat masa (rice, maize or millet fried pastry), fara (roasted grasshopper), zobo (local fruit juice), kosai (bean cake) and moimoi (a local delicacy from a mixture of beans and other ingredients). As he reeled out the list, he was radiating with smiles, nodding his head, prob-

ably relishing the pleasure of eating any of the earlier mentioned local meals.

While the interview went on, Brann, shifted to an area he apparently felt there was need for him to talk about: "I think I need to say here that I was never asked to give a bribe by any public official in Nigeria, throughout my stay." This stirred the interview crew who wondered why he chose to say that, and they were quick to ask him: Were you ever engaged in any issue, say with the police, customs, any other official in government circles, that could have attracted financial inducement from you? "Yes, I have been a public man, I have come into contact with police on the highway or in town, I have also met other public officials in the course of seeking things to be done, but nobody, none of the officials ever asked me for bribe. They just did their jobs. Of course, I wouldn't have given if I was ever asked, but as it is I never gave either" the Professor said.

Brann, now a household name in Socio-Linguistics, has been instrumental to the establishment of a Library and Documentation Centre right in his-Q2 which is known to be his territory for decades. An average of fifty staff and students of the University of Maiduguri and neighbouring communities are said to visit his library, which is stocked with over 5,000 registered books and 508 serial titles on language use, language policy, planning and management (LPPM) of multilingual states and federations, especially Canada, Europe, India and Nigeria, including constitutions, laws and regulations, as well as periodicals like newspapers and



A painting of Brann's mother while she was young, he cherishes the picture



SOME books in his personal office, which are also for public use.

magazines, prospectuses on language in education and language learning, teaching processes and outcomes on urban linguistics. The library was officially commissioned in September 2000. The Education Tax Fund (ETF) assisted in providing a structure, while Brann provided all books and furnished the centre with chairs, tables and other necessities. The university and the Borno state government pay staff who work as librarians, with the amiable professor still deeply involved in funding the centre.

Brann's linguistic competence and altruistic quality, has earned him the privilege to serve as orator for former Nigerian president, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo and former American Ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young, during separate awards of honorary doctorate degrees conferred on them by the university. Impressed, Obasanjo struck a personal relationship with him. The Professor at some point in the relationship donated hundreds of artifacts collated over 44 years, comprising traditional and historical sculptures from southern and western Nigeria, to the Obasanjo Library at Bells University in Ogun State, Nigeria.

The interactive session with Brann could not resist dwelling on the challenges facing Nigerian tertiary institutions, more so that he has been in the sector for 44 years. "I have seen the best sides of Nigerian education, and I have also known some of the best educationists in Nigeria. I admire the level to which Nigerian education has developed. But contemporary use of language is one of the major problems of tertiary institutions, aside the issue of regulation, because I am both for the use of English and international languages. But I am also for the development of Nigerian languages, through the use of the mother tongue, father tongue and other tongues to maintain Nigerian cultures. I have the impression that things are not doing badly, though some places are not as good as others," he explained. He however acknowledged that there

are enormous challenges facing tertiary education in Nigeria, one of which is use of language in teaching. Recommending the way forward for Nigerian tertiary institutions, Professor Brann said that the dearth of infrastructure, alongside non-integration of communication research, and the inability to inculcate teaching and learning with the concept of indigenization, have to a large extent, impeded on the desirable development of education in tertiary schools.

Born to German parents in 1925, now a British and German national, Brann said that it is his wish to obtain a Nigerian citizenship. "I have applied for Nigerian nationality. The application is still under consideration with the Committee on Naturalization. If it is granted, I would be happy," he said gladly, adding that it would be a fulfillment to gain Nigerian nationality, even though he made it categorically clear that if obtaining Nigerian nationality would require relinquishing his other nationalities, then he was not ready to do so.

As an Emeritus Professor, his capability to equip and manage his library has been successful with his earnings from both Nigerian and German pensions. "I have a life-long employment offered by the University of Maiduguri, after years of selfless service. As a professor, I certainly earn a lot of money, and the professorship is all that I have. Apart from Nigeria, I have also served some other countries. I have a German as well as a Nigerian pension, which is not too adequate. But the fact is that I have not saved a penny. Not a penny! There is nothing in my bank account," he disclosed, as he tried to explain the kind of impact, which his investment in the Library has had on his financial status.

Investigations revealed that most times, the Professor Emeritus has to pay and order for books. He had just paid for some books. Sometimes, when he travels abroad, he buys books and addresses them to himself. When he returns back here, he contin-

ues to receive them as they are delivered. Sometimes, when he stumbles upon books of interests, he just buys them and puts in his luggage."

Brann's love for Nigeria and Nigerians is confirmed by his decision to live the rest of his life in Maiduguri. Despite the fact that Brann is yet to acquire Nigeria's citizenship, the government and people have already honoured him with one of the highest national awards with the conferment of Member of the Federal Republic (MFR) of Nigeria in December 2004, an indication that he has been given due recognition.

As the discussion continued, Brann couldn't hide his feelings and went on: "What I love most about Nigeria is the humanity. The approach of Nigerians towards human beings, is an act of humanitarianism," he praised.

But how could a European survive such harsh weather conditions in Maiduguri? Professor Brann agrees that growing up and living in two extreme weather conditions, can be excruciating. According to him, he has developed a tactic to beat the contrasting climatic condition between Maiduguri's hot weather and Hamburg's cold weather. This has not only helped him to evade the nasty experience, but has also been academically productive, because every year, he visits Germany in April, when the temperature becomes unbearable in Maiduguri, to keep up with his contacts and to share ideas with colleagues over there. He returns around August, when the rains have set in, and the weather becomes friendlier.

Professor Brann said he loves sharing and you cannot but agree with him. He lives in his house with about five young Nigerian men, whom he referred to as "members of his community". They live in his rooms, and he helps them financially from time to time. They in-turn, assist in the household. Two are graduates who acquired their degrees during their stay in the house, while the rest are still students.

## Business

# NAICOM to launch compulsory insurance package in Sokoto

THE National Insurance Commission (NAICOM) will on Tuesday April 27 in Sokoto State launch its awareness campaign on Compulsory Insurance Products.

Mr Fola Daniel, the Commissioner for Insurance, said in Abuja that the awareness was to ensure adequate enlightenment on the products.

The six products include Third Party Motor liability insurance, public building Insurance, building under construction,

workmen compensation insurance, group life insurance and professional health care insurance.

He said the awareness would be launched in the six geopolitical zones of the country.

"Insurance is necessary; the focus of our awareness is to ensure that people are adequately educated on issues concerning insurance in the country," Daniel said. According to him, there is a need for compulsory insurance in the country as it will

help reduce risks and contribute to the growth of the economy.

Daniel said the commission would inspect some sites in Sokoto state, pay courtesy visit to the Sultan, the Police and the Governor. "Our idea of visiting all these people is also to ensure that all stakeholders are carried along in the awareness campaign.

"When we start the enforcement, the police will be involved among many other groups," he said. (NAN).



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## Customs Eastern Marine seizes N43m goods

By Sunday Williams

THE Nigeria Customs Service Eastern Marine anti-smuggling operations has announced the seizure of different kinds of goods with duty paid value of N43.5 million in Calabar, Cross Rivers state.

The seized goods include: 200 bales of second hand clothes, 195 cartons of brown wines, 1,010 bags of rice, 892 used vehicle tyres, 300 bags of chemicals, 109 cartons of matches, 1,451 cartons of baron wine, 2000 pieces of PVC joints and 1,800 pieces of hides and skin.

A statement from Nigeria Customs Deputy Public Relations Officer Joseph Attah said four persons have been arrested in connection with the smuggling and are presently under going prosecution by the court.

According to the statement, the Comptroller of Eastern marine anti-smuggling operations, Abdulkareem Husaini said that the Eastern water ways are no longer safe for smugglers as the creeks are presently under 24 hour surveillance.

He advised importers to get acquainted with the prohibition list in order to avoid lost of wealth and possible jail term.

He said with the logistical support and boosting of welfare passages for officers and men by the Comptroller General of Customs, his men are ready to give the smugglers a run for their money.

## 'Rice importation not illegal'

By Adelanwa Bamgboye, Lagos

THE Comptroller-General (CG) of the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) Alhaji Dikko Abdullahi Inde has debunked rumour making the rounds that Importation of rice through Nigeria's land borders have been banned.

The unfounded rumour was debunked during a meeting between Trans Border Traders Association of Nigeria and the Management of the Nigeria Customs Service, NCS held Thursday in the Office of the Comptroller-General NCS.

The CG reaffirmed that Rice importation into the country through all approved entry points including land borders remain legal as there was no directive from the Nigeria Government to suggest otherwise.

The CG also used the occasion to reemphasise the Customs preparedness to checkmate the menace of Rice Smuggling into the country.

He enjoined all importers of the product to always ensure strict compliance to all relevant sections of Import/Export guide

National Co-ordinator Trans Border Traders Association of Nigeria Alh. Muri Okunola who attended the meeting disclosed that the association resolved to work together with the NCS to stamp out smuggling.

“

Rice importation into the country through all approved entry points including land borders remain legal

# TELL

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## Business/Africa

# AfDB to get 3-fold capital increase

AFRICAN Development Bank is to get a three-fold increase in its capital base to 90 billion dollars.

This gives the Tunis-based lender far greater scope to meet the continent's funding needs, its head said on Friday.

"It's significant, but you must bear in mind that in Africa now, the way the continent is going, we need to increase our firepower, especially to lend for infrastructure and the private sector," AfDB resident Donald Kaberuka said from Washington.

Six per cent of the increase would be capital paid in over eight years, Kaberuka said.

The rest will be "call-up capital" in the form of guarantees from the bank's rich-country backers.

"The importance of the call-up capital is that it's a guarantee for us to go to the capital markets to borrow money competitively which we then pass on to our customers," he said.

The AfDB said in December it would lend about seven billion dollars to African governments and firms in 2010, down from an estimated 10

billion dollars last year when loan programmes were boosted in response to the global financial crisis.

The AfDB's shareholders are Africa's 53 nations and 24 non-African donor countries.

Much of its lending to poorer countries is at concessionary rates, largely financed by Western donors.

One of its most significant loans last year was 1.5 billion dollars in emergency budget support to Botswana after the collapse of the price of diamonds, the southern African country's main export. (Reuters/NAN)

## Harvard Business School explores investment opportunities in Nigeria

A delegation of participants from the Owner President Management Programme of the Harvard Business School is to visit Nigeria tomorrow to explore investment opportunities.

Mr Scun Faluyi, Coordinator, Nigerian Business Group, made this known in a statement made available to

newsmen on Friday in Lagos.

According to Faluyi, the delegation is part of a group of 100 company chief executives from more than 80 countries.

"The delegates are those who are interested in investing in diverse sectors of the Nigerian economy.

"The delegation, during

their four-day visit, is expected to meet with Nigerian industrialists, business executives and policy makers to initiate business partnership," he added.

It also stated that the members of delegation are interested in agriculture, aviation, electronics, manufacturing and telecommunications. (NAN)

## EU spends N6.3bn in Nigeria in 10 yrs

THE European Union (EU) has spent N6.3 billion on projects in Nigeria in the last 10 years.

Mr Pierre Philippe, the Charge d'Affaires in the European Commission, said this on Friday in Abuja.

He spoke at the signing of contracts for new grants to some non-state actors and civil societies under the Thematic Programmes of the EU.

Philippe listed the projects areas to include education, reproductive health, water and sanitation, human rights education and public

finance analysis.

Others are budget transparency, conflict resolution, elections, environment, migration and trafficking.

Philippe said projects carried out under the thematic programmes could be implemented without government consent.

"This is based on the assumption that civil societies groups and non state actors play essential role in fostering social capital and democratic development of their societies either as watch dogs of or in synergy with

public institutions", he said.

He however said the projects were designed to complement those implemented with governments under the European Development Fund (EDF).

The projects, he said, had the objective of strengthening the partnership between local authorities, civil society groups and non-state actors.

NAN reports that 11 new grant contracts were signed under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights Country-Based Support Scheme Programme.

## British-Nigeria export trade reached N414bn in 2009

SIR Bob Dewar, the British High Commissioner to Nigeria, said in Lagos last week that export trade between Nigeria and the UK in 2009 was \$1.8bn (about N414bn).

He made this known at the 32nd Annual General Meeting Luncheon of the Nigeria British Chamber of Commerce (NBCC).

Dewar said Nigeria was UK's 33rd largest market, while UK was also one of the

largest investors in Nigeria.

Dewar, represented by Mr Peter Stephenson, the commission's Director of Trade, said the development represents a two-way trade, "indicating that our relationship is historical, strong and enduring."

He called for the decentralisation of the power sector in Nigeria, adding that the cost of doing business in the country was high.

Mr Akinola Akintunde,

President of NBCC, said the chamber was committed to promoting trade and investment between the two countries.

He said the chamber would be celebrating the Nigeria-British Business Day between June 22 and June 23.

Akintunde said that the chamber would also organise a trade mission to the UK between June 28 and July 2. (NAN)



EFinA Innovation Grant Round 1 was completed in October 2009. We received and assessed 44 bids out of which one project was successful and received a grant of \$1,500,000.

### EFinA Innovation Grant Round 2 Request for Proposals

EFinA is pleased to announce that the Competition is now open for the EFinA Innovation Grant Round 2. Our grant will support new ideas and approaches to expand financial access to the unbanked and under-banked population in Nigeria. The deadline for submission of proposals is 6pm on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

**Background:** EFinA is an independent, professional, non-profit organization funded by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. One of EFinA's key objectives is to become an innovation centre targeting catalytic change across Nigeria's financial sector, to make markets work for those currently excluded from formal financial services.

**Fund Purpose:** The Innovation Fund is a special facility within EFinA which seeks to promote innovation in the development and deployment of financial services and thus expand financial access to the underserved and low income population in Nigeria. EFinA funds can be used to test and launch specific innovations that should be targeted at the unbanked. All applicants will be expected to fund at least 50% of the total project cost.

### What are we looking for?

We are seeking innovative proposals which have scalable and sustainable business models. Products/services to be offered should be profitable, affordable, and promote financial inclusion in Nigeria. Grant proposals must include one or more of the following key sectors with the potential to expand access to financial services for the unbanked and under-banked:

**Branchless banking:** Branchless banking refers to the delivery of financial services outside conventional bank branches, often using non bank retail agents and relying on information and communications technologies such as card-reading point-of-sale (POS) terminals or mobile phones for real time transaction processing.

**Payments services:** Electronic payments infrastructure provides a platform for which all formal financial services can be delivered and promotes financial inclusion.

**Savings:** Development of effective savings related products in terms of convenience, flexibility and cost, targeted at the lower income segments that encourages them to save.

**Consumer Protection:** Consumer protection must ensure fair and transparent financial services and should address data privacy and security, disclosure of information, redress and effective consumer education. Innovative consumer protection policies are tailored to the realities of inexperienced, low literacy consumers.

**Financial Capability/Education:** Financial capability seeks to improve the knowledge of financial management for low income consumers and in turn increase the quality and quantity of their use of financial services.

### Who can apply?

- Potential organisations that EFinA would be looking to fund include Microfinance Banks, Commercial Banks, Payment Service Providers, Technology Providers, Mobile Network Operators
- Applicants must have the capacity to implement the proposed project

### What is the application process?

- For further information on our eligibility and evaluation criteria, our application and submission process, please go to: [www.efina.org.ng/innovation\\_grants.htm](http://www.efina.org.ng/innovation_grants.htm)
- All completed grant application forms along with the required documentation should be submitted to the Programme Manager at [innovation@efina.org.ng](mailto:innovation@efina.org.ng)
- The deadline for submission is 6pm on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010
- EFinA will notify all applicants of the outcome of their applications by September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010

For further information contact the Programme Manager at [innovation@efina.org.ng](mailto:innovation@efina.org.ng)

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## Business/International

# US presidential summit on entrepreneurship starts today

By Idris Ahmed & Aisha Umar

MORE than 250 participants from over 50 countries will today gather in Washington, United State of America, in the first US Presidential Summit on Entrepreneurship to exchange ideas on job creation and community development.

Three Nigerians will participate in the summit and are expected to bring knowledge garnered at the summit back to Nigeria and exchange such with others on how to become self-reliance in wealth creation.

The participants were selected based on President Obama's invitation to celebrate the risky, exhilarating life of entrepreneurship and share ideas about sparking new businesses in their communities. They are made up of sizable Muslim popu-

lations.

The summit would focus on agricultural development, ICT and technology related issues among other things.

President Barack Obama would make a remark at the opening of the summit, Senior Adviser on Entrepreneurship Office of Commercial and Business Affairs/Bureau of Economic Affairs/US Department of State Steven R. Koltai said in a telephone conference.

Koltai said people all over the world can participate in the summit live by joining in online.

The Presidential Summit on Entrepreneurship is builds on President Obama's speech to the Muslim world in Cairo June 4, 2009.

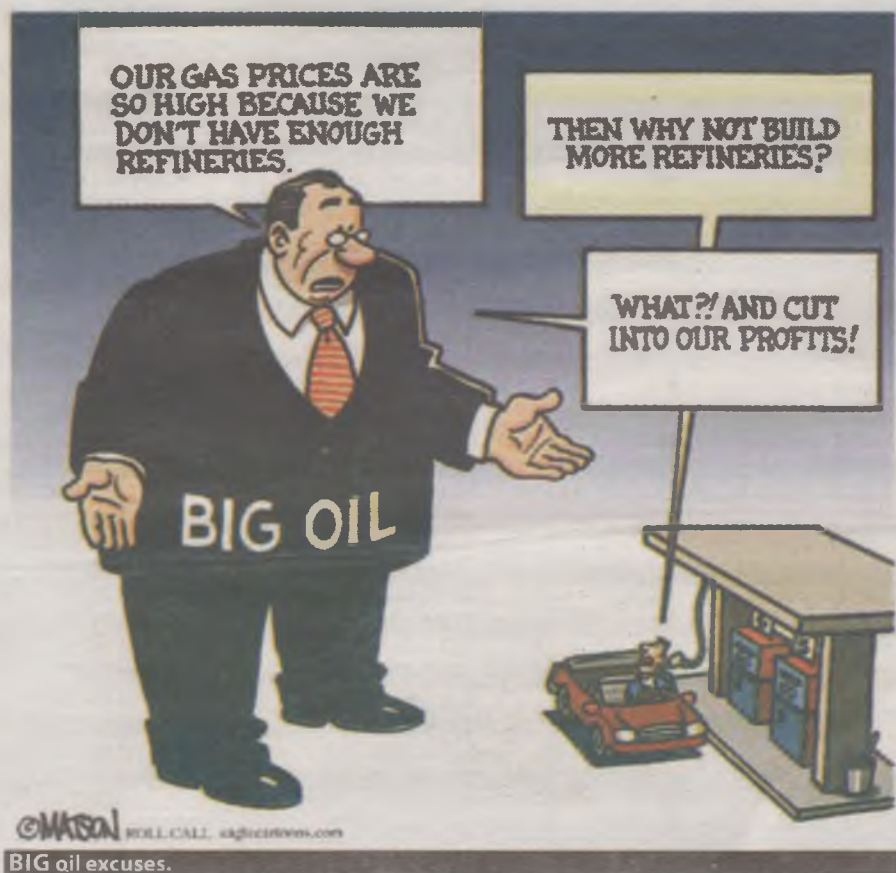
He promised to host a summit on entrepreneurship "to

identify how we can deepen ties between business leaders, foundations and social entrepreneurs in the United States and Muslim communities around the world."

The summit will highlight the role that entrepreneurs play in communities in creating jobs and improving societies. Results expected from the gathering are new programs, partnerships, relationships and networks, which will encourage starting new businesses and social projects.

Participants will come from Africa; the Middle East; South, Central and Southeast Asia; and Muslim communities in other regions and countries, including the United States.

Among the participants will be Muhammad Yunus, the father of microfinance, a strategy of making small loans to impoverished people to help them start businesses.



## UK economic growth slows to 0.2%

THE UK economy continued to recover from recession in the first three months of the year, according to official estimates.

GDP grew by 0.2 percent between January and March, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) said that was weaker than the 0.4 percent growth predicted by many economists, but the figure may be revised.

The last quarter of 2009 saw GDP growth of 0.4 percent - revised up from an initial estimate of 0.1 percent.

The ONS said the bad weather seen at the beginning of the year may have had an impact on output - particularly in the retail and industrial sectors.

But despite that, manufacturing output grew by 0.7 percent over the quarter, while the utilities sector saw

output rise by 2.5 percent.

However, the bulk of growth came from the financial and business services sector, which saw growth of 0.6 percent.

Meanwhile the sector including retail, hotels and restaurants shrank by 0.7 percent.

BBC economics editor Stephanie Flanders said the rise in manufacturing output was a particular cause for optimism.

Though disappointing, the 0.2 percent figure is not dramatically out of line with the popular experience of this recovery so far.

"What many will find most cheering in these numbers is the stonking 0.7 percent estimate for growth in the production sector," she said.

"That's the strongest quarterly performance for that part of the economy

in many years. Hopes of an export-led recovery are not dashed yet."

Other analysts were also optimistic, despite the growth figure coming in below expectations.

Howard Archer, chief economist at IHS Global Insight, argued that the lower-than-expected growth figure was "not in itself overly worrying".

"Overall growth in the first quarter was clearly dragged down appreciably by the very bad weather in January, and most indicators suggest that there has been a marked pick up in activity since then," he said.

"Furthermore, there must be a very good chance that first quarter GDP growth will be revised up in future releases as more data for March become available and show improved activity."

## Economic crisis adds millions to ranks of poorest

LAST year's global slump will condemn 53 million more people to extreme poverty and contribute to 1.2 million child deaths in the next five years, the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) said.

Despite these setbacks, the joint report released on Friday said the overall number of people living on less than 1.25 dollars a day, the definition of "extreme poverty", would fall to 920 million by 2015 compared to 1.8 billion in 1990.

This puts emerging nations broadly on track to achieve a United Nations "Millennium Development Goal" of halving 1990 rates

of extreme poverty by 2015.

However, the 2008-09 financial and economic turmoil and the food price crisis that preceded it in early 2008 mean the prognosis is not so good for a similar drive to cut global rates of hunger and malnutrition.

More than a billion people, or one in six people on the planet, are still struggling to meet basic food needs, leading to increased instances of disease, and ultimately death, in young children and pregnant women, the report said.

World Bank projections cited in the report said 1.2 million children were likely to die between 2009 and 2015 as a result of the two

crises.

However, the two institutions concluded the fallout would have been more serious had developing country governments not followed sound macro-economic policies before the crisis, giving themselves room to maintain social safety nets in hard times.

"The financial crisis was a severe external shock that hit poor countries hard.

Its effects could have been far worse were it not for better policies and institutions in developing countries over the past 15 years," IMF Deputy Managing Director Murilo Portugal said in a statement. (Reuters/NAN)

## Microsoft profit up 35%

MICROSOFT saw its profits leap by 35 percent in the first three months of 2010 - as its Windows 7 operating system continued to prove popular.

The software giant made a net profit of \$4 billion (£2.6bn) and said it had also seen "strong growth" from its Bing search engine business and Xbox Live.

Sales hit a record \$14.5

billion, up 6 percent on the same period a year earlier.

Windows 7 has proved to be Microsoft's best-selling operating system to date after the disappointing Vista.

The company's results are closely tied to computer sales because its two most profitable divisions make the Windows Operating System and Office business

software.

And the firm said business customers were "beginning to refresh their desktop".

Microsoft is the latest technology company to report earnings results.

Yahoo and Apple both announced higher profits earlier this week, while Google reported strong figures last week.

## Business/Finance

Nigerian Stock Exchange  
(Source: APT Securities)  
Friday, April 23, 2010

STOCK Name	Prev Day Close	Open	High	Low	Price	Change	Deals	Volume Traded	Value
ZUP	45.17	47.42	47.42	47.00	47.00	1.83	47	1,000	47,000.00
ABBEYBDS	1.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.61	0.00	1	50	80.50
ACCESS	10.03	9.57	9.57	9.53	9.53	-0.50	188	13,001,388	123,973,024.00
AFRINSURE	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	1	35,283	17,641.50
AFRPAINTS	3.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.49	0.00	1	1,000	3,320.00
AGLEVENT	3.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.80	0.00	24	167,000	652,490.00
AIICO	1.64	1.56	1.64	1.56	1.56	-0.08	81	10,989,437	17,245,032.00
ALUMACO	8.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.57	0.00	1	10,000	81,500.00
ASHAKACEM	20.41	21.20	21.43	20.41	21.40	0.99	161	4,500,157	94,348,400.00
ASOSAVINGS	0.60	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	-0.03	49	10,207,611	5,818,338.50
BAGCO	3.50	3.51	3.51	3.40	3.40	-0.10	276	1,296,853	4,495,951.50
BCC	63.80	63.80	65.97	63.80	65.97	2.17	57	1,816,817	116,176,688.00
BECOPETRO	1.66	1.70	1.70	1.60	1.60	-0.06	32	1,367,089	2,299,009.00
BERGER	7.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.94	0.00	21	42,018	339,468.09
BETAGLAS	15.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.20	0.00	1	2,000	28,880.00
BIGTREAT	1.05	1.07	1.07	1.00	1.00	-0.05	39	2,667,944	2,749,474.50
BOCGAS	10.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.22	0.00	2	2,500	24,375.00
CADBURY	29.08	26.00	26.83	23.83	23.83	-1.35	187	5,649,928	146,517,984.00
CAP	29.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.67	0.00	10	22,362	692,296.31
CAPOIL	0.51	0.50	0.51	0.50	0.50	-0.01	14	2,201,800	1,104,300.00
CONOIL	53.47	56.14	56.14	56.14	56.14	2.67	74	453,230	25,443,916.00
CONTINSURE	1.06	1.09	1.10	1.01	1.09	0.03	25	34,721,788	35,281,104.00
CORNERST	0.82	0.84	0.84	0.78	0.78	-0.04	16	9,903,978	7,746,103.00
COURTVILLE	0.50	0.50	0.52	0.50	0.51	0.01	11	18,800,000	8,438,000.00
CRUSADER	1.00	0.96	1.00	0.95	0.95	-0.05	20	2,391,663	2,278,019.75
CUSTODYINS	3.80	3.78	3.78	3.81	3.85	0.05	22	8,574,900	32,839,880.00
CUTIX	3.76	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94	0.18	6	71,900	283,286.00
DAARCOMM	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.25	0.00	5	38,800	45,096.00
DANGFLOUR	23.31	23.00	23.35	22.40	23.00	-0.31	592	5,505,340	126,205,472.00
DANGSUGAR	18.80	18.95	19.80	18.53	18.80	-0.18	193	6,712,809	128,039,904.00
DEAPCAP	2.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.02	0.00	1	15,000	30,300.00
DIAMONDBNK	8.51	8.29	8.51	8.16	8.17	-0.34	100	16,302,594	134,175,584.00
DNMEYER	4.16	4.36	4.36	4.36	4.36	0.20	4	149,595	652,234.19
DUNLOP	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	8	68,273	34,136.50
ECOBANK	5.80	5.81	5.81	5.81	5.81	0.01	77	464,132	2,698,771.50
EKOCORP	1.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.58	0.00	1	1,888	2,981.75
EQUITYASUR	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	1	1,250	625.00
ETERNAOIL	8.11	8.20	8.30	8.13	8.13	-0.02	50	1,391,351	11,332,960.00
ETI	19.25	19.25	20.00	19.25	19.80	0.55	46	8,084,760	159,029,216.00
EVANSMED	1.81	1.79	1.79	1.72	1.72	-0.09	32	635,650	1,104,384.00
FCMB	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.60	8.85	-0.15	75	10,619,136	95,227,728.00
FIDELITYBK	2.99	3.00	3.08	2.99	3.01	0.02	171	9,822,359	29,843,834.00
FIDSON	3.43	3.43	3.43	3.30	3.30	-0.13	38	1,551,699	5,193,365.50
FIRSTALUM	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	5	108,300	54,150.00
FIRSTBANK	16.59	16.65	17.00	16.65	16.90	0.31	1072	24,504,611	413,845,728.00
FIRSTINLND	0.63	0.63	0.66	0.60	0.60	-0.03	67	3,044,600	1,909,486.38
FLOURMILL	74.40	71.90	71.91	71.50	71.50	-2.90	91	893,348	64,096,128.00
FTNCOCOA	0.98	0.98	1.02	0.95	1.02	0.04	38	2,988,501	2,874,075.58
GLAXOSMITH	27.00	25.81	26.00	25.80	25.80	-1.20	28	494,842	12,782,451.00
GOLDINSURE	0.90	0.87	0.94	0.86	0.94	0.04	35	12,900,461	11,290,471.00
GTASSURE	2.98	2.99	2.99	2.84	2.84	-0.14	61	4,331,359	12,356,663.00
GUARANTY	18.81	18.85	18.88	18.45	18.48	-0.33	620	17,049,235	318,359,104.00
GUINEAINS	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	3	121,000	60,500.00
HONYFLOUR	8.50	8.64	8.64	8.64	8.64	0.14	56	599,843	5,171,065.00
IBTC	10.11	9.66	9.99	9.65	9.70	-0.41	70	2,668,410	26,308,276.00
IKEJAHOTEL	2.86	2.80	3.00	2.72	3.00	0.14	22	374,723	1,049,338.50
INCAR	1.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.97	0.00	1	720	1,418.40
INTENEGINS	0.72	0.73	0.75	0.69	0.69	-0.03	59	7,881,439	5,521,963.00
INTERCONT	1.83	1.80	1.80	1.74	1.74	-0.09	96	4,829,127	8,542,031.00
IPWA	1.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.20	0.00	1	500	570.00
JAPAUOIL	1.71	1.63	1.66	1.63	1.63	-0.08	359	16,058,914	26,242,472.00
JBERGER	58.79	58.87	61.72	58.87	60.00	1.21	177	5,661,529	336,460,680.00
LINKASSURE	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	10	2,100,000	1,050,000.00
MOBIL	166.54	173.00	174.86	173.00	174.86	8.32	37	402,082	69,433,024.00
NEIMETH	2.96	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	0.14	36	706,041	2,188,727.00
NIGERINS	1.33	1.39	1.39	1.39	1.39	0.06	23	1,036,255	1,440,394.50
OANDO	123.07	129.22	129.22	124.11	126.00	2.93	251	2,031,036	258,449,552.00
OASISINS	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.77	0.00	1	50,000	37,000.00
OCEANIC	1.99	2.00	2.08	2.00	2.00	0.01	131	6,466,167	13,002,218.00
PLATINUM	1.48	1.51	1.52	1.45	1.48	0.03	85	10,667,480	16,044,394.00
PZ	31.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.94	0.00	88	591,611	17,961,120.00
REGAINS	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	2	352,960	175,480.00
SKYEBANK	7.52	7.80	7.89	7.15	7.15	-0.37	296	44,889,408	331,054,272.00
SOVREINS	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	2	10,000	5,000.00
SPRINGBANK	0.97	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	0.04	72	790,793	790,929.23
STINSURE	0.57	0.55	0.56	0.55	0.55	-0.02	37	5,370,000	2,955,400.00
STERLNBANK	2.35	2.28	2.28	2.24	2.25	-0.10	77	3,040,322	6,850,598.50
TOTAL	189.87	193.00	193.00	193.00	193.00	3.13	21	308,481	509,987.00
TRANSCORP	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.52	0.53	0.00	43	2,042,131	1,082,495.12
UBA	15.20	15.19	15.89	14.76	15.79	0.59	473	58,685,074	889,643,840.00
UBN	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.95	6.00	0.00	185	6,222,236	37,295,936.00
UNHOMES	0.98	0.95	0.98	0.91	0.98	0.04	41	1,641,376	1,602,308.12
UNIC	0.85	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	-0.04	8	375,086	303,827.09
UNITYBNK	1.09	1.06	1.14	1.04	1.14	0.05	49	5,524,488	6,062,883.50
UNITYKAP	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.00	2	16,000	9,600.00
UNIMINSURE	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	5	438,000	219,000.00
WAPCO	44.50	42.30	42.30	42.28	42.28	-2.22	55	657,600	27,811,704.00
WAPIC	0.90	0.89	0.94	0.89	0.94	0.04	16	655,860	610,090.38
WEMABANK	1.10	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	-0.05	56	2,876,923	3,024,232.75
ZENITHBANK	15.61	15.35	15.83	15.35	15.80	0.19	486	30,498,969	477,164,608.00



## ABUJA AUTO-COMPLEX LIMITED

### ABUJA AUTOMOTIVE VILLAGE PROJECT

DAKWA DISTRICT, ALONG KUBWA-SULEJA EXPRESSWAY

#### INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE ABUJA AUTOMOTIVE VILLAGE PROJECT AT DAKWA DISTRICT OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA.

The Abuja Auto-Complex Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle established for the execution of the Abuja Automotive Village Project in the FCT invites reputable and registered Contractors / Suppliers to apply for Pre-qualification for various jobs of the Abuja Automotive Village.

#### PROJECT DISCRPTION

##### 1. INFRASTRUCTURE AND CIVIL WORKS

- a. Roads
- b. Drainages
- c. Go-Kart Track
- d. Security Gate / Towers
- e. Fencing
- f. External Electrical Works
- g. Borehole / Water supply and Distribution

##### 2. BUILDINGS

- a. 7,000 Shops (Automobile Components)
- b. 2,000 Shops (Commercial Components)
- c. 3,374 Units Residential buildings
- d. Supermarkets
- e. Public Toilets
- f. Schools
- g. Hotel

##### 3. OTHER VARIOUS JOBS

#### PRE-QUALIFICATION PRE-REQUISITE

1. Evidence of Registration with Abuja Auto-Complex Ltd as a Contractor
2. Detailed Company profile showing:
  - a. Valid Certificate of Registration/Incorporation
  - b. Current Tax Certificate
  - c. Vat registration/certificate/ evidence of Remittance
  - d. Company Audited Account for Three years
  - e. Evidence of Financial Capability and Banking Support
  - f. Evidence of Technical Capability
  - g. Annual Turnover

#### VERIFICATION OF CLAIMS IN PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Please note that Abuja Auto-Complex Limited will verify the claims made by Contractors in the Pre-qualification documents.

#### CONTRACTORS REGISTRATION

Registration forms for Contractors in all categories are available at Abuja Auto-Complex Ltd office:

**Block B Flat 2 SKY Memorial Complex, Michael Okpara Street, Wuse Zone 5 Abuja. Tel 097803510**

Please note that registration as a Contractor with Abuja Auto-Complex Ltd is a pre-requisite for pre-qualification and does not in any way imply, suggest or indicate that the Contractor has been Pre-qualified.

#### SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

Interested applicants / Companies should submit in sealed envelopes their pre-qualification documents stated above and delivered by hand, to reach the following address within three weeks (21 days) from the date of this publication.

The Executive Director Operations,  
Abuja Auto-Complex Limited,  
Block B Flat 2 SKY Memorial Complex,  
Zone 5,  
Wuse-Abuja.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE

This publication is not an invitation to tender. Only successfully pre-qualified companies would be required to tender for any job in the project.

Signed:  
**MANAGEMENT**  
ABUJA AUTO-COMPLEX LIMITED



### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF CIVIL SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION

#### INVITATION FOR COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR GENERAL RENOVATION OF HEAD OF SERVICE LIAISON OFFICE, LAGOS.

##### 1.0 Introduction

The Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation wishes to invite bids from interested companies for the General Renovation of Head of Service Liaison Office, Lagos.

##### 2.0 Project Location

The Head of Service Liaison Office, Lagos is located on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of No. 36, Broad Street, Lagos.

##### 3.0 Project Description/Scope of Work

The works include but not limited to the following:

- a. Repair/Replacement of existing floor wall and ceiling finishing;
- b. Removal/Replacement of rusty/dilapidated louver carrier/blades and fixing of plain/obscure glass panes;
- c. Minor repairs work on roof/laying of felt;
- d. Removal/Replacement of hardwood doors, mortice locks, crittall hope locks and windows;
- e. Tiling of the Floor;
- f. Painting with high quality emulsion, gloss and lacquer wax polish;
- g. Service works include both plumbing and electrical work with necessary high quality fitting and accessories.

##### 4.0 Interested and competent companies are expected to possess the following vital documents:

- i. Certificate of Incorporation or Business name
- ii. Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate for the last Three (3) years
- iii. VAT Registration/VAT Payments/Exemption Certificate
- iv. Audited Account for the last three (3) years
- v. Evidence of fulfillment of pension contributions
- vi. An average amount of construction work over the last 5 years in the sum of N100,000,000
- vii. Evidence of Requisite professionals and technicians to perform the job
- viii. Evidence of experience of similar jobs and knowledge of the industry
- ix. Evidence of financial capability vide Bank statements of Account
- x. Evidence of ownership/lease of essential Construction equipment
- xi. The bid must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of not more than 2% of the bid price by way of Bank Guarantee issued by a reputable Bank.

##### 5.0 Bidding Documents

The bidding document shall be issued to prospective bidders upon presentation of receipt for payment of N20,000 (twenty thousand naira) only non-refundable fee payable to the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of Block "A", Federal Secretariat, Phase 11, Abuja.

The tenderer shall enclose the documents requested for in one (1) sealed envelope duly marked as "TECHNICAL BID FOR GENERAL RENOVATION OF HEAD OF SERVICE LIAISON OFFICE, LAGOS" while the completed financial bid with photocopy of payment receipt shall be enclosed in a 2<sup>nd</sup> sealed envelope duly marked as "FINANCIAL BID FOR GENERAL RENOVATION OF HEAD OF SERVICE LIAISON OFFICE, LAGOS". The two (2) envelopes containing the Technical and Financial bids respectively shall then be enclosed and sealed in a 3<sup>rd</sup> single outer envelope bearing GENERAL RENOVATION OF HEAD OF SERVICE LIAISON OFFICE, LAGOS and delivered to the address below on or before 12.00 noon (Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2010). Bid opening shall commence immediately after the closing time at the Atiku Abubakar Hall, Block A, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Federal Secretariat, Phase 11, Abuja. Late submissions shall be rejected.

Bidders are hereby notified that only the Financial Bids of those whose Technical Bids meet the minimum qualifying score shall be opened. The others will be returned unopened to unsuccessful bidders.

##### 6.0 All clarifications shall be addressed to:

The Deputy Director (Procurement)  
Block A, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Room 112  
Federal Secretariat Phase II Complex,  
Abuja.

Signed  
Deputy Director (Procurement)  
For: Permanent Secretary (Common Services Office)



## INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Plot 436, Zambezi Crescent Maitama A5, PMB 0184 Garki Abuja

### INVITATION TO TENDER

#### I. Preamble

The commission is proposing a series of training for stakeholders of Political Parties' such as Board of Trustees (BOT), Members and Party Officials at the National, State and Local Government Areas (LGA) for the purposes of ensuring internal democracy in political parties and the conduct of free and fair elections.

#### II. Project title

The theme for the workshop for the BOT members is 'Party Organization and The Electoral Process' whereas the theme for the workshop for the party officials is 'The Role of Political Parties in Elections'.

#### III. Proposal requirement

Interested bidders are expected to submit technical and financial proposals in separate envelopes. The technical and financial bids should consist of 39 lots as follows:-

- a) LOT 1 (Party Organization and the Electoral Process, for BOT members to be held in Abuja.
- b) LOT 2 (The Role of Political Parties in Elections; for National party officials to be held in Abuja.
- c) LOT 3 39 (The Role of Political Parties in Elections; for 36 States and FCT party officials to be held at State Capitals and FCT)

#### A. Technical Bids:

The technical proposal should include: specifics and General requirement as indicated below:-

##### I) Specific Requirements

- § Training objectives and methodology
- § Course content, training materials and facilities.
- § Resume of Trainer/paper presenters.
- § Course venue and duration
- § Target Audience.
- § Accreditation as training Consultant by CMD

##### II) General Technical Requirements

The company/Firm profile highlighting in detail the following:-

- § Evidence of Registration with CAC
- § Immediate past three years tax clearance of either firms or the principal partners or proprietors.

- § Immediate past three years audited accounts of the company/firm
- § Evidence of financial capability and banking support
- § Details or experience, technical/professional qualification of key personnel.
- § List of evidence of similar projects executed and knowledge of the industry.
- § List and evidence of equipment and technical capability to be utilized for the bided project category
- § Evidence of VAT registration, remittances of VAT and PAYEE, and an up to date payment of pension/social insurance contribution such as NHIS etc for and on behalf of the employee.

#### B. Financial Bids:

The financial proposal should state:

- i The financial cost implication of the each "LOT" in details
- ii The Bid price validity period for the project.

#### II General information

- a. All Tender for the project must be accompanied with a non-refundable processing fee of N10,000.00
- b. For additional information you may contact the Secretary to the Commission, INEC, Headquarters, Maitama, Abuja.
- c. The closing date for submission of tenders shall be 14 days from the date of 1<sup>st</sup> publication of this advert in any national Newspaper.
- d. Only firms that are technically responsive will be contacted after evaluation of technical bids and invited for opening of financial bids.

#### III SUBMISSIONS

All submission should be made as follows:

- a. Five copies of neatly bound technical proposal in a separate envelop marked 'technical Proposal for INEC "Training of Political Party Stakeholders'
- b. Five copies of neatly bound financial proposal in a separate envelope clearly marked 'Financial Proposal for "Training of Political Party Stakeholders'.
- c. All copies of financial proposal should be deposited in the Commission's "Tamper Proof bid box" designated for "Training of Political Party Stakeholders"
- d. Receipt should be obtained acknowledging submission.
- e. All copies of technical proposal should be sealed , addressed and submitted to:

**THE SECRETARY,**

INEC (Headquarters,) Plot 436, Zambezi Crescent,  
Maitama A5, PMB 0184, Garki - Abuja.

# DIGEST

## Boy, 3, tells how he 'saw grandmother in Heaven' before being brought back from the dead after falling into pond

A boy of three claims he saw his great grandmother in heaven while he was clinically dead after falling into a pond.

Paul Eicke came back to life more than three hours after his heart stopped beating.

It is believed he was in the pond at his grandparents' house for several minutes before his grandfather saw him and pulled him out.

His father gave him heart massage and mouth-to-mouth during the ten minutes it took a helicopter to arrive.

Paramedics then took over and Paul was taken the ten-minute journey to hospital. Doctors tried to resuscitate him for hours. They had

**“It is believed he was in the pond at his grandparents' house for several minutes before his grandfather saw him and pulled him out**

just given up when,

three hours and 18 minutes after he was brought in, Paul's heart started beating independently.

Professor Lothar Schweigerer, director of the Helios Clinic where Paul was taken, said: 'I have never experienced anything like it.

'When children have been underwater for a few minutes they mostly don't make it. This is a most extraordinary case.'

The boy said that while unconscious he saw his great grandmother Emmi, who had turned him back from a gate and urged him to go back to his parents.

Paul said: 'There was a lot of light and I was floating. I came to a gate and I saw Grandma Emmi on the other side.

'She said to me, "What are you doing here Paul? You must go back to mummy and daddy. I will wait for you here."

'I knew I was in heaven. But grandma said I had to come home. She said that I should go back very quickly.

'Heaven looked nice. But I am glad I am back with mummy and daddy now.' Paul is now back at home in Lychen, north of Berlin in Germany, and there appears to be no sign of brain damage.

Statistics from America show the majority of children who survive drownings - 92 per cent - are discovered within two minutes following submersion.

Nearly all who require cardiopulmonary resuscitation die or are left with severe brain injury.

But the water in the pond was very cold and the boy's core temperature was just 28c, compared to the normal of 37c.

Cold temperatures slow the metabolism-which means the body can survive for longer without oxygen.

If the temperature had been higher, the team would have stopped trying to resuscitate after 40 minutes because the boy would definitely have been brain dead. Instead, they carried on with the chest compressions to stimulate Paul's organs, which had shut down after he breathed in the cold water.

Professor Schweigerer went on: 'My doctors were close to saying "we can do no more" after two hours of thorax compression.

'This was because the chances of survival had gone and the little lad must have been brain dead.

'But then suddenly his heart started to beat again ... it was a fantastic miracle.

'I've been doing this job for 30 years and have never seen anything like this. It goes to show the human body is a very resilient organism and you should never give up.



Paul Eicke: Claims he saw his great grandmother in heaven while he was clinically dead after falling into a pond.

## Will a glass of red wine keep tooth decay at bay?



U.S. scientists say red wine could be beneficial to your teeth as well as brain power and immune system

U.S. scientists say red wine could be beneficial to your teeth as well as brain power and immune system.

For those who value their super-bright smile, it has always been the drink to avoid.

But red wine could actually be good for your teeth, scientists have claimed.

They have found it contains chemicals that could ward off decay by stopping harmful bacteria from sticking to teeth.

The findings, due to be published in the journal Food Chemistry, suggest a daily glass of red could help to keep teeth healthy and reduce the need for fillings.

In contrast, a recent study showed white wine could damage

dental health because its high acid content erodes the enamel that coats the surface of a tooth.

Red wine, when drunk in moderation, is already thought to have a protective effect against heart disease and some forms of cancer.

But in recent years, scientists have also been investigating whether it could help to prevent dental decay.

Last year, a team of U.S. researchers discovered that chemicals found in large quantities in the discarded seeds and skins of grapes pressed to make wine blocked the ability of corrosive bacteria to bind with tooth enamel.

The most damaging bacteria,

called streptococcus mutans, live in the mouth and feed on sugar in the diet.

Once it sticks to the enamel, the organism triggers a process called demineralisation, where acid starts to punch holes in the teeth.

In the latest study, researchers at Pavia University in Italy exposed the bacteria to a small amount of red wine that had all its alcohol content removed.

This was so they could clarify if it was the alcohol, or something else in wine, that had a beneficial effect.

The results showed harmful organisms were unable to cling to teeth or saliva once exposed to red wine.

The scientists said the active

ingredient was a group of compounds called proanthocyanidins, chemicals rich in antioxidants that are found mainly in grape skins.

However, the researchers are investigating whether the compounds can be extracted and used as a form of treatment on their own, as some wines contain sugars and acids that can also be corrosive to teeth.

The Pavia University findings add to the list of potential benefits from red wine.

Studies have suggested that it can also improve your brain power, boost your immune system, fight diabetes, obesity and the signs of old age.

Sign Language



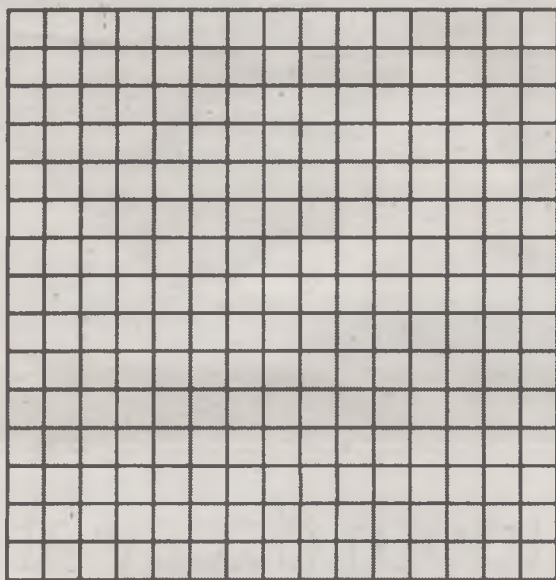
It will kill all including you.  
Shampoo instructions:  
wet, wash, rinse, die.

Photo location: Fiji, by  
Tony Wheller.

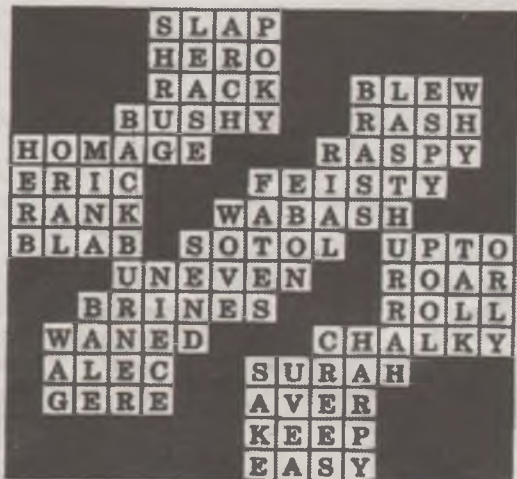
Culled from telegraph.  
co.uk

DIAGRAMLESS 5

- |                           |                              |                       |                           |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>             | 26. Pay back (money spent)   | 45. Opposite of wet   | 20. Stroll                |
| 1. Wield a spade          | 29. Mature person            | <b>DOWN</b>           | 21. Trounces              |
| 4. Simple                 | 30. Outcome                  | 1. Phonograph records | 22. Mutt                  |
| 8. Not working            | 32. Conditions               | 2. Lofty goals        | 24. Forecast topic        |
| 10. Nasal stimulus        | 33. Red-carpet figure        | 3. Alluring mystique  | 27. Ms. Lupino            |
| 11. Bay barkers           | 35. Dickensian cry           | 4. — picture, film    | 28. Begrudgingly coveting |
| 13. Recital piece         | 36. Ship that refuels others | 5. Draw out           | 31. Watered down          |
| 14. Small role for a star | 38. Peel (spuds)             | 6. Took the bus       | 32. South Seas garment    |
| 15. Polite                | 39. Excite                   | 7. Poetic preposition | 34. Annoy                 |
| 16. American painter John | 40. Uproar                   | 9. Mrs. Roosevelt     | 35. British noble         |
| 17. Female deer           | 41. Small mess               | 12. Common heir       | 36. Globe or sphere       |
| 18. Tan producer?         | 42. "Once — a time..."       | 13. Sign (a check)    | 37. Like some swamps      |
| 19. Boy: French           | 43. Sowing handful           | 19. Range from A to Z | 38. Insect stage          |
| 23. Planting formation    | 44. Sounded (a gang)         |                       | 40. Parka trim            |
| 25. Love, in Paris        |                              |                       |                           |



SOLUTION TO DIAGRAMLESS



4

SUDOKU

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

135

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

Solution to Sudoku 134

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

## News Extra

## Capital punishment is 'murder by the state'

In a telephone call from death row, Da'rryl Durr describes capital punishment as 'murder by the state'

“We don't say a prisoner was executed, we say he was murdered by the state,” says Da'rryl Durr, speaking from Ohio State Penitentiary in Youngstown. He was there on formal deathwatch until being transferred to the state's maximum-security facility in Lucasville to await his execution.

Durr, 46, had been placed on Ohio's death row on 10 January 1989, for the murder of 16-year-old Angel Vincent. When I spoke to him on the telephone last Saturday evening, he had less than 72 hours to his time of execution.

Vincent was discovered missing from her home, in Elyria, Ohio, when her parents returned from a night out on 31 January 1988. Just 20 minutes earlier her



DA'RRYL Durr

He taught himself law, then volunteered to advise and assist other prisoners in legal and civil matters

mother, Norma Jean O'Nan, had spoken to her on the telephone; Vincent told her that a friend, Deborah Mullins, was in the house with her. Mullins, she said, was waiting for her boyfriend, Da'rryl Durr, to arrive.

Several days later, Vincent's mother confronted Mullins about her daughter's whereabouts. Mullins suggested she had probably "run away". Three months later, on 30 April, Vincent's decomposing remains were discovered by some boys playing in a local park, though they were not immediately identified.

After examining the remains, the deputy coroner concluded that the remains were those of a young girl who had died as a result of "homicidal violence". The extent of her decomposition made it impossible to ascertain if there had been any ligature marks, scrapes or skin tears, but the deputy coroner declined to rule out strangulation, citing the flexibility of the internal cartilaginous structures of the victim's neck. Due to the severe infestation of bacteria present on the remains, testing for the presence of spermatozoa was also inconclusive, rendering it impossible to confirm whether

or not Vincent had been raped. Durr was charged with her murder five months later. Following his arrest for two unrelated rapes – to which he pleaded guilty on the advice of his lawyers, but then later denied – Mullins went to the Cleveland police and told them Durr had murdered Vincent. X-rays on the body in the park then confirmed the remains to be those of Vincent. Durr stood trial and, although there was no physical evidence to connect him to the crime, he was, on the sole testimony of Mullins, found guilty of aggravated murder, rape, robbery and kidnapping. He was sentenced to death and placed on Ohio State Penitentiary's death row.

There appear to have been some racial overtones in the case against Durr. He is African American. Angel Vincent and Deborah Mullins are white, as is Durr's former common-law wife Janice. At a later review of the original trial's verdict and sentence, Durr's attorney William Lazarow attempted to have the original trial judge, William McAllister, taken off the review due to remarks he was alleged to have made in chambers while the jury were considering their verdict. Durr's trial lawyer Jerry Milano signed a sworn affidavit in which he stated that McAllister said he "wanted to see [Durr's] nigger ass in the chair for messing with white women". The judge denied making any such comments, but Milano stands by his statement. The request to have McAllister removed was denied. A policeman in the case also told Durr's stepfather that he didn't like him because he looked "like Martin Luther King".

Despite several appeals and

hearings, Durr remained on death row. Yet he appears to have used his time in prison in as constructive a manner as the limitations of his existence would allow. He taught himself law, then volunteered to advise and assist other prisoners in legal and civil matters, helping imprisoned fathers to establish and preserve their parental rights. He staged a hunger strike in his early years of imprisonment, to get the cells on death row cleaned and painted, and has made numerous donations to a children's charity that raised funds through the selling of craftwork. Durr also embraced religion and encourages others to lead a spiritually healthy life.

Durr's voice is measured and dignified, which I find remarkable for a man within hours of being strapped to a gurney and given a lethal injection. He knows I am a journalist, but expresses no bitterness or anger. I ask if he thinks he has grown in prison. Is he the same man he was 22 years ago? "Of course not," he says, assuredly. "Change is inevitable. But growth is optional. I have studied law, religion, history and people. But I try to communicate with people on a level that I might be able to make a change, not only in my life but in their lives."

He tells me it has been important not to stagnate on death row. "If there is a difference that you can make in the life of another person, you want to make that difference. After I have spoken to you, I want to feel that I have taken something from our conversation and it has made me a better person – and I want to leave you the same way."

After 22 years of confine-

ment, I find his calm reasoning impressive. "If there is something that enriched you from our conversation that you can share," he says, "then please let people know there is humanity even in these places."

I have read of his claims of innocence, but now, speaking to him, knowing what he faces, I am embarrassed to ask if it's true. Yet I feel I should, to give him a chance to say it out loud. I take a deep breath and ask him outright. "Yes, absolutely," he says without hesitation. Clearly I am speaking to an intelligent, empathetic, rounded human being. The idea of his life being wilfully extinguished fills me with dread. "You should know that it is really not about any issues you have," he says. "If you have bad judges, it doesn't matter if you are innocent or guilty."

Durr then tells me about a fellow death-row prisoner, who maintained his innocence for 15 years. The state refused to DNA-test a piece of evidence: blood on a tennis shoe that he said was his, and not the victim's, as argued by the court that convicted him. Finally, the test was allowed and he was proved right. Yet no court would allow his appeal. If the then governor of Ohio had not granted the prisoner clemency, he would be dead. Instead, his sentence was commuted to life without parole. "This is what happens in the state of Ohio," Durr says.

Last year, Durr asked for DNA-testing on biological material belonging to Vincent. This was allowed and the test came back negative. Officials then refused a second test, saying the first test only came back negative because the evidence was old

and had been mishandled. The second test related to Vincent's necklace. Though records show it has never been out of police custody, that too is said to have been mishandled – the DNA test was denied.

I ask how his society, the people of Ohio, feel generally about the treatment of people in his position. "I think they support the process as they are led to believe it operates. People are given a candy-coated version of what a prisoner's life is like. But the average citizen will never experience it. If more people actually knew what one year, two years, three years of prison life was actually like, I think more people would be appalled. They would press politicians and other people in society to make effec-

I think they support the process as they are led to believe it operates. People are given a candy-coated version of what a prisoner's life is like

tive changes in prison conditions, so we wouldn't have the reoffending rate that we have, or the intra-prison violence.

"In America, they spend more money incarcerating people than they do on educating people. You're talking almost \$2m to murder someone on death row. If they took that money and gave you 30 years to life or 20 years to life, they could use the rest of the money and educate five people who want to go to college."

Finally, I ask Durr why the state insists on killing people; what they think it achieves. (There have been 37 executions in Lucasville since 1999 – with one a month scheduled for the next 11 months.) But it is too late for him to answer. Our time is up. "I'm sorry," he says, "this will probably be our last call."

Except it wasn't. Durr was transferred to Lucasville last week Monday, after all his appeals were turned down. The same day, the governor of Ohio, Ted Strickland, refused his appeal for clemency, and on Monday night the supreme court rejected his lawyers' application for a stay.

Da'rryl Durr was killed by lethal injection Tuesday, right on schedule.

Culled from guardian.co.uk

## News Extra

## 'We don't want to be served by a black person'

## ... British family sparks race case in U.S. hotel

A British family is at the centre of an astonishing legal case in America after telling a luxury hotel they did not want to be served by a black waiter.

Their apparent racist request was entered into the computer of a five-star Ritz-Carlton hotel on checking in and a black waiter was later stopped from serving them.

Haitian born Wadner Tranchant claims he was turned away from serving the family during their recent stay at the hotel in Naples, Florida, to avoid upsetting them.

Lawyers representing the 40-year-old named the principal family member as Rodney Morgan.

Court papers did not list an address for the family but identified them as a British family who were registered at the hotel from February 28th.

'My client was prevented from waiting on this couple because he was black,' said lawyer Michael McDonnell.

According to a court papers filed against the beach front Ritz-Carlton hotel, managers breached



THE Ritz Carlton Hotel in Naples, Florida, where the British family allegedly specified that they not be served by a person of colour

the Civil Rights Act by stopping Tranchant from serving the couple.

His lawyers say that around February 28th, the Morgan family arrived as guests and specified their preference not to be served by

'people of colour' or with 'foreign accents.'

Their preference to be served by whites only was typed into the hotel's computer system to alert senior staff.

The note in the hotel's com-

puter system said the family were 'very very prejudice.'

Mr McDonnell said nine other staff members at the hotel have said they were told the British family didn't want to be served by blacks or anyone with an accent.

On March 12th Tranchant, who is a US citizen, was due to serve the family at the hotel's Grill restaurant.

With Morgan's seated in the restaurant he was switched to other duties.

The lawsuit calls the £200-a-night hotel's conduct 'pervasive and severe.'

It said the waiter, who has worked at the hotel for 15 years, was left 'humiliated and embarrassed' The lawsuit, filed in Fort Myers District Court on Wednesday, claims Tranchant was so offended he has had to seek medical and psychological help.

His lawyers have used the Civil Rights Act of 1866, which was passed a year after blacks were freed from slavery following the end of the American Civil War, to bring the lawsuit.

The Act makes it illegal to discriminate in jobs and housing on the basis of race or colour. The Ritz-Carlton hotel and its manager are named in the legal action in which Tranchant is seeking compensatory and punitive damages.

A spokesman for the Ritz-Carlton refused to comment.

## ANC youth leader's outburst now a hip-hop hit

The Julius Malema Song, based on tirade at BBC journalist, scores thousands of hits on YouTube. He is notorious for trying to

whip up crowds with a political song that many feel is a dangerous throwback to racial apartheid. But young South Africans seem more enthused by youth leader Julius Malema's unwitting foray

into hip-hop.

Enterprising DJs have turned Malema's recent outburst against a BBC journalist into house music. The remixed tracks are playing on radio stations, being circulated on mobile phones and proving hugely popular at parties.

Malema, president of the African National Congress youth wing, is facing possible disciplinary charges after ejecting the BBC's Jonah Fisher from a press conference, accusing him of "white tendency" and calling him a "bastard", "bloody agent" and "small boy"

He fumed: "This is not a newsroom, this is a revolutionary house."

The Julius Malema Song features his exclamations "agent" and "bastard" scored with a hip-hop beat. It has had nearly 7,000 views on YouTube, with a slideshow of images including Malema riding a horse like murdered white supremacist Eugene Terre'Blanche, a printout of Malema's school exam results including his H grade in maths, Malema as a string puppet controlled by President Jacob Zuma and Malema's face superimposed on a baby

The Julius Malema Song features his exclamations "agent" and "bastard" scored with a hip-hop beat. It has had nearly 7,000 views on YouTube

sive musical rendition of the notorious exchange under the title Tjatjarag, an urban slang word used by Malema during his tirade that means excitable and over-eager.

South Africa's the Sowetan newspaper quoted Malema's lawyer, Tumi Mokoena, as saying that he had not spoken to him about getting royalties for the songs.

Eugene Honey, a director at Bowman Gilfillan attorneys, told the paper that Malema did not have any copyright over the remixes. "Copyright has to be in material form," he said. "It must be written down, maybe on a CD."

A young South African, Bontle Phiri, told the Sowetan: "I like it. It makes me laugh and you can dance to it. But what is sad is that a leader said those things."

Malema's singing days may be numbered. He has said he will heed the ANC's call for restraint and stop singing the apartheid era song that has the words "shoot the Boer", blamed by some for inciting the recent murder of Terre'Blanche.



JULIUS Malema

in an advert for Huggies nappies.

Another YouTube posting of the track, "Revolutionary house mix by Malema", has had nearly 5,000 views.

There is a more comprehen-

Culled from guardian.co.uk

## THE BAUCHI PATRIOTIC FORUM FOR UNITY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

APPRECIATION TO MR. ACTING PRESIDENT AND COMMANDER -IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCE DR. GOODLUCK EBELE JONATHAN (GCON) OVER THE APPOINTMENT OF SEN. BALA A. MUHAMMAD DUGURI (KAURAN BAUCHI) AS FCT MINISTER.



**DR. GOODLUCK EBELE JONATHAN (GCON)**  
Acting President



**SEN. BALA A. MUHAMMAD DUGURI (KAURAN BAUCHI)**  
FCT Minister.

The Bauchi patriotic forum is a conglomerate of illustrious patriots of Bauchi State drawing its membership across ethnic, religious and political inclinations working assiduously in advancing the betterment of citizenry under the able guidance of **Sen. Bala Abdulkadir Muhammad, Honourable Minister FCT.**

The forum also wishes to rejoice with our humble and the most distinguished Senator, astute technocrat and in deed accomplish new breed politician over the well deserve appointment as Minister of the federation.

Consequently, we are convinced that the appointment of **Sen. Bala A. Muhammad** as a cabinet Minister has, no doubt, portrayed **Mr. Acting president Goodluck Jonathan** as a true nationalist and leader with large heart, who is fully obliged to carry every Nigerian on board in running the affairs of the country irrespective of party affiliations.

Similarly, the forum wishes to put on record that this is the first time in the over 33 years history of the State that an illustrious son from the home of **Nigerian's Prime Minister, Late Sir, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa**, will hold such a sensitive cabinet position, as Honourable Minister for FCT.

We wish to once again, pledge our commitment as a people to

work assiduously to support the acting president's aspiration of the building a new Nigeria and conducting a free and fair election in 2011.

Already, **Sen. Bala A. Muhammad** appointment has become a rallying point for unity between the All Nigeria Peoples Party and other political parties, including the Peoples Democratic Party in Bauchi State.

Mr. Acting President, Sir, this explains why **Sen. Bala A. Muhammad**, in his own wisdom, has reciprocated the gesture by appointing a staunch member of the P.D.P, **Alh. Danladi Abdullahi Maiauduga**, as his **Special Adviser Political matters.**

To reciprocate the gesture, therefore, the entire people of Bauchi State have resolve to organize a civic reception in honour of the new FCT Minister, on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2010 at the famous **Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Stadium, Bauchi** by 12:00pm.

**Long live Federal Republic of Nigeria!**  
**Long live Mr. Acting President!!**  
**Long live Bauchi State!!!**  
**Long live Sen. Bala A. Muhammad (Kauran Bauchi), FCT Minister.**

### SIGNED:

1. Alh. Garba Muhammad Gadi (Danburan Katagum), Former Deputy Governor Bauchi State.
2. Alh. Kaulaha Ajiyu, Member P.D.P. BOT
3. Alh. Sani Shehu (Sanin Malam), Bauchi ANPP, State Chairman.
4. Alh. Bala Hadith Ilelah, Bauchi, P.D.P. Deputy State Chairman
5. Alh. Usman Banki, ANPP Stalwart
6. Alh. Muhammad Gidado Mua'zu (Ubandoman Jama'are), Chairman ANPP Elders Committee
7. Comrade Sabo Muhammad, National Director Publicity, ANPP, Abuja.
8. Alh. Lamara Nhanu - ANPP Elder
9. Alh. Abdulmuhyi Mukhtar Azare, ANPP Elder
10. Alh. Abdullahi Vono (Zannan Bauchi), Community Leader.
11. Honourable Farouk Mustapha Azare, Member P.D.P. Advisory Committee
12. Alh. Aminu Muhammad (Danmalikin Bauchi), Member P.D.P. Advisory Committee.
13. Alh. Ibrahim Dan Bauchi - Community leader.

**For and on behalf of the forum.**

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## 4th Abuja housing show holds Tuesday

By Mustapha Suleiman

THIS year's edition of Abuja Housing / Housing development award is to hold on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. The yearly event is meant to showcase and promote local content initiatives and self-sufficiency in the production of building materials in Nigeria and to re-orientate public and private activities in the area of housing development.

According to Festus Adebayo, Programme Coordinator, "The aim of the 2010 Abuja Housing Show and Housing Development Award is to provide a platform for all players in the estate industry to showcase their products and services. It is expected to be meeting point and a one stop shopping mall for architects, builders, surveyors, real estate practitioners, fund manager, investors, financiers federal and state. Government, Ministries of Housing and Urban Development, project

development consultants, private estate developers, lawyers acting in advisory capacities, insurers, purchasers of real estate products, among others."

Those to receive 2010 housing development award include Alhaji Abdusalam Ahmed, MD/CEO FMBN, Alhaji Dangogo Aliyu, MD Urban Shelter Ltd. Engr. Chris Okoroafor, Director Ashedenes. Ltd, Arc. Tever Gemade, MD ,FHA, and Mr.Guy Okechukwu, Former National Secretary REDAN.



THE Arena shopping complex, Lagos

## N4bn Arena shopping complex completed

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

SITTING on about 13 hectares, with over 3000 shops comprising warehouses, shops, banks and restaurants, the Arena shopping complex Bolade, Oshodi in Lagos cost some N4 billion to complete.

The Arena also known as the Nigerian Army Shopping Arena, was built on a 24 years concession agreement between Woobs Resources Limited and the Nigerian Army, owners of the

land, on a built operate and transfer basis.

Meckson I. Okoro, the Principal Partner, M.I Okoro and Associates, the marketers of the Arena told newsmen in Lagos at the facility tour that, is "West Africa's and Nigeria's largest and most diverse retailing experience and a product of private/public partnerships."

"There are lock up shops that are en-suite and ordinary lock shops. You have banking halls for four banks. Besides the lock up shops, there are open space shops to provide that Afri-

can traditional market situation and up to six people or more can share an open shop space depending on their needs. The lock up shops and open space shops are 10.5 meters wide and 23.2 meters high" he noted.

"We have two loading bays that will take up to seven trailers at a time. One would be for dry goods and the other for perishables. The parking space can take up to 2000 vehicles at a time. We also have an incinerator with which we could use to manage our waste" he said.

## Collapsed building: Count us out - Professional builders

By Nasir Imam

AS the rate of collapsed building continue to rise across the country, members of the building profession in Nigeria has come out to boldly state that none of these buildings ever had the hand of its registered member in their construction.

The group said it would not hesitate to prosecute any of its registered members whose action or inaction in the discharge of his/her duty in the built environment leads to the collapse of any building.

These were the positions recently canvassed at different interviews by the Chairman, Council of Registered Builders of Nigeria (CORBON), Prof. (Prof) Akin Akindoyeni and the Council's Registrar Mr. Aliyu Ova.

Speaking with newsmen recently, the Council Chairman noted that the lives and property lost as a result of incessant building collapsed could easily be averted by the engagement of professionals in building projects saying "am happy to inform you that none of the building collapses we have had has being linked to any of our members."

Akindoyeni also lampooned property owners who cut corners and engage quacks for the purpose of avoiding cost as akin to cutting off their noses to spite their faces saying, "I usually say to them, If you think that Education is expensive, try ignorance," he said.

## 'Create engineering service dept in land ministry'

By Mustapha Suleiman

THE President of Nigeria Institute of Engineers (NSE), Engr. Olumuyiwa Alade Ajibola has said that there is need to create an Engineering Services Department in the newly created Land and Housing ministry so as to achieve the goals for its creation.

Engr. Ajibola made this call when he paid a courtesy call on Land, Housing and Urban Development Minister Hon. Nduesse Essien in his office on Thursday.

He said, "It has come to our notice that such a department does not exist presently hence the need to take that into consideration as you constitute departments in the new ministry.

"There is need for the department as 80 percent of the activities of the ministry are engineering based. Housing delivery cannot be achieved without engineering infrastructure. This is in view of the fact that Urbanisation, Urban renewal/upgrading cannot be achieved without

the input of Engineers in infrastructure design, construction supervision, site and services, etc. In addition to the above, Engineers are involved in the preparation of Bill of Engineering Measurements and Evaluation (BEME) for procurement.

"Land development by the Ministry depends on provision of Engineering Infrastructure such as Roads, drainages, culverts, bridges, water supply and reticulations, electrical power supply, street light and telecommunication, etc.

"Engineers play major roles such as Structural, Mechanical, and Electrical designs, construction supervision and maintenance, etc. All Engineering activities commence as soon as the Architects complete their design, e.g. Mass Housing; Prototype Housing and Public Buildings."

He added that Engineering Professional roles cannot be achieved if Engineers play subservient roles under a non-engineering professional.



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# China to build 150-bed Abuja hospital

CHINA is to build 150-bed hospital at Lugbe, Abuja, under its health-related technical assistance programme in Nigeria, according to an official of the National Planning Commission.

The official, who pleaded anonymity, said last week in Abuja, that the hospital, when completed, would replace the existing Federal Staff Hospital currently operating in a rented apartment.

"The contract agreement has been signed

between the Federal Ministry of Health and the Chinese engineering company that will handle the project.

"The project is to be completed within two years; the contractors are already in Nigeria through the facilitation of the National Planning commission and the project is expected to be completed by 2012," the official said.

According to him, 12 experts from China have

already arrived in Nigeria to commence work and another batch is expected in due course.

The source said Nigeria's contribution to the project would be in terms of provision of infrastructure, including land, electricity, good road network and water, among others.

"Two thousand Nigerian technicians will also join their Chinese counterparts in making the project a reality," he said. (NAN)

## Estate surveyors and valuers to brainstorm on housing

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

THE Nigerian Institution of Estate Surveyors and Values (NIESV) will during its 2010 national conference be brainstorming on how to address Nigeria's housing challenges ahead of 2010.

The 2010 national conference which is hosted by the Lagos state branch of NIESV begins today in Lagos and ends May 2nd.

Addressing newsmen in Lagos, the Lagos branch chairman of NIESV Mr. Elias Ovesuor said the theme of this year's conference "vision 20:2020 and the challenges of housing construction and development in Nigeria" is to key into governments' vision 20:2020 initiative in the aspects of adequate housing delivery by 2020.

"Land is critical to vision 2020. Land cannot be expanded. Thus, the conference will be fashioning out ways we can appropriately manage our land resources in the face of rising population" he said.

"As professionals in land economics, we want to formulate policy proposals and articulate our views on land use. Because this is the appropriate time to key into the future" he explained. He explained that 26th and 27th will be dedicated to courtesy visits and a press conference while the speeches will be delivered on 28th and 29th at the conference venue Eko hotel and suites starting 9am each day.

The governor of Lagos state, Babatunde Raji Fashola is expected to declare the conference open while the minister of national planning, the minister of land, housing and urban development and the minister of works will present papers at the conference.

## 'Architects lack enabling environment to grow'

By Mustapha Suleiman

NEWLY trained architects lacked the platform to learn and be exposed to such experience that could place them in a position to contribute to national development.

This was the assertion of the Minister of Land, Housing and Urban Development Mr Nduse Essien at the 3rd Architect's Colloquium recently held in Abuja.

According to the minister, the situation has impacted negatively on the profession and is already manifesting in the huge unemployment of professionals, quackery, incessant building collapse and failure to execute projects to an appreciable percentage year after year.

"It is not an irony that we have very huge developmental challenges and our trained professionals remain idle? This is one of the reasons for our dismal performance in the human development index. We must therefore find ways to reverse this trend. I think the lopsided employment situation in the construction sector should be checked now. A situation where Nigerian professionals are employed by their foreign counterparts will no longer be condoned. Nigerians professionals should take their rightful places in their various fields of endeavours."

The minister, a former National Assembly member, said that there is need for "legislators to enact laws that will empower Nigerian professionals to handle at least 85 percent of all construction works funded by the government, where the indigenous professional could now employ the foreigners or operate in partnership."

Essien urged the Nigerian Institute of Architect to take a positive lead by conducting independent research as well as empowers the various Schools of Architecture and Technical / Craft schools in the states, adding that the outcome of the research must be physical demonstrated through design and construction of prototype houses.

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# NSE lauds local content bill

By Nasir Imam

THE Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) has commended Acting President Goodluck Jonathan and the National Assembly on the signing of the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Bill into law. A statement from NSE's President, Engr. Olumuyiwa Alade Ajibola, said there is no doubt that this is a landmark achievement in the history of the Nigerian Oil and gas industry that would revolutionise the sector and create a solid foundation for building of the indigenous capacities and creation of

wealth.

"It is heart-warming that the law provides very clear guidelines on monitoring the implementation of the provisions by various players in the Oil and Gas

Sector and the Federal Government should give the law the needed teeth. The Nigerian Society of Engineers will provide the necessary support to Government in the

implementation of the provisions of the law.

The society calls on the Federal Government to quickly constitute the Nigerian Content and Development

Monitoring Board provided for by the act to develop procedures that will guide, monitor, coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the law. In this regard we

hereby call on all players in the sector- Regulatory Agencies, Operators, Contractors, Alliance Partners and other entities to abide by the provisions of the law.

## 'Q/ Surveyors essential to infrastructural development'

By Mustapha Suleiman

QUANTITY Surveyors by their education and training are essential partner and stakeholder in the desire to effectively promote Public-Private Partnership development of the nation's infrastructure.

This assertion was made by the minister of Land, Housing and Urban Development Mr. Nduse Essien at the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors FCT Chapter workshop on infrastructure concession'' held in Abuja between 14th and 15th of this month.

Represented by Ali Bukar Fatoma, the minister said "for our collective objectives to be realized in pursuit of developed economy in 20-2020, the Ministry would continue to identify with your dreams, aspirations and desires by ensuring that your challenges and future interests are embraced towards attaining a nation that is conscious of your importance and noble objectives."

He urged the institute to cross-fertilize ideas and come up with the best approach on how to encourage the private sector to fully embrace the reform

In his address, NIQS President FCT Chapter, Alhaji Muhammad Olayiwola said that the recent global recession has awakened the consciousness of every sector of human specialization including the business of provision and maintenance of infrastructures and proffered that for PPP to achieve its desired result.



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Property



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# REDAN wants fast passage of land reform bill

By Mustapha Suleiman

THE National President of the Real Estate Developers Association of Nigeria (REDAN), Chief Olabode Afolayan, has called on the Minister of Land, Housing and Urban Development, Hon Nduese Essien to use his influence as a former lawmaker to fast-track the passage of the land reform, before the National Assembly.

He made this call when he paid a courtesy call on the minister. While soliciting for the minister's support in opening up opportunities for accessing long-term loans in the country, he said: "Expedite the revision of the Land Use Act in the NASS. We are appealing to state government to provide land so that developers across the federation can have adequate access to land. We urge the federal

government to shove-up provision of infrastructure so as to enable developers build their house with ease.

Responding, the minister assured REDAN's team of his preparedness to work the association.

"For many years, Nigeria has not provided house for her teeming population, especially the low income earners. We could recall that the last time such houses were

built was during the Shagari administration in 1983. What has been happening since then is that houses have been provided for

the luxury group and not the social group that is why we have said that we intend to embark upon massive provision of houses. In the

next 10 months, 54,000 houses would be provided in all senatorial district across the federation," the minister said.

“Expedite the revision of the Land Use Act in the NASS. We are appealing to state government to provide land so that developers across the federation can have adequate access to land.”

## Mortgage bankers to hold risk management workshop

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

THE Mortgage Banking Association of Nigeria (MBAN), the umbrella body of all Primary Mortgage Institutions in Nigeria is organizing a two day workshop tagged: "Credit, Marketing and Risk Management in the Mortgage Banking/Housing Finance Sector" in Lagos.

The two day workshop is aimed at equipping participants with the required techniques for in-depth analysis of mortgage sec-

tor credit applications, framework for risk management, enhancing the professional skill-sets for mortgage credit origination, structuring, analysis and evaluation and as well as to re-enforce the ability of primary mortgage institutions (PMIs) and other lending institutions to improve their mortgage risk assets portfolio management organ-

isers say. A statement from MBAN said the workshop holding at La Cour Hotel

Ikoyi, will start tomorrow and end Wednesday.

The major target participants for the workshop are the lower, middle and top management staff of primary mortgage institutions involved in credit analysis, operations, marketing and risk management; staff of universal banks, housing co-operative societies, housing corporations and estate developers with responsibility for management of mortgage risk assets.

## Niger builds 100 basic health centres

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

THE number of health care centres in Niger state has increased following the construction of 100 basic health centres across the state under the Millennium Development Goal initiative.

State Director General for the Niger state MDG, Alhaji Hassan Nuhu, said the move to construct more clinics in the state was in line with the state government's desire to give its citizens the best in the area of health care services. He said that before the

moves to build the 100 clinics was perfected, the state was in dire need of such facilities as the rate of infant and maternal mortality in the state at a time reached an alarming rate.

He said that the clinics aside offering emergency services have been equipped to handle cases relating to health problems just the way a regular hospital should to enhance the general welfare of the people.

He said that the construction work on the clinics is to be strategically located in four centres in

each local government in the state to ensure maximum coverage across the state for effective handling of health cases.

"In line with the Niger state government health care program for its citizens, we have constructed a hundred health care clinics in all the twenty-five local governments in the state.

"The clinics have which have been constructs four each per local government to meet the spread in each place for easy accessibility of persons to the health services at all time of the day," he said.



EMPTY block of flats for rent in Wuye district of Abuja

## Nyako: Transforming Adamawa State



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constructed new roads where there were none before, you have rehabilitated dilapidated ones that others couldn't touch, and you have completed old projects that others failed to do. Our educational and health sectors, agricultural and urban renewal, water supply and rural infrastructure have all been touched by your dedicated hands of kindness.

I, Ibrahim Buba Bayi (IBB), aspirant for the seat of Michika Constituency in the Adamawa State House of Assembly and all my supporters wish to pledge our total loyalty to you for the love you show to our people.

Promised delivered, further progress assured. Go on, Baba Maimangoro!

Ibrahim Buba Bayi (IBB)

# IT WORLD Hotline:08027649677

## Naira.com deploys e-voting application for CIPM

By Zakariyya Adaramola

THE Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria has successfully employed an electronic voting application developed

by Naira.com, a business unit of an ICT firm, Chams Plc.

Naira.com, as a technology partner to the institute developed the e-voting application to facilitate the

conduct of a transparent, cost-effective, free and fair voting exercise.

The application afforded the members of the Institute the opportunity to vote electronically at the April elec-

tion of new council members during the institute's annual general.

According to the Registrar of the Institute, Mallam Musa Rabi'u, the decision to adopt an e-Voting applica-

tion is in line with the institute's vision to be the foremost people management institute in Africa, respected across the world. He said he was very convinced that application of information

technology could simplify a lot of processes currently done manually.

"I am a convert of electronic voting and wish that it is deployed in other elections in the country. It has really made things easier and transparent for all to see," he said.

The General Manager, Naira.com, Ms. Juliet Ehimuan, said it was glad- dening that a professional body as CIPM had taken the lead in terms of use of e-Voting to handle its election. She said that the application, which had many rich features, is the effort of her firm's in-house software developers.

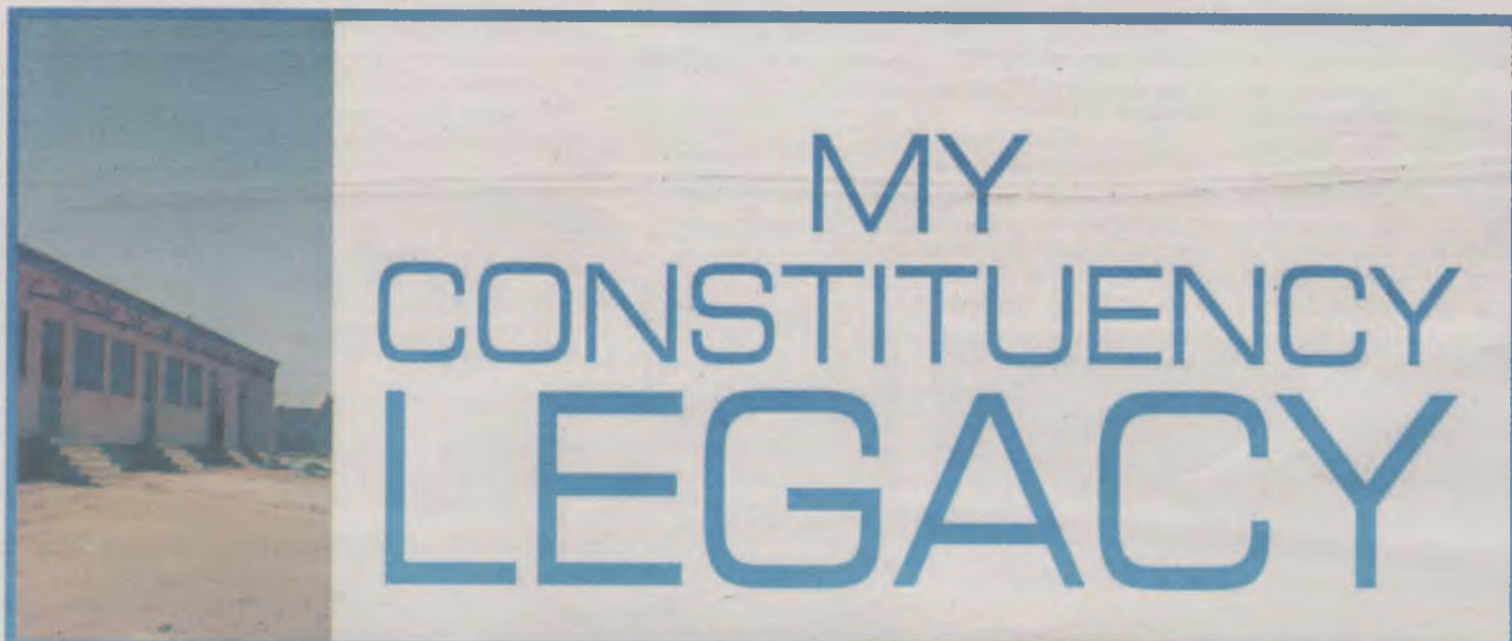
### Zain launches product for corporate customers

From Chris Agabi, Lagos

TELECOMMUNICATIONS Company, Zain Nigeria has launched its enterprise solution designed to improve communication experience of its corporate clients. The new value proposition according to the Director Marketing Zain Nigeria, Mostafa Younes provides users flexible package structure and reduced call rates of up to N10 per minute.

It also provides opportunity for closed user group, roaming service, voice mail options and it is also available on its black berry services. The Zain enterprise solution was launched in Lagos and renowned author and motivational speaker Dr. Stephen Covey was brought in by Zain to endorse the product and also provide rare insights into winning attitudes to Zain's customers and staff.

Dr. Covey is popular with "seven secrets of highly effective people" and the sequel "the 8th habit," books that have sold millions of copies globally. While endorsing the product, Dr. Covey said, the Zain new value proposition will give Zain customers unique advantage. He also shared insights into the winning secrets of effective people with Zain staff and clients. He said high level trust and integrity is fundamental to individual and business success adding that when trust is developed in an organisation, speed go up and costs go down thus increasing the bottom-line.



## MY CONSTITUENCY LEGACY

Constituency legacies are those humanitarian projects initiated, implemented and bequeathed to the deserving communities as related to our elected political office holders. As the nation draw closer to another elective year, it becomes imperative that lawmakers will be taking inventory and account for the stewardship of services they rendered to uplift the well being of their people. As it affects the state and federal lawmakers, quite a good number have demonstrated kindness and generosity vis-a vis their electioneering promises. They are trailing the blazing of good representation through provision of constituency projects and contribute to debates, bills and other sundry issues of national importance.

To celebrate our National Assembly representatives, Media Trust Limited, the publishers of *Daily Trust*, *Weekly Trust*, *Sunday Trust* and *Aminiya* newspapers, is packaging a special project on the above subject [MY CONSTITUENCY LEGACY]. The aim is to applaud and highlight the contributions of individual lawmaker who has demonstrated kindness to his/her people. Given the foregoing, federal lawmakers are invited to participate in the project as a way of showcasing their contributions [Constituency projects] to the admiration of their various constituencies.

For participation/enquiries, please contact :

Leke Adelere on 08059100282

Lilian Tanimola 08052377534.

The date of publication is from Monday, May 17 to Saturday, May 31, 2010.

Thank you as we anticipate your participation.

Management

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# IT World

## USPF should be open to states in their activities –ICT Director

Engr. Abubakar Y. Salisu is a director of ICT at the Ministry of Science and Technology, Niger State. Recently, the Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF) whose mandate it is to take ICT to the un-served and underserved communities in Nigeria organised a two-day stakeholders' forum in Minna for the North Central zone. Engr. Abubakar told Daily Trust in this interview that the USPF has not synergised with the state enough. Excerpt.

By Yunus Abdulhamid

What effort have you been putting into improving the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) status of the state?

The effort is that of the Chief Servant of the state, Governor Babangida Aliyu. Whatever I am telling you is the programme of the state governor. The Niger State ICT programme is anchored on a tripartite arrangement; people, process and technology.

We start with the people by training them. We started an ICT programme at the commencement of the administration what we call E-compliant programme. It is meant to have all civil servants of the state computer literate.

The state governor gave approval for funds to give 50% discount for civil servants undertaking the e-compliant programme for each to own a personal computer, either desk top or lap top. About 3,000 people have benefited thus far.

As I talk to you, we are in the process of bringing in 6,000 computers. All trainees are entitled to a laptop at 50% subsidy by the state government and the payment of rest 50% is staggered over 24 months (two years).



ENGR. Abubakar Y. Salisu

**We have some selected schools for that purpose. They would soon be connected.**

**How many secondary schools are involved in the project?**

We have 100 secondary Schools involved. The project is already on in collaboration with Galaxy backbone Plc. We are having digital VSAT connected to each of the schools alongside 21 computer systems. There will be standard ICT laboratories for each of these schools. Through that arrangement, we have about 265 secondary schools that will be connected. But the first phase which is for this year takes care of the

100 aforementioned.

**We are also trying to get down to the primary school. We have a primary school per senatorial district to be part of the project.**

**Is the state government concentrating only in schools?**

No, that is not true. We have about 50,000 civil servants in the state; state and local government employees put together. We are picking them based on budgetary constraints. We have trained 3,000 now we are picking another 6,000. Our target is to cover the entire 50,000 civil servants in the state between now and year 2020.

**What do you make of the Universal Service Provision Fund's (USPF) projects in Niger State?**

My assessment of USPF projects especially in Niger State is the issue of disconnect in terms of awareness. The NCC through USPF requested that we nominate schools or sites which we did. But when it comes to implementation, they don't involve anybody. The award the contract and the contractor go to the site and do whatever they like and go away. Our concern is that there should be synergy.

Today, if you come to Niger State and ask for 10 schools (to cite projects), we give the 10 schools, there is the need for them to also tell us that Mr A, B, C has been awarded a contract and the extent and quality of job expected of them.

This will help us in helping to monitor the job not just to sit in Abuja and somebody will come over to give you a report and you accept it. Its part of the things I will discuss with them at the end of the day. For example, most of the reports getting to me from these centres (hosts of USPF projects) are not too palatable.

**Can you be specific?**

There is a school in Babanna (in Niger State) where they (USPF) deployed ICT facilities. The internet fee that is free (at least for one year), somebody went to them and said it was for three months. That they should give him money and that he was going to Canada to get internet service. He requested for N70,000 monthly subscriptions for the internet access. Most of the Principals have been short changed through this process. If there is real supervision in the implementation by all stakeholders, especially the local authorities, there wouldn't be such incidences.

The Niger state ICT programme is divided into three; civil servants, schools and that of unemployed citizens. Just recently we organised training for the training of 300 unemployed graduates in computer literacy. At least 12 persons were selected from each local government of the state. Each of them was given a personal computer after the programme to set up businesses.

That explains why most of the trained unemployed graduates are here (ICT stakeholders' forum) for a possible link with the Growing Business foundation for further empowerment. Earlier, we had trained 100 females. We envisage that they will be taken to the next level in ICT through the support of the USPF.

**Do you know of any community in Niger State where there is no mobile network?**

There are of course. Even this Babanna I was talking about, the people there use the facilities provided in that school by USPF to communicate. None of the service providers' presence is in Babanna. It is located in Agwara Local government of the state.

## Beware! Mobile phone raises stress level

The joy of many Nigerians knew no bounds when the Global System for Mobile communications (GSM) was launched in the country in August 2001. Though the device has brought many good things with it to the country, it has also been confirmed to be a source of death. How? Our reporter writes.

By Zakariyya Adaramola

It comes in different forms and shapes. Many people can't do without it for a minute. About 70 million Nigerians carry it about—it has become an inseparable companion to them. It has changed how things are done in the country; it is the cause of what is now being referred to as telecoms revolution. While it brings fortunes into many homes; it is also a source of sadness to many. It is many things to many people. It is a mobile phone.

Back in August 2001, when GSM which has made mobile phone so popular was introduced into the country, no Nigerian had inkling as to how far the 'new

product' would go in a gloomy market like Nigeria. Many an investor had stayed away, predicting a total failure for the GSM—“because nothing ever works in the country”. But just a year after, especially after MTN declared a mouth watering profit—“in spite all the challenges it faced during business”—they all came knocking on the door of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), asking it to issue them licences to do business in the country.

And it has been one success story after another in the telecoms market. This success story continues as numbers of GSM subscribers keep on rising. The increasing figure of phone users is bringing joy to many country men and women as it translates to more money in their pockets. This is true as GSM/CDMA and mobile phones have become money spinning. Because of this, many can't do without mobile phones; they carry it about and

sleep with them. They said they could not afford to lose money by switching off their phones.

But doctors said phones are one of the main causes of stress, which could later develop to hypertension. Doctor Mustapha Alimi of the Orthopaedic Hospital, Lagos warned that unless mobile phones users cultivate the habit of switching off their phones for some hours every day, many of them may get stressed up and consequently develop hypertension. Speaking recently on “Managing Executive Stress” an awareness programme organized for top executives of companies, Dr. Alimi said medical experts have identified frequent mobile phones usage as a major stressor, which causes high blood pressure.

According to Dr Alimi, it may be only in Nigeria that phone users don't switch off their gadgets, and this is causing stress for a lot of them. He said the habit is particularly worst among top executives of companies, who

believe they must stay in touch 24/7. He explained that many top executives of companies in advanced economies usually switch off their phones at certain time during the day and night to avoid stress, which could result to answering or making too much calls.

“Mobile phone has been identified by experts as a major stressor. And this is because most people have turned this gadget into their almighty—they believe they cannot exist without it. And it is lie one can exist without it. So, in switching on the phone for 24 hours they get stressed up and this may lead to hypertension,” he said. He advised top executives to employ honest call managers to manage calls for them in order to save themselves of stress.

The Managing Consultant Telecoms Answers Associates, an online publication, Engr. Titi Omo Ettu, said it may be true since it was the experts in the medical field that said so. “If

medical experts say whatever about health, I should not be having any opinion on it since it is no longer telecommunications that is being discussed”, Engr. Omo Ettu told Daily Trust.

President of National Association of Telecommunications Subscribers of Nigeria (NATCOMS), Chief Deolu Ogunbajo advised telecoms consumers to be cautious while using their phones.

But a spokesman of one of the GSM companies, who pleaded anonymity, said he was not aware of any scientific study that says mobile phone causes stress. According to him, most Nigerians would not take any study that claims that mobile phone causes stress very serious because mobile phone has come to be part of them.

But it is no longer a contesting issue that increasing use of cell phones may be blurring the boundaries between work and home and raising stress levels at both places.



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## Hearty Congratulations!



**T**he Acting Rector, Mr, Michael M. Ibrahim, on behalf of the chairman and Members of the Government Council, Management, Staff and Students of Nasarawa State Polytechnic, Lafia heartily congratulates and rejoices with His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, Alh. (Dr) Aliyu Akwe Doma, OON (Madaucin Doma) on the Conferment of Honorary Doctor of Letters (Litt. D.) by the University of Jos.

We celebrate your numerous exemplary accomplishments in life and wish you more years of worthy service to Humanity.

As we join you and the people of Nasarawa State and indeed lovers of education in celebrating this landmark, we pray that the Almighty God will continue to make you a vessel of blessing to mankind.

*Congratulations!*

His Excellency  
**Alh. (Dr) Aliyu Akwe Doma, OON**

(Madaucin Doma)  
The Executive Governor, Nasarawa State



His Royal Highness  
**Alh. Ahmadu Aliyu Oga Onawo, OON**  
(Andoma of Doma)  
Chairman Governing Council



Signed:  
**Mr. Michael M. Ibrahim**  
Acting Rector.

## CITY NEWS



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

# 'My wife abandoned me during trying periods'

By Romoke W. Ahmad

A man last Tuesday told an Abuja Customary Court to dissolve his marriage over the action of his wife, whom he accused of abandoning him when he needed her most.

Chukudi Emefor told the court that when his shop got burnt dur-

ing the Jos crisis in April 2008, his wife gave up hope on him and left his house while she was eight months pregnant.

He said when she delivered, he was not allowed to see his son, Chukwubike and he later discovered that his wife was living with another man in Nasarawa State,

adding that all efforts by friends and families to make her return to his house proved abortive.

Chukudi informed the court that his wife sent him a text message on September 14, 2009, saying she was no longer interested in their marriage and hates him.

He said he married her in

March 2009 at Anambra State under Igbo customs and will want the court to dissolve the marriage based on her action.

In her response, Efienyiwa Emefor, his wife, told the court to accede to her husband's request by granting the divorce.

She however requested for

N1,096,400 as expenses incurred during pregnancy and after delivery of their son, who is eight months.

Judge Jamilu Jega in his ruling dissolved the marriage and ordered the petitioner to give his ex-wife N197,000 with an additional N4,000 as monthly allowance for the baby's feeding.



PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

MARARABA residents protesting over bad roads at the weekend.

## 2011 elections: Youths to protest against corrupt politicians

By Abubakar Yakubu

YOUTHS are organising a million man protest in Abuja against corrupt past leaders and politicians planning to contest in the 2011 elections.

This was disclosed in Abuja Thursday by Marvin Yobana, vice-president, National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN), who decried the manner at which the FCT council polls were conducted without proper scrutiny of the aspirants for the electorates to know their credentials and make a fair choice.

Yobana said the protest is meant to draw the attention of the international community to the fact that Nigerian youths are not part of the arrangements of getting corrupt leaders to rule the country.

"We do not want the protest to

turn violent; hence we are at the stage of getting clearance from the authority and are sensitizing youths nationwide," he added.

The youth's leader also disclosed that youths are being sensitized nationwide on how to monitor their votes by keeping records and ensuring that their votes are not tempered with.

He revealed that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) now recognizes NYCN as an electoral observer.

"By the time election comes, the youths will be better prepared to vote for the right candidate and we have constituted a legal team to ensure youths rights are restored," he added.

He called for the fortification of the anti-corruption law and drive, so that corrupt leaders are not brought back to public offices.

## Farmers task FCT minister on agriculture

By Hussein Yahaya

FARMERS in the Federal Capital Territory at the weekend called on the FCT Minister Bala Mohammed to pay more attention to agriculture during his tenure in order to boost food production in the territory.

Farmers spoken to at Ushafa, Payi, Jigo, Igu and Bwari said in separate interviews that past FCT Administrations did not

give the sector the necessary attention needed to ensure food security in rural areas.

Mr. Joseph Estu, a farmer, noted that past FCT Administrations focused more on the development of the city centre through various anti-human policies, without paying much attention to farmers in rural areas.

He warned that if government fails to modernise agri-

culture urgently in rural communities, it will be less attractive to youths and might lead to the congestion of the city-centre with such youths looking for white collar jobs.

Another farmer, Isaiah Danladi, observed that FCT is blessed with fertile land and needs government's encouragement for farmers to effectively plant as well as harvest crops from the land.

At Payi and Jigo communities, most farmers called on the FCT Administration to make fertilizers available to the real farmers and not to middle men that will keep them for profit motives.

Our reporter observed that planting activities have commenced in most of the communities visited, as a result of heavy down pour recorded on Friday and Saturday.

## Accident victim criticises Embassy staff

By Aliyu Yahaya

A middle-aged man whose vehicle had a head-on collision with a jeep ridden by a US Embassy staff has criticized the manner at which the embassy staff removed only their worker from the accident scene and left him unconscious in his mangled vehicle without help.

Danjuma Abashe of the Federal Airport Authority said after both vehicles collided at 10pm Monday, he was unconscious before one Zakari of DSTV came to his aide and took him to Wuse General Hospital that night.

The victim's wife, who was fully of praises for Zakari, thanked him for saving her husband's life by stopping by his car at that time of the night to evacuate him to the hospital in such state.

According to her, policemen from Wuse Station informed her through phone call of the accident, while the two vehicles are parked in the station.

The victim told *City News* that he regained consciousness in the hospital and lost documents, money as well as other items in the crash.

## Man jailed for stealing from journalist

By Usman A. Bello & Doris Afoma West

A 25-year-old man was on Thursday sentenced to two weeks imprisonment by an Abuja magistrate court for stealing money from a deputy editor with *Leadership* newspaper on April 12 at Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Abuja.

Muhammed Abubakar of Mabushi village was found guilty of theft, an offence

punishable under Section 287 of the Penal Code Law.

Prosecutor Adamu Abdullahi had earlier told the court that a security officer from Sheraton Hotel, Isaac John, reported to the police that the accused dipped his hand into the pocket of the journalist and stole the sum of N200,000 without his consent, adding that the said money was recovered from the accused before he could escape.

The prosecutor said the accused confessed to the crime during police investigations.

When the charge was read to the accused, he pleaded guilty and begged for leniency, saying it was the devil that made him steal.

The prosecutor urged the court to try the accused summarily under Section 157 of the Criminal Procedure Code and Magistrate Folashade Oyekan sentenced him to two weeks imprisonment or to pay N1,000 as fine.

## Bwari council builds shops at market site

By Hussein Yahaya

CONTRACTORS working under the instructions of Bwari Area Council have commenced the building of shops at a new market site along SCC road in Bwari town.

Our reporter who visited the market Saturday saw some buildings under construction, while traders displayed their goods in open space and decried the lateness in building the shops.

Traders were seen praying publicly for rain not to fall and ruin their wares.

When the council authority ordered the traders to move to the market site last year, they complained of the open nature of the place and requested that shops be built to protect their goods.

However, the council management's have commenced the shops construction with some traders faulting the timing and calling for the project to be hastened.

Most traders commended the council for yielding to their plea to build shops but wanted the authority to expedite action on the project because of rain.

# Carpenter charged with phone theft

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

THE police last Monday arraigned a 19-year-old carpenter before an Abuja magistrate court for allegedly conniving with others to steal two cell phones belonging to one Smart Aibomian.

Usman Mohammed of Area 1,

Section 1, Abuja, was accused of stealing the cell phones and injuring the owner on April 14.

Prosecutor Isiaka Ibrahim told the court that on the said date, Moses Smart Aibomian of Mpape village, Abuja, reported to the police that while he was sleeping at Old Parade Ground, Area 10, the accused and his accomplices attacked him.

"The accused attacked him and stole his customized Zain handset valued at N15,000 and a Samsung cell phone valued at N75,000,

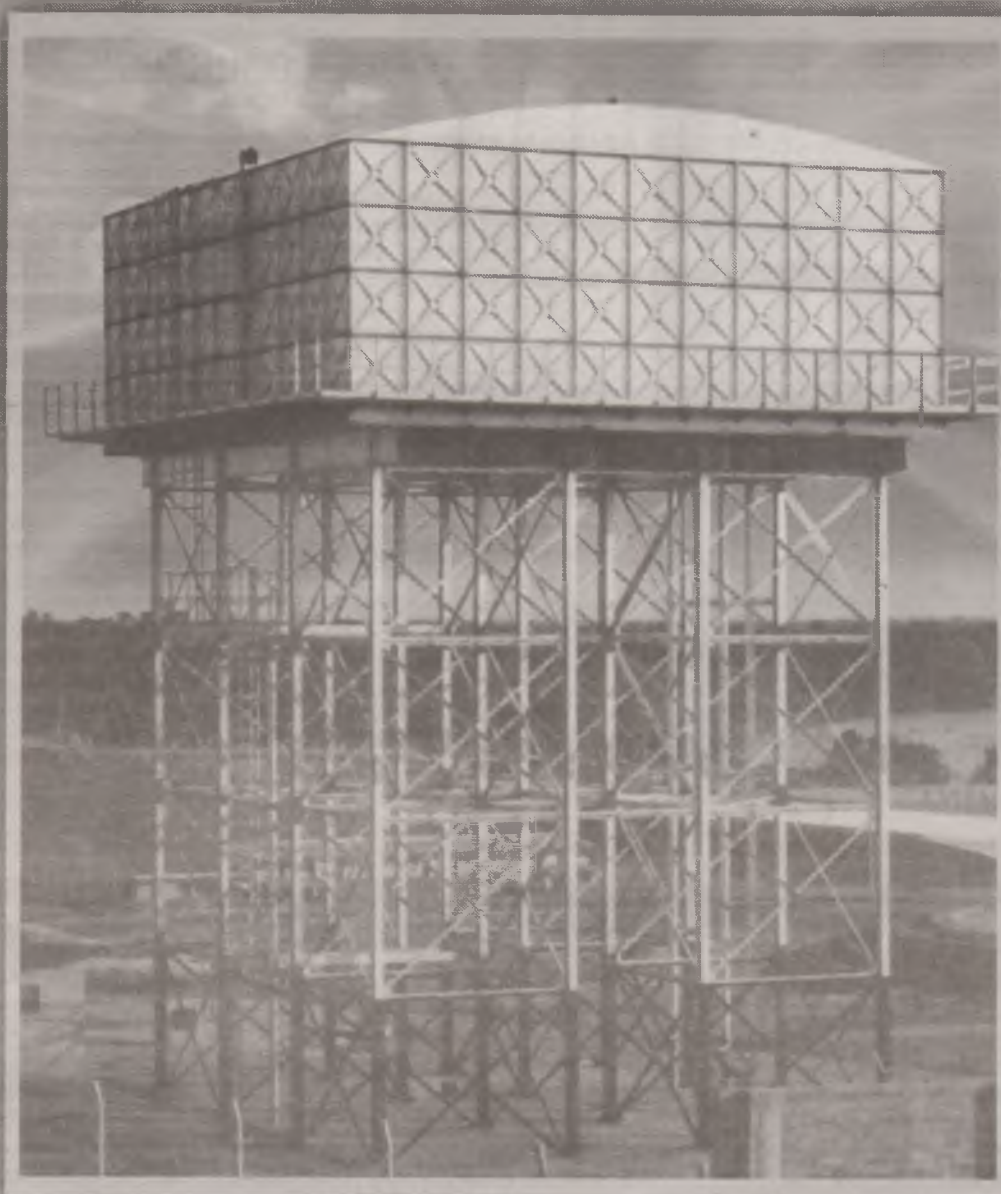
thereby committing offences punishable under Sections 79, 246 and 287 of the Penal Code law," the prosecutor stated.

He said the complainant was able to catch the accused, while others took to their heels.

When the three-count charge was read to the accused, he denied them and requested for bail. Magistrate Idayat Akanni granted the accused bail in the sum of N50,000 with a reliable surety in like sum, who must reside within the court's jurisdiction and swear to an affidavit to produce the accused in court on the adjourned date.

The case was adjourned to May 5 for hearing.

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WATER STORAGE SYSTEMS



## ...As 22-yr-old denies stealing bag

By Usman A. Bello & Doris Afoma West

A 22-year-old man, Anthony Iloko, last Tuesday denied stealing a bag from one Cecilia Mohammed at Wuse Bus stop, Abuja.

The accused of no fixed address and two others at large were arraigned on a two-count charge of joint act and theft, offences punishable under Sections 79 and 287 of the Penal Code Law.

Prosecutor Francis Tanko had earlier told the court that on April 17, Cecilia reported to the police that while he was at Wuse Bus stop waiting for

a commercial vehicle, the accused stole her bag containing N21,000, phone valued at N11,000, hospital card as well as some wears.

He said after stealing the items, the accused passed them to his accomplices who ran away, before he was arrested.

The accused pleaded not guilty and requested for bail, which was objected by the prosecutor, who told the court that the police are yet to track down his accomplices.

Magistrate Anne Katsina Aliu remanded the accused in prison custody and adjourned the case to May 5 for hearing.

## FRSC blames over speeding for accidents

By Misbahu Bashir

THE Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) has blamed over speeding and impatience as the major cause of accidents in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

This was disclosed by the FCT Sector Commander, Nseobong Akpabio, who lamented that such road crashes have led to the death of young persons.

Akpabio made the remarks in Abuja at the weekend, during the presentation of an award to him by the National Youth Progressive Forum.

He revealed that road accident is the leading cause of deaths among young people between the ages of 14 and 45 years, adding that most accidents are caused by poor attitudes of drivers to obey traffic regulations.

He said over speed-

ing and impatience have been identified as the most prevalent among the causes of crashes.

"World Health Organization 2007 report says nearly 400,000 people under the age 25 are killed each year in crashes and millions more are injured or disabled with vast majority occurring in low and middle income countries," he stated.

Akpabio warned that unless a more comprehensive global action is taken, the number of deaths and injuries are likely to rise significantly, adding that the FRSC has began a safety campaign in line with the United Nations call for more action to reduce death by at least 50 percent.

President of the Forum, Onivehu Sunday, said the association acknowledged the efforts of the FRSC in Abuja in road management.

# Two in court over transformer oil theft

By Romoke W. Ahmad

A electrician and a security guard were last Wednesday arraigned before an Abuja Grade 1 Area Court for alleged joint act and theft, offences contrary to Sections 79 and 289 of the Penal Code Law.

Ibrahim Ishaku, 25, of Jikwoyi Phase II and Edwin

Egegwu, 52, of MBH Power Station at CBN junction, Karu, were accused of committing the offences on April 6 and arrested the same date.

Prosecutor Umar Muhammed told the court that on April 6, Engr. Ademola Adebayo, a site engineer at MBH Power Station, reported to the police that the accused persons stole three

drums of transformer oil valued at N360,000 and ran away until they were arrested.

The accused persons denied the charges and requested for bail.

Judge Salisu Garba ordered their remand in prisons custody pending the formal application for their bail and adjourned the case to May 5 for hearing.

## Group prays for victims of sectarian crises

By Usman A. Bello

GLOBAL Initiative for Peace love and Care at tr weekend in Abuja prayed for victims who lost their lives in various sectarian crises in the country.

Coordinator of the group, Nuhu Kwajafe, said they decided to organize the prayer session in order to create awareness and foster unity among religious groups,

so that they live peacefully with one another as well as shun killing each other.

He stressed that since the group visited affected areas engulfed by crises and saw what happened, it to come together in order to pray for all those that died in it.

He said the group will also pray continuously to avert such crises from re-occurring in the country.

"Citizen of the country should change their attitudes and contribute their quota in complementing government's efforts towards achieving peace as no religion preaches violence but unity," he said

He called on the youths to engage themselves in productive activities rather than allowing themselves to be used to cause destruction in the country.



MEMBERS of St. Kizito's Catholic Church Parish Hausa Choir during the launching of their first Music Album at Kuje, yesterday.

## AUMTCO rewards best drivers

By Ogechi Ohalee

THE Abuja Urban Mass Transport Company (AUMTCO) at the weekend rewarded the company's best performing drivers with gift items and certificates.

Awards were given for honesty, hard work, comportment, neatness, caring for vehicles, accident free as well as best over -all drivers.

In his speech at the event, AUMTCO's Managing Director, Barrister Ibrahim Junju, restated the determination of the FCT Administration to provide efficient transport system to residents of the FCT.

He said the new FCT minister has identified the transport sector as one of his priority, adding that a committee inaugurated by the minister to provide a road map for the development of various departments in the ministry was a demonstration of the minister's

determination to encourage competence.

Junju disclosed that AUMTCO intends to build a medical center in the company's headquarters in order to meet up with the medical needs of staff in the face of enormous challenges poised by illness in the country.

Also speaking, Ibrahim Dauda, acting head of operation, commended the managing director for organizing the award ceremony, adding that efforts done in the past to encourage staff of the organization was abortive.

He said the present award ceremony is meant to enhance performance among staff, considering the lapses observed in the daily operations in the transport sector.

The winner of the over-all best drivers' award, Johnbull Oloyinbo, who also appeared in three categories of awards, said he fulfilled all requirements to earn him the prestigious award.

### NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF QUANTITY SURVEYORS **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### ALL COMMERCIAL BANKS & THE PUBLIC

It has come to public knowledge that some members of the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS) are trying to manipulate the laid-down financial processes and procedures of the Institute in order to satisfy certain unofficial ends.

The general public, particularly ALL COMMERCIAL BANKS are hereby advised that no person or persons have been authorized to open ANY new account for the Nigerian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (NIQS).

Therefore any attempt by any person or persons purporting to act on behalf of themselves or the Institute to open such accounts are unauthorized and such requests should be discarded.

For avoidance of doubt, the accounts of the Institute are:

S/N	Bank	Address	Account Number
1	Zenith Bank Plc	244/246 Herbert Macauley Street, Lagos	6019204141
2	UBA Plc	Oke-arin, Lagos	01130030000123
3	Stanbic IBTC Bank Plc	Adetokumbo Ademola, Victoria Island, Lagos	1111398281
4	First Bank Plc	NIJ House, Victoria Island, Lagos	2432030000781

Anyone, particularly members wishing to make payments to the Institute are advised to note the above accounts and pay into any of them as at when any demand for any payment is made.

This notice serves as a warning to any commercial bank that may be so otherwise approached.

O. Adebola  
Secretary-General

A.W.A. Akewushola  
Treasurer



### TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF NIGERIA (TCN) PUBLIC NOTICE

#### RE-INVITATION FOR THE SUBMISSION OF QUOTATIONS FOR THE SUPPLY OF TOYOTA AND LAND ROVER VEHICLES

### ADDENDUM

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Management of the Transmission Company of Nigeria (TCN), wishes to withdraw the recent advertisement titled "Invitation For The Submission Of Quotations For The Supply of Toyota And Land Rover Vehicles", published in the; Federal Tenders Journal - page 28, Daily Trust - page 45, Punch - page 73 and page 43 of Daily Champion newspapers, on Monday, the 19th of April, 2010.

Management regrets all inconveniences to agents who might have commenced preparation to respond to the said advertisement.

SIGNED:  
MANAGEMENT  
TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF NIGERIA (TCN)

# Vacancy

A private limited company in Abuja licensed with the sole objective of carrying on the business of Pension Fund Administration (PFA) as defined under the Pension Reform Act 2004.

As part of a strategic move to grow and strengthen this organisation, there are outstanding opportunities for qualified, experienced and resourceful persons to complete its team. Applicants must have a genuine passion for delivering outstanding relationship management and be a team player committed to producing quality work even during busy times.

Applicants must be resident in Abuja.

1. DEPARTMENT - INVESTMENT STRATEGY  
POST - HEAD, INVESTMENT STRATEGY

#### DUTIES:

- Establish strategies towards the construction of fund portfolio in line with standard portfolio management techniques and within regulatory guidelines.
- Daily management of the portfolio in line with stated objectives and in compliance with the portfolio policy statement.
- Manage relationships with third party service providers.
- Preparation of relevant monthly, quarterly and annual reports for clients, regulators and internal use.
- Manage relationship with clients, pension fund custodian and regulators.
- Use research tools to make recommendations on portfolio assets and securities selection.

#### QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE/SKILLS:

- Bachelors degree with major course work in Business Administration, Accounting and/or Social Sciences.
- Membership of the chartered institute of stock brokers is an added advantage.
- Minimum of 10 years work experience in the financial services industry, preferably in capital market, corporate finance, treasury, asset management, etc.
- Focused and detailed oriented person.
- Applicant should not be more than 40 years of age.

2. DEPARTMENT - OPERATIONS  
POST - HEAD, OPERATIONS

#### DUTIES:

- Effectively manage and coordinate all activities of the units within the operations department (Customer Care, Call Center, Collections & Schedules, Enrollment/Data Processing, Benefits Administration)
- Ensure that internal and external reports are prepared on time.
- Ensure integrity and security of contributor database
- Management of archive (contributors particulars)
- Timely reconciliation of schedules and payments.
- Producing statements for contributors.

#### QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE/SKILLS

- Bachelors degree with major course work in Business Administration, Accounting and/or Social Sciences.
- Additional qualification will be an added advantage.
- Minimum of 10 years of progressively responsible operations preferably in banking or pension fund administration.
- Analytical skills.
- Process management skills.
- Innovativeness
- Applicant should not be more than 40 years of age.

3. DEPARTMENT - LEGAL  
POST - COMPANY SECRETARY

#### DUTIES:

- Planning and coordinating Board Meetings, Board Committee Meetings, Management Committee Meetings and Annual General Meetings and taking minutes thereof
- Advising the Board and Management on Legal issues affecting the company.
- Ensuring that all statutory filings and records are up to date with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) and National Pension Commission (PENCOM)

#### QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE/SKILLS

- Bachelors degree in Law.
- He/She should be Called to Bar
- Additional qualification will be an added advantage
- Minimum of 7 years post call experience preferably with experience in secretarial functions.
- Applicant should not be more than 35 years of age.

**NOTICE:** All applicants must possess minimum of Second Class Lower first degrees.

**SUBMISSION:** All interested applicants should submit their applications within two weeks of this publication to:

All applications should be sent to [jobsinabuja@hotmail.com](mailto:jobsinabuja@hotmail.com)

# VACANCY

A reputable Hotel in Abuja needs the services of Professional Drivers.

**QUALIFICATION** – Minimum of SSCE  
**WORKING EXPERIENCE** – Minimum of 10yrs and maximum of 25yrs.

Interested and qualified applicants may send their applications to:

**The Human Resources Manager**

P.O.Box 12338

Garki-Abuja

All applications should please get to the above address on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 2010.

Signed:  
Management

## NIGER STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, PMB 109, MOKWA

### INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

This invitation for pre-qualification follows approval in principle by Education Trust Fund (ETF) for 2008, 2009 projects.

Therefore, the College invites interested Contractors to submit the following documents for the purpose of pre-qualification:

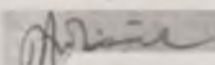
- Certificate of incorporation of Company
- Up to date registration with the College
- Tax clearance certificate for the last three (3) years
- Evidence of past performance of the Company
- Company profile, financial, technical, equipment and managerial capacity to handle the project
- Audited account for the company signed by banker
- Evidence of VAT registration

Lot No.	Contract No.	Item Description	Duration
01	NSCOA/MOKWA/ETF/08-08/01	Construction of an ICT complex	4 months
02	NSCOA/MOKWA/ETF/08-09/02	Supply, installation and fitting of ICT Equipments	1 month
03	NSCOA/MOKWA/ETF/08-09/07	Supply and installation of Laboratory and Irrigation equipments	1 month

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

- This is not an invitation to tender
- Only technically qualified firms whose documents fulfill the minimum requirement will be invited to tender for the proposed project

Prospective contractors should submit the sealed documents to the College within 14 days from date of this advertisement.

  
Signed  
DR. M.T. NAGYA  
PROVOST

# Inside Politics

## 'CPC will end PDP rule in Bauchi'



ALHAJI Abdullahi Usman Dan-China

From Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Kano

ALHAJI Abdullahi Usman Dan-China is aspiring to be governor of Bauchi State on the platform of the Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) in the 2011 elections. In this interview in Kano, Dan-China explains why he joined CPC, and alleged that opposition parties are not allowed to campaign freely in Bauchi.

**T**here is some kind of confusion regarding your governorship aspiration, whether you are in the race or not. What is the true situation?

It is clear, I have declared my party and it is the Congress for Progressive Change (CPC). I didn't declare for the PDP or the ANPP all this while because I was waiting for a new party to emerge. We have seen the performances of these two parties and I don't think we can go along with them. Therefore, I declared for CPC and if you watch my posters you can confirm that. My reason for joining the new party is this: the quality of the leadership of the party itself and that of its elders. In the history of Nigeria we know some reputable leaders that have brought progress for the country and have been commended by all. They are the leaders we want to follow, because we want to take good steps and we want to be good to people not for our own personal interest. So, when we found out that one of the elders of the party is the person we want see at the helm of affairs of Nigeria, that is Major General Muhammadu Buhari, we decided to throw in our lot into the party. We have seen many other ex-presidents of Nigeria and we know their houses and we see how rich they are. Meanwhile, everyone can

asses Buhari as a former head of state; he does not care about people's property; he does not care about acquiring wealth, he is just a simple and gentleman. Buhari is the best among most of our leaders because he only cares about what will touch the lives of the people directly, not stealing their money.

**W**hat was your supporters' reaction to your declaration to contest on CPC's platform?

A lot of officials from other parties have declared for CPC since I joined. And I'm assuring you there will be no more PDP or ANPP in Bauchi State in the next few months because of our declaration to CPC. As it is now, many stalwarts of these parties have been defecting to CPC in Bauchi and more will come as soon as I start campaigning openly. A lot of personalities in PDP will declare for CPC the very day my campaign kicks off.

**H**ow prepared is the party given that elections are approaching?

We have made a lot of efforts on that. We have been educating the people about the manifesto of this party. And I don't think we have so much work to do in that regard, because the people in the CPC are well known and highly respected. Nonetheless, I keep telling people about the party and its ideologies wherever I go, in Bauchi or elsewhere. So far the response has been very positive, because the people are tired of all those old parties that have not brought any positive impact to their lives. One cannot rule out challenges in politics. But I think with the caliber of people in the party, and we are not lazy, we will try our best and see that CPC wins most states in

Nigeria.

**M**any people in Bauchi seem to be uncomfortable with your entry into the governorship race and this is probably why your posters are being removed or defaced. What really is the problem?

What is happening in Bauchi can be explained thus: CPC is a new party in the state and the candidate of the party is seen as a challenge to the present PDP government. We are surprised too at the manner; they remove our posters; we have never seen that in any democracy anywhere in the world where thugs and security agencies are used to perpetrate these acts. But since we have seen security personnel doing it, we as CPC members, thought by our leaders to always be law abiding, we are abiding by the law and will not be pushed to be confrontational. However, we are writing to Inspector General of Police, the National Assembly and the Presidency. We want to know why it is so. We also want to inquire why it is only in Bauchi that parties are not allowed to campaign, whereas in other states parties are allowed to campaign. I have been to Kano, Zamfara, Okene, Ibadan, Lagos and they are campaigning, but I don't know why it is not so in my state. We will paste posters and they will tear it up. That is not ideal and that is not democracy.

**W**ho do you think is responsible for that?

We don't know. But the government in power is supposed to take action against the practice. The state government has to address that problem. It has to stop the destruction of posters. However, Bauchi people and my supporters should know that I will not retreat from the contest until the end. Secondly, they should remain law abiding and contribute to the rising of Bauchi to the status of a reputable state with a reputable name.

**S**ome people believe that Kano, and not Bauchi, is your political base. Why is this so?

Bauchi is my political base and not Kano. One of my wives is here in Kano; so my coming here all the time is solely to be with my family. But my political base is Bauchi, my home state. That is where I do the political consultations on my aspiration for the state governorship. Similarly, I use to visit all the local government areas in Bauchi to rub minds with my supporters and other people from all walks of life with a view to understanding their needs. Often, I meet with the masses to hear problems. These people mostly don't know who I'm; but I parley with them and get ideas about their peculiar problems and needs. I don't come to Kano for politics. Beside my wife, the other reason that brings me here is my factory, which I supervise.

## Thousands leave PDP for ANPP in Borno

AROUND 5000 supporters of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) on Saturday decamped to the All Nigeria People's Party (ANPP) in Damboa Local Government Area of Borno, the *News Agency of Nigeria* (NAN) reported.

The decampers were led by the former North-East zone secretary of PDP Alhaji Kolomi Damboa at a ceremony organised by ANPP at the town market square.

Alhaji Kolomi while speaking at the occasion said that he decided to join ANPP because of the way and manner the party has contributed to the development of Borno.

"The administration of Governor Ali Sheriff has contributed greatly to every aspects of life in

Borno. It has build thousand of houses and hospital across the state. Even the common man in the state is feeling the impact of ANPP government as boreholes and clinics have been building rural areas in the state," he said.

He donated 60 motorcycles, 30 bicycles to the party to enable ANPP excel in the forthcoming general elections.

Sheriff while receiving the decampers assured them of giving them all the necessary support that will make them satisfied in the party.

He called on other people to equally declare their support for ANPP in 2010 poll to enable the party continue its developmental strides for the state.

## 'Masari group will seek redress over PDP suspension'

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

THE PDP Reform Forum will challenge the recent suspension of some of its leaders by the party's national secretariat because the action violated laid down procedures and the party's constitution, Alhaji Namadi Musa, the secretary of the forum's strategy committee, said yesterday.

In an interview with *Daily Trust*, Musa said that the forum will first explore all party channels, including the board of trustees, in order to seek redress. If the forum does not get justice, members will head for the court, he added.

The "issue of the non appearance of Masari, Nnamani and co, before the working committee should have been taken to the disciplinary committee. The committee should have sat down, looked at the issue and if need be, write a warning letter to our leaders," he said.

Musa said suspension can only be handed down after three of

such letters have been issued and ignored, according to the PDP constitution.

The secretary of the strategy committee also said that the term "indefinite suspension" which was given to some members of the group is alien to the party's constitution.

Musa said although Masari and co were not properly invited to appear before the NWC as most of them just read of the invitation on the pages of the newspapers, they nonetheless asked to be given a new date because the date that they were asked to appear before the national executive clashed with the meeting of the forum. However, the party refused their requests but went ahead to suspend members of their group, he noted.

He said the reform forum's agitation for change was aimed at freeing the party executive from bondage and giving them relevance. "This independence will bring about internal democracy in PDP," he added.

## I'm not going anywhere in 2011, Doma says

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

GOVERNOR Aliyu Akwe Doma said he is not going anywhere outside the Nasarawa State Government House in Lafia after the 2011 elections but would remain there to serve his people.

The governor, who was responding to questions from newsmen in Jos shortly after being conferred with an honorary doctorate degree by the University of Jos, said the question of where he would be in 2011 does not arise as he is going to remain in the government house beyond 2011.

A reporter had asked the governor what would be his priority since he has only a year to go and the governor retorted: "Where am I going? I am not going anywhere. I am going to remain where I am in 2011 and beyond. I am going to remain to consolidate on the 13 point agenda I have for the people. So I am not going anywhere," he said.

The governor said in the remaining one year of his present tenure, he would concentrate on boosting agriculture, improving healthcare delivery, raising the standard of education and ensuring peace and good governance.

# TRUST CLASSIFIED

## LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

I, Hajliya Lami D. I. Suleiman of No. 69 Zazzau Street, Shagari Low Cost, Barnawa Kaduna hereby notifying the general public of the loss of the following Land Documents

(Conveyance of Provisional Approval):-

1. Plot No. C130 of about 1200m<sup>2</sup> in Bwari Tudun Fulani Layout.
  2. Plot No. 248 of about 600m<sup>2</sup> in Chikakore (Byazhim) Kubwa-Layout.
  3. Plot No. A83 of about 180m<sup>2</sup> in Bwari, Tudun Fulani Layout, all in Bwari Area Council, Abuja.
- All efforts made to trace the documents proved abortive. Bwari Local Government Council and general public to take note.

Signed:  
Hajliya Lami D. I. Suleiman.

## MASS TRANSIT DRIVERS ASSOCIATION BAUCHI

The general public is hereby notified that the above association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part 'C' of the companies and Allied matters Act of 1990.

### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Alhaji Murtala Mohammed Tahir
2. Alhaji Mohammed Bello Kirfi

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To create awareness to the drivers on road rules and regulations
  2. To unite drivers of the association and to enhance and to protect the passengers.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:  
Secretary

## SOCIETY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION AND ADVANCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the above named Society has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part c of the companies and allied matters act No. 1 of 1990.

### The trustees are:

1. Olorimoyo Ilembola Franklin
2. Obanoye Emmanuel Oladipo
3. Oluwatimilehin Henry
4. Victor Oluwasanmi

### Aims and objectives:

1. For environmental analysis, preservation, and afforestation practices.
2. Proper planning and public awareness about global warming and climate change.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight 28 days from the date of this publication.

Signed:  
Barr. Seun Ojo

## NEW LIFE ASSEMBLY

This is to inform the general public that the above named Assembly has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the companies and allied matters act no. 1 of 1990

### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Pastor Victor Obidinma - General Overseer
2. Mr. Henry Ezenwa
3. Nimma Alamza Egun
4. Mrs. Rita Ifenyinwa Obidinma

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To proclaim the good news of salvation to mankind.
2. To lend a hand of home, support widows, orphans and the less privileged in our society.
3. To establish academic institutions for proper and formal training of youths in various fields of endeavour.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight 28 days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:  
Messrs Jade Consults  
23 Durban Street, Wuse II, Abuja  
09-8786700

## LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public of the Loss of the Offer terms of Grant/Conveyance of approval with No MFCT/LA/92/MISC-1037 in respect of a plot of about 50HA along Dobilzom road, Abuja. Belonging to Karildbert Holdings Limited was missing on the 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2009. All efforts made to trace the documents proved abortive. If found

## LOSS OF C of O

This is to notify the general public of the loss of C of O No. GM/1643 in respect of a plot of land at GDP/5 Gombe held by Ahmed Umar Guruel of Gombe Main Market which was lost around November, 2009 in Gombe. If found please contact the nearest police station or the Gombe state Ministry of Land and Survey.

## SOUL SPORTS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part c of the companies and allied matters act No. 1 of 1990.

### The trustees are:

1. Mr. M. A. O. Ojikutu - Chairman
2. Dr. O. O. Owolana - Secretary
3. Mrs. O. Oladugba - Member
4. Mr. O. Babalola
5. Mr. E. Lawson
6. Miss Chidi Kechi Oduji
7. Mr. A. O. Kay-Dawodu
8. Mr. Alinloye Oyibanji

### Aims and objectives:

1. To promote sports and sporting events in Nigeria.
2. To encourage youths through sports.
3. To enlighten the youths on the importance of recreational activities in general.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight 28 days from the date of this publication.

Signed:  
Barr. Shalewa Abiona  
08033451518

## DAY SPRING ASSEMBLY

This is to inform the general public that the above named Church has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for removal of a Trustee under the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990

### OLD TRUSTEES

1. Pastor Harrison Charles - Retained
2. Pastor Simon Ezeagu - Retained
3. Pastor Aloysius Nnamani - Removed
4. Evangelist Richard Okeke - Retained
5. Brother Livinus Chukwuma - Retained

Reason: The Trustee member was removed because he has left the Church.

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. The teaching and spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the whole world.
2. Advancement of the religion and other related social activities for the benefit of mankind.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight 28 days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:  
Pastor Harrison Charles  
General Superintendent

## LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to inform the general public that the Original copy of Certificate of Pioneer Status belonging to GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE NIGERIA LIMITED and issued by NIGERIAN INVESTMENT PROMOTION COUNCIL is missing. All efforts made to trace the missing documents proved abortive. If found please contact the nearest Police Station. NIPC take note.

Signed:  
THOMAS NKA, ESQ  
Solicitor.  
Tel: 08051726293

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the Original Certificate of Occupancy of BO/4793 Plot 60 on BOTP/75 POMPOMARI N.E. Medium density layout belonging to Umar Othman Ja'afar M. of NO. 14 Dipcharima old GRA Maiduguri got missing along Baga Motor Park. All efforts made to trace it proved abortive, if found, please contact the nearest police station.

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly MISS. HANNATU DAUDA, Now wish to be known as MRS. HANNATU JONATHAN WAKAWA. All formal documents remain valid. Division of College of Agriculture, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, NYSC and general public note.

I formerly known as YUSUF ABUBAKAR now wish to be known as ABDUSALAMI MAGAJI. All former documents remain valid. Glad Local Govt. Council and general public to note.

I, formerly known as AISHA ZUBAIRU YAKUBU, Now wish to be called AISHA LAMI UMAR, All former documents remain valid THE NIGERIAN TELECOMMUNICATION LIMITED, and general public should take note.

Formerly known as MISS FLORENCE ADA NWOKE now wish to be known as MRS FLORENCE CHIDI UWAKOLAM. All documents remain valid. General public to note

Formerly known as MISS RITA RIJAM, now wished to be known as MISS ELIZABETH KURASON. All former documents remain valid. College of Education, Jalingo and general public please take note.

I, formerly known as ADEBAYO IGE CECILIA now wish to be called as OLORUNSAYE IGE CECILIA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly called MISS OZOKWELU CHIOMA FLORENCE now to be called MRS. ONWUTALU CHIOMA FLORENCE. Former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general to please note.

I, formerly called MISS RAMATU MUAZU HARUNA now to be called MRS. RAMATU YAKUBU UMAR. Former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general to please note.

I, formerly called MISS NOAMI IBRAHIM now to be called MRS. AISHA LAWAL. Former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general to please note.

I, formerly called AISHA S. GUJIYA now to be called AISHA BALA BAZATA. Former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general to please note.

I, formerly MISS MOMOH KURIYETU OHUNENE now wish to be called MRS SANNI KURUYETU OHUNENE. NYSC, ABU Zaria, and general public to take note.

I, formerly MISS PAULINE AIWEZIGHO ODUAH now wish to be known as MRS PAULINE AIWEZIGHO SUNDAY ORUKPE EBHOTEMEN. All former documents remain valid LGEA Suleja and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as MR DANJUMA TITUS now wish to be known as MR DENIS TITUS. All former documents remain valid, Health Centre and public take note.

I, formerly MISS BUKOLA ODEWALE wish to be called and addressed as MRS BUKOLA OGUIKE. All former documents remain valid. NIGER STATE GOVERNMENT and General public take note.

I, formerly known as FATIMA MUJAMMED BABA ZIMA now wish to be called FATIMA MUBARAK ABUBAKAR ALHASSAN. All former documents remain valid NYSC, general public take note.

I, formerly known as AISHAT A. J. MAHMUD now AISHAT ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS HAFSAT MUKTAR now wish to be called MRS HAFSAT JAMILU. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and public to note.

I, formerly RUQAYYAT MAMMAN, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS RUQAYYAT ABDULMALIK .A. BADAMASUIY. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS EUGINA AGBONYEMEN OKHIDE now wish to be called MRS EUGINA AGBONYEMEN YERO. All former documents remain valid. Maiduguri Innovative School & General public take note.

**THIS SPACE IS  
FOR SALE**

## SPORT

Ike Uche  
is back!

Page 60



# Obasi strikes twice

## ■ As Hoffenheim thrash Hamburg 5-1

By Ismaila Lere, with Agency reports

SUPER Eagles forward Chinedu Obasi Ogbuke and Vedad Ibisevic both scored twice to guide Hoffenheim to a convincing 5-1 victory over 10-man Hamburg in the Bundesliga yesterday.

Obasi amplified his claim for a place in Nigeria's World Cup squad ahead of the pre-Mundial build up in few weeks time with a stellar performance.

But it was Obasi's strike partner, Ibisevic, who drew the first blood as

Hamburg, conceded twice in the opening 11 minutes as Ibisevic grabbed an early brace.

Both of Obasi's goals took advantage of poor defending.

Both of Obasi's goals took advantage of poor defending, particularly for his second goal when the Nigerian was allowed to go one-on-one with Hamburg goalkeeper Frank Rost, who stood no chance, on 73 minutes.

Robert Tesche's goal for Hamburg sandwiched strikes by Obasi before Sejad Salihovic added a fifth for Hoffenheim.

Tolgay Arslan was shown the red card in the 89th minute for Hamburg, which remains in seventh place with 48 points. Hoffenheim is in 11th place, with results on Saturday securing its status in the top flight for another season.

HOFFENHEIM Nigerian striker Chinedu Ogbuke Obasi celebrates after scoring his second goal against SV Hamburg yesterday.

"We wanted to put Hamburg under pressure right away, and we did that," said Ibisevic, whose team ended a seven-match winless streak in which they scored only two goals.

Hamburg was playing three days after being held 0-0 by Fulham in the first leg of its European semifinal.

Striker Mladen Petric said: "I'm without words—we wanted to do something today. But it was tough to come out and then concede a goal right away at a time when we are not in the best of spirits."



OBASI, left, scores his side's third goal against Hamburg's keeper Frank Rost.

## North East endorses Lulu

By Ismaila Lere

THE football administrators in the North East geo-political zone have unanimously endorsed Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) President Sani Lulu Abdullahi for a second term in office ahead of the NFF election scheduled for August this year.

Also endorsed are Lulu's lieutenants in the Glass House, namely,

Amanze Uchebulam (First Vice President) and Taiwo Ogunjobi (Chairman, Technical Committee) for a second term in the NFF board.

The meeting, which took place in Gombe on Friday evening, was attended by FA Chairmen and Secretaries of the six states comprising the North East zone, namely, host Gombe, Adamawa, Taraba, Bauchi,

Borno and Yobe.

Reports indicated that all stakeholders at the meeting expressed satisfaction with the performance of the present NFF board and assured Lulu and other members of their support in the NFF election come August.

This followed earlier unanimous endorsements by North West and South Eastern zones.

Also present at the Gombe meeting were Lulu, Uchebulam, Ogunjobi, NFF Secretary-General Bolaji Ojo-Oba and some NFF management staff.

Sani Lulu's administration has won six major trophies including silver medals at the Beijing Olympics and FIFA U-17 World Cup as well as qualification for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.



LULU

# Ike Uche is back!

■ **Eagles striker was a 74th min. sub for Zaragoza against Real Madrid on Saturday**

SUPER Eagles striker Ikechukwu Uche Saturday night staged a welcomed return to the game after over seven months sidelined by a major knee injury.

Uche was a 74th minute substitute for Spanish club Real Zaragoza at home to Real Madrid.

Uche ended up on the losing side as title-chasing Real won 2-1, but it

was certainly a good run-out for the Aba-born star.

The 26-year-old Uche was joint top scorer for Nigeria in the qualifying tournament for the 2010 World Cup with four goals before he injured his knee in a league game against Sevilla in September.

Uche had surgery to fix his left knee and resumed full training on March 24.

The injury meant Uche missed Nigeria's last two qualifiers at home against Mozambique and away to Kenya.

"It was great fun playing alongside my teammates again. I feel fine.

"I am grateful to my club, teammates, club fans, every Nigerian out there including my national team-mates because they have all stood by me," he said.

The striker has now been picked in a provisional 44-man squad for the World Cup in June.

It was certainly a good run-out for the Aba-born star



REAL Zaragoza's Nigerian striker Ikechukwu Uche marked his return from knee injury on Saturday against Real Madrid.

## Lagos fiesta enters crucial stage

THE 2010 Lagos State Sports Festival tagged "Ibile 2010 Games" enter its crucial stage at the weekend with several events nearing their final stages.

The Sports Festival which is being organized by the Lagos State Sports Council had the preliminaries some key team events such as basketball and football concluded while such individual events such as Judo, Taekwondo and Boxing are at the medal stages.

The festival which will be round off Friday is expected to put the state athletes in competitive mood ahead the zonal elimination of the 17th National Sports Festival coming up soon in Ogun State.

Hon. Agboola Dabiri, Chairman, Lagos State Sports Council confirmed that the Ibile 2010 sports month is tailored towards the discovery and development of budding talents in the state.

Hon. Dabiri maintained that talents discovered would be trained to represent the state at the national Sports Festival in Rivers State later in the year.

The Sports Council chairman gave assurance that the Sports Council is poised to organize a hitch-free festival which attracted more than 25, 000 athletes from the 57 Local Government Areas and Local Council Development Areas of the state.

It will be recalled that the state government successfully hosted three editions of the festival in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

## ...Nwankpa thumbs-up fiesta

NIGERIA national Boxing coach, Obisia Nwankpa has given a pass mark to the Lagos Government through the Lagos State Sports Council at the weekend during the Boxing event of the IBILE 2010 Lagos State Sports Festival for a job well-done.

Nwankpa, one of Nigeria foremost boxing coach, told our correspondent that he is impressed with the number of raw talents on display by the various Local Governments participating in the Lagos Sports Month.

According to the former Commonwealth Boxing Champion, Lagos State is definitely living up to the billing as the hub of talent discovery in Nigeria.

The national coach watched the young boxers thrilled at the large crowd that gathered at the sports hall of the Mobolaji Johnson Sports Centre, Rowe Park at the weekend.

"For what I have seen so far this evening (Saturday) at the Lagos State Sports Festival, it shows that Nigeria is blessed with abundant of raw talents and I want to praise the effort of the Lagos State Government, the Lagos State Sports Ministry and the Lagos State Sports Council for a job well-done.

## Kebede wins London marathon

OLYMPIC bronze medallist Tsegaye Kebede of Ethiopia denied Kenya a seventh successive London men's marathon title with an untroubled victory in two hours, five minutes and 19 seconds.

Kebede, who finished second to Olympic gold medallist Sammy Wanjiru last year after a fierce battle over the final stages, was grouped with two other Kenyans Abel Kirui and

Emmanuel Mutai at the 35 kms mark.

Mutai dropped back and Kebede and Kirui then fought for the lead with Kebede eventually proving too strong for the world champion and running unchallenged for the final 10 kms.

Six Kenyan pacemakers spread themselves across the front of the field from the start in cool, damp weather at Greenwich Park, urged on

by Wanjiru running in a black vest.

The leading pack crossed Tower Bridge in just under an hour and passed the halfway mark in 63:06 with Kirui and Mutai at the front.

Wanjiru, who had missed a month's speed training this year because of a back injury, faded at the 25 kms mark, Mutai dropped back and the race resolved into a final duel between Kirui and Kebede.



TSEGAYE Kebede

## SCOREBOARD

### Football

#### Nigeria Premier League

Rangers 1, 3SC 0  
Gombe 1, Wikki 0  
Bayelsa 2, Pillars 1  
Zamfara 2, Lobi 1

#### English Premier League

Chelsea 7, Stoke City 0  
Burnley 0, Liverpool 4  
Everton 2, Fulham 1  
A. Villa 1, Birmingham 0  
Arsenal 0, Man City 0  
Serie A  
Livorno 3, Catania 1

Juventus 3, Bari 0

Udinese 4, Siena 1

Napoli 0, Cagliari 0

Fiorentina 0, Chievo 2

Genoa 1, Lazio 2

#### Bundesliga

Hoffenheim 5, Hamburger 1

Werder Bremen 1, Köln 0

#### La Liga

Sp. Gijón 0, Valladolid 2

Almeria 0, Espanyol 1

Mallorca 1, Málaga 1

Santander 1, Villarreal 2

### Ligue 1

Lens 1, Valenciennes 1

Toulouse 0, Auxerre 3

PSG 1, Rennes 1

#### Portuguese SuperLiga

Nacional 1, FC Paços 1

Leixões 1, Académica 3

Benfica 5, Olhanense 0

Setúbal 2, FC Porto 5

#### Jupiler League

Genk 2, Beerschot 0

Charleroi 1, Liège 0

Mechelen 1, Westerlo 3

Cercle Brugge 1, Lokeren 1

STVV 1, Waregem 2

### Tennis

ATP Barcelona

Verdasco - Söderling 6-3, 4-6, 6-3

### Fed-Cup

Errani - Hradecká 6-4, 6-2

Pennetta - Šafářová 7-6, 6-2

### Rome Masters

Chardy - Tipsarevic 6-4,

6-4

Seppi - Fognini 6-0, 6-3

Hanescu - Berrer 6-2, 6-7, 6-3



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## UPCOMING TRAINING WORKSHOPS: INVITATION OF NOMINATIONS

The current economic meltdown demands thoroughness and prudence in the management of projects and ongoing operations. Therefore professionals in the public and private sectors need regular updating of their skills and constant exposure to new methods and procedures. These workshops have been designed to assist individuals and organisations to sharpen their skills.

SN	TOPICS	VENUE	DATE (2010)
1.	Managing Civil and Structural Engineering Projects	Abuja	April 27 - 29
2.	Expediting Road Construction and Rehabilitation Projects	Abuja	May 11 - 13
3.	Technical Writing for Project Managers	Abuja	May 25 - 27
4.	Design, Construction and Maintenance of Concrete Structures	Lagos	June 8 - 10
5.	Structural Engineering for Non-Structural Engineers	Lagos	June/July 29 - 1
6.	Managing the Design & Construction Phases of Engineering Projects	Ado-Ekiti	August 3 - 5
7.	Equipment Selection and Management for Construction Projects	Abuja	August 17 - 19
8.	Design of Bridges and Flyovers	Abuja	September 14 - 16
9.	Maintenance of Buildings and Infrastructure in Tertiary Institutions	Abuja	September 21 - 23
10.	Structural Design of Multi-Storey Buildings in Practice	Akure	September 28 - 30
11.	M&E Equipment Installation, Safety and Maintenance	Lagos	October 5 - 7
12.*	Fundamentals of Crude Oil Production and Refining	Kaduna	October 12 - 15
13.	Design, Construction and Maintenance of Steel Structures	Lagos	October 19 - 21
14.	Construction and Maintenance of Concrete Bridges & Flyovers	Abuja	October 19 - 21
15.	Design of Flexible Pavement for Roads and Airports	Abuja	October 26 - 28
16.	Improving Project Management Skills of Engineers in Public Sector	Minna	November 9 - 11
17.	Design, Construction and Maintenance of Dams	Abuja	November 23 - 25

**FEES:** N48,000 for NSE, NIA, NIOB, NIQS, etc Members, N53,000 others \* N75,000/Participant  
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### 2010/2011 PTDF M.SC OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP LIST

Sequel to the aptitude test conducted in various centres nationwide on **Saturday, March 20, 2010** for the selection of candidates for the award of **PTDF 2010/2011 Overseas Scholarship** in the M.Sc category, the Petroleum Technology Development Fund wishes to inform the general public particularly those who sat for the aptitude test, that the list of successful candidates for the award has been posted on our website [www.ptdf.gov.ng](http://www.ptdf.gov.ng) The candidates whose names appear on the list have been confirmed worthy of the **2010/2011 PTDF Overseas Scholarship** award(M.Sc).

The breakdown is as follows:

- \* 9 awards for each state in the order of performance at the aptitude test = 324
- \* 3 awards for FCT = 3
- \* 4 additional awards for each of the 9 oil endowed states = 36
- = 363**

\* 47 candidates whose awards were deferred last year due to no fault of theirs are accommodated in the **2010/2011** awards while another **40** awards are for Nigerians who are already working in government owned agencies within the oil and gas industry.

In this regard, a total of 450 awards have been made in respect of the **2010/2011 PTDF Overseas Scholarship Scheme (M.Sc)**. Please note that deferred candidates and industry awards are not on the published list.

**SIGNED**  
**MANAGEMENT**

# Rampant Liverpool send Burnley down

BURNLEY were relegated from the Premier League after Steven Gerrard netted a brace at Turf Moor to inspire Liverpool to an emphatic 4-0 win.

The Clarets had their fate sealed with two games remaining after two second half strikes from the Liverpool skipper confirmed Brian Laws's side's fate despite a valiant display.

Burnley dominated the first half and squandered the two best chances, but Gerrard followed a fortunate deflected strike in the 52nd minute with a screamer seven minutes later.

Maxi Rodriguez applied a clinical finish three minutes later before Ryan Babel pounced in stoppage-time to inflict the final blow to the hosts' survival hopes and round off a comprehensive victory for the Reds.

Dirk Kuyt was an isolated figure in attack for Liverpool as Gerrard played deep with Alberto Aquilani and Javier Mascherano further back, and the forward became increasingly frustrated as the first half wore on.

Burnley had by the far the best two chances of the first half, but the hosts lacked the conviction to capitalise on Rafael Benitez's side's uncertainty before the break.

Steven Fletcher headed over the bar after the forward out-muscled Jamie Carragher to meet Martin Paterson's pinpoint

cross in the 27th minute, and the defender was a relieved man.

Gerrard was typically instrumental for the visitors, and the midfielder was denied a fierce volley from the edge of the Burnley box on the half hour as Jack Cork made a stunning block.

The Reds skipper then played a slick one-two with Aquilani as he hurtled into the Burnley box, but his shot was tame and straight at Jensen. Replays suggested that Tyrone Mears inadvertently handled the ball in the box as the move developed, but Liverpool's appeals were stifled.

A second clear-cut opportunity for the hosts to assume a lead going into the break was squandered by Cork, as the midfielder ghosted into the Liverpool box unmarked, but headed straight at Pepe Reina from Wade Elliott's devilish delivery out on the right.

Dirk Kuyt sustained a knee injury just after half-time, and the Dutchman was replaced by Yossi Benayoun as the Reds played the second half without a recognised centre-forward, clearly relieved to have gone into the break unscathed.

Liverpool had considerably more purpose and invention in the second half, and Gerrard took just seven minutes to make his mark: a neat one-two with Aquilani found the midfielder space, before his fierce drive took



Gerrard scored a brace in Burnley rout

a vicious deflection off Leon Cort to wrong-foot the helpless Brian Jensen. If Gerrard's first strike was fortunate, his second was anything but: the Liverpool skipper raced into the Burnley half before unleashing a rasping strike to pick out the bottom corner of Jensen's net from 25 yards.

The hosts were relatively subdued as Liverpool continued to surge forward in their droves from midfield, but Fletcher almost hauled his side back into the contest with a neat turn to beat Carragher, and a low volley which cannoned off Reina's far post and away to safety in the 71st minute.

Liverpool were undeterred by Fletcher's effort, and three minutes later Aquilani slid a pre-

cise through ball into the path of the onrushing Maxi, before the Argentine proceeded to slam a low shot beyond Jensen into the far corner of the net as the visitors assumed a three-goal cushion.

The home fans refused to stream out of the exits as their side battled on valiantly, but Liverpool's victory was given an even more emphatic complexion as Babel beat the offside trap in stoppage-time and beat Jensen to make it four.

The final whistle brought an end to Burnley's brief stint in the top flight, and the Clarets will join Portsmouth in the Championship next season, while Liverpool move to within a point of Manchester City in sixth spot.

## Late penalty wins it for Everton

ERIK Nevland gave Fulham a shock and hardly deserved half-time lead when he capitalised on a Leighton Baines howler, but substitute Victor Anichebe headed home an equaliser just after the break that also might have gone in off Manchester United bound Chris Smalling.

Everton huffed and puffed for a winner but it did not look like coming until Chris Baird put a high boot across the chest of Tim Cahill deep into stoppage time.

The referee was probably correct in awarding the penalty but the attack came from an Everton throw-in that clearly came off Louis Saha.

Arteta stepped up to take the pressure kick, and sent Mark Schwarzer the wrong way to ensure all three points for the Toffees.

Fulham made it clear that their priorities lie in Europe by making nine changes from the team that drew in Hamburg on Thursday night - Baird and Schwarzer the sole survivors.

Everton looked fluid in the opening moments with their busy midfield moving the ball around quickly and after only two minutes Diniyar Bilyaletdinov hit the outside of the post with a volley after Tony Hibbert's fine deep cross from right to left.

However, while Fulham's personnel was somewhat unfamiliar, Roy Hodgson well-oiled sense of organisation was clearly evident. The Londoners struggled to get much possession but they constantly made life difficult for Everton by having two lines of four consistently breaking up the play.

It was hard to see though how they would score, but when they did take the lead, it was well and truly gift-wrapped from Baines in the 35th minute.

The left-back just completely misread his surroundings and played a casual back pass to Tim Howard. He did not see Nevland slip in behind him to nip in ahead of Howard and stab the ball home.

That goal, Fulham's first away goal in the league since early January, seemed to lift them for a spell, and they had the next best chance of the half as Clint Dempsey volleyed over from close range after a fine scooped chip by Stefano Okaka.

Everton meanwhile, were limited to scraps and half-chances with Yakubu and Cahill dragging their best chances wide.

The second-half followed a similar theme but Everton were a little more inventive and also crucially equalised just five minutes after the restart.

Arteta was this time the creator as he stood up a great cross into the six yard box after a flick from Steven Pienaar put him free down the left; Anichebe and Smalling both seemed to get their heads on the ball and while the header lacked power Schwarzer could not adjust his feet in time and the ball crept into the corner.

## Livorno relegated after season of farce

LIVORNO were relegated from Serie A yesterday after producing one of their best displays of the season in a 3-1 home win over Catania, summing up their bizarre campaign.

"This game was completely different to many others because everything went right for us," Livorno striker Cristiano Lucarelli told Sky TV. The Tuscan club returned to the top-flight at the first attempt via the Serie B playoffs last June but it was not long before problems arose.

The Italian league ruled that coach Gennaro Ruotolo did not have the necessary coaching badges to manage in Serie A so Livorno were forced to appoint Vittorio Russo as a figurehead boss even if Ruotolo continued to run team affairs. The pair were sacked in October and replacement Serse Cosmi, complete with stylish flat cap, oversaw a slight pickup in form before resigning in January and then quickly changing his mind.

As relegation began to look inevitable, Cosmi heavily criticised his players and was removed at the start of the month with Ruotolo taking over again.



Scramble, but Anichebe scores... Everton's Nigerian striker Victor Anichebe, centre, scores the equalising goal during their match against Fulham at Goodison Park in Liverpool, England, yesterday.

# Rooney out of United's title bid

## But England striker will make World Cup

WAYNE Rooney looks set to miss the remainder of Manchester United's season - and may not start a match again until England kick off their World Cup campaign in South Africa.

Rooney was ruled out of United's 3-1 victory against Tottenham at Old Trafford yesterday with a groin injury and manager Sir Alex Ferguson said: 'We don't know when he'll be back. We may be looking at two or three weeks.'

Despite Rooney's absence, United returned to the top of the Premier League, two penalties from evergreen Ryan Giggs and a superb finish from Nani seeing off top-four contenders Spurs, whose consolation goal from Ledley King will boost his own World Cup hopes.

Chelsea, now lying two points behind United, play their game in hand against Stoke City this afternoon. But England manager Fabio Capello will be concerned by the absences of both Rooney and United captain Rio Ferdinand, who also has a groin injury.

Rooney, who will receive the PFA Player of the Year award

tonight, is unlikely to be ready to face Sunderland or Stoke in United's final matches. There will be concern whether it is worth risking the 24-year-old, who recently missed games with an ankle injury, in England's two World Cup warmup games against Mexico and Japan towards the end of May.

But Rooney's involvement when England kick off their World Cup campaign against the United States on June 12 is not in doubt. Ferguson said: 'Wayne did his groin on Thursday. We were doing simple possession work and he tweaked it. We got him out on Friday but it wasn't good enough. We have to look at maybe two or three weeks before he can play again.'

Giggs, chasing a record 12th Premier League title, ensured Rooney was not missed yesterday. He settled a tense affair with two nerveless penalties after Spurs had held United for the first 58 minutes. Incredibly, they were the first penalties 36-year-old Giggs has scored in the Premier League.



Blow... Wayne Rooney looks set to miss the remainder of Manchester United's season

# Tevez to walk away if Man. City miss out on Champions League spot

CARLOS Tevez is set to stun Manchester City fans by fighting for a summer move if the club fail to qualify for the Champions League.

Tevez has become increasingly disillusioned at life at Eastlands under manager Roberto Mancini, and his adviser Kia Joorabchian is believed to have contacted some of Europe's leading clubs as a contingency if City miss out on the top four.

City fans will be dismayed by the split between Tevez and Mancini, having taken the 26-year-old striker to their hearts following his arrival from Manchester United at the start of the campaign.

The Argentine has scored 28 goals this season and has been nominated for the PFA Player of the Year award, which will be announced tonight.

Tevez has become increasingly disillusioned at life at Eastlands

But he publicly questioned

the sacking of Mark Hughes in a recent interview and openly disagreed with Mancini's decision to make the players train twice a day.

He also voiced his displeasure about City using his image in a provocative 'Welcome to Manchester' poster campaign.

Significantly, Joorabchian, an important figure in Tevez's life, has fallen out with the hierarchy at City following the departure of Hughes and will not be averse to finding Tevez a new club if instructed to do so.

Real Madrid and Inter Milan will be among the contenders to sign him, but there could also be a surprise move from Liverpool,

even though their own Champions League hopes are slim.

Liverpool hope the fact that Tevez's friend and Argentina team-mate Javier Mascherano is at the club will boost their chances, although the player would have to kick up a real fuss at Eastlands before City allowed him to move to Anfield for a cut-price £18million.

Mascherano is in contract talks with Liverpool but negotiations have dragged on for weeks.

Manager Rafa Benitez admitted: 'We were very close, but I don't know if something has changed since the last time I spoke to him, which was a few days ago. I still expect him to sign.'



TIME to go? Carlos Tevez has grown increasingly unhappy with life at City under boss Roberto Mancini

## PIER MORGANS Words...

I'VE had a lot of emails from readers wondering what I thought of Gary Neville kissing Paul Scholes after he scored the winner against Manchester City.

Well, let's just say that I found the incident 'confusing'. An accidental peck in the heat of the moment is one thing. But a full, firm, lingering, smacker on the lips, with both hands clasped, adoringly on either cheek, is what they call a 'sexual

game-changer' in America.

Rather than condemn the lovebirds, though, I have to say that I found the whole thing strangely moving. Neville and Scholes are indisputably two of the ugliest men ever to grace a soccer field. And if they've found true love with each other then I'm genuinely happy for them. It was the footballing equivalent of Shrek and Princess Fiona, after the curse was lifted.

Culled from Daily Mail



UGLY moment... Gary Neville finds his ideal partner in Paul Scholes

## GUEST COLUMNIST

By Issa Aremu  
(issaaremu@yahoo.com)

## IBB: The age of his ideas

**N**ot unexpected, the declaration of intent to run for the Nigeria's Presidency next year has made IBB once again the issue. Instant global missiles at his candidature must obviously task the creativity of IBB's handlers. But one thing is crystal clear: his Praetorian Guards have a divisive, albeit conflictual candidate at hands. Nigeria and Nigerians desperately matched on the streets, for immediate removal of Iwu, (the worse electoral referee in history). The hope was that for once a new INEC chairman after Iwu would make votes count. Sadly almost simultaneously IBB's candidature raises the nostalgia of a worst case historic scenario: the spectre of vote annulment, ala June 12<sup>th</sup> 1993. IBB's candidature truly runs in the opposite direction of the new global democratic (climate) change from Europe to America, Africa to Asia. The nation and (indeed the world) clamour for generational shift with increasing newly politicised youths matching for good governance on Lagos and Abuja roads. The age of IBB in contrast raises the prospect of another *Baba syndrome*. *Baba* Obasanjo in 1999 feigned computer ignorance. He arrogantly bullied through disastrous 8-year tenure and he almost discovered the real cause of the protracted national electricity (power) failure when it was *quarter-to-quit time*. He met the nation in darkness and left it unlit. It is doubtful if in 2011, Nigerians would opt for the road so thorny, when they could match forward with the rest of the world with knowledge-driven governance. CNN's Christiana Amanpour's pointed patronizing question to the acting President, Goodluck Jonathan about what the prospects of an IBB's presidential candidature portend for a modern Nigeria tasks national imagination and our patriotism. BIBB (*Baba*IBB) taunts civil war experience as the main qualification for his renewed adventure into power. And that is precisely the problem! Could anybody enlisted to defend the country have done otherwise? The unity of Nigeria was a task dutifully pursued by all Nigerians: then a *Task-that-must-be-Done*. It cannot therefore be so politically privatized. Yes as an elder statesman he deserves the credit. But as a partisan, national unity is a common heritage, unless his political challenger this time around is the former rebel, Chief Odumegwu Ojukwu. The politicisation of the war that cost a million lives is clearly untenable. Not all received wisdoms about experience favour his renewed political adventure though. A time tested old received wisdom says: *Once bitten, twice shy*. Nigerians were certainly bitten more than once under his lost decade in long political experimentation. Proving the difference between *Oga* IBB of the last militarized millennium and *Baba*IBB of the new democratized Millennium adds to the problematic of IBB's handlers. What with the dubious results of SAP (structural Adjustment Programme) and Nigeria's (under) development under his regime? What with callous dissolution of Nigeria Labour Congress and militarization of NLC through a sole administrator? What with broken political promises, (shifts of dates from October 1990 to October 1992) and eventual hurried feverish retreat on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1993? What with aborted hand over to democratically elected governments unlike and General Olusegun Obasanjo (1979) and General Abubakar AbdulSalami (1999)? What with serial bans and unbans of politicians? What with annulment that made an adjudged free and fair election a nullity, according to him in a national broadcast? The winning political slogan of our time is the *man-you-can-trust*? How will IBB invent a winning slogan when trust was so tragically trampled upon under his jack boot feet? With such political feet

of clay, it will be exciting to see how the General can fly? His supporters make fetish of his right to contest. Why on earth saying the obvious in the case of IBB? Goodluck Jonathan (acting President by default) also has the right to contest. But the morality of his (Jonathan's) decision to exercise that right is open to scrutiny. Some think (and legitimately too) it would be clearly opportunistic, self-serving and a clear abuse of doctrine of necessity. Thomas Paine wrote about *Rights of Man*, not about the rights of some unrepentant recycled King Kongs.

In fairness to IBB, he has commendably identified with some critical burning national issues of the day. He is associated with the need for "true" Federalism, "state" police, "small" government, an end to federal character among others. As alluring as these new ideas are, the age of the "new" ideas is as problematic. Is "true" Federalism a new passing fad or genuine commitment to deepening national building? IBB came to power through a coup d'état with the banner of *human rights*. After initial posturing, a fad gave way to serial violation of same human rights while in power. Again we are back to the recurring spectre of trust. Will history repeat itself? Campaign for "true" Federation is today fashionable. But what does it really mean in concrete terms? IBB has not been counted on the part of resource control (which was once the norm during the "true" Federation of the first Republic). He opposes the additional state creations which in the name of "true" Federation. In the past he actually atomised the Federation, from hitherto 19 states to 30 states (by creating a record 11 states between 1987 and 1991). IBB has also openly canvassed for the state police

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and an end to Federal character. The idea of state policing in 2011 is a step backward for Nigeria. Nigeria started during colonial times with local/ regional policing with abysmal records of local oppression and gross rights violations. It has been well studied that "dual systems of policing or multiplicity of police forces" which were the norms during colonial rule are not necessarily embodiments of federalism or democracy. *First, let us reinvent the existing Federal policing through adequate financing, equipments and training before we think of decentralising the police, otherwise we might be decentralizing brutality, extortions and open abuse in the hands of ever intolerant current state governors.* On Federal character, the issue goes beyond simplistic quota admission as taunted by IBB. There has been more equitable distribution of political appointments in the history of the country because of the application of the principle of Federal character. Let us demand that appointments along Federal character go hand in hand with political responsibilities. Political sharing must go hand in hand with wealth generation. The states must contribute to the centre as much as the sons and daughters of soil are willing to take away the spoils. All the above, call for governance, not "small" government. *IBB's call for "small" government underscores an ideologically unhelpful disconnect with the reality in Nigeria today. Nigerians rely desperately on self helps for electricity, power supply and even security. A simplistic romanticization of "lean" governance is a rude reminder of disastrous SAP/Market reform of the recent times.* The world has since moved on from the state/market binary divide IBB chooses to reinvent. The new buzz word is good governance, not big or small government. In any case for somebody who presided over big non-performing governance, including building of political party offices (sorry parastatals) what trust do we put on his new fashionable ideas?

## SPORTS REPORT



FERNANDO Verdasco

## Barcelona Open: Verdasco outmuscles Soderling

**F**ernando Verdasco continued his impressive build-up to the French Open when he outslugged last year's Roland Garros runner-up Robin Soderling to win the Barcelona Open yesterday.

The Spanish fifth seed, ranked one place lower than his Swedish opponent at number nine, showed signs of

fatigue after his run to last week's Monte Carlo Masters final but dug deep to oust second seed Soderling 6-3 4-6 6-3 on another day of warm sunshine at the Reial Club de Tennis.

Left-hander Verdasco started strongly on the Catalan clay and took the first set when a thumping forehand down the line secured a second break of serve.



HAT trick hero...Salomon Kalou celebrates

## Chelsea rout Stoke 7-0, boost title bid

**C**helsea's Premier League title bid was boosted by a 7-0 demolition of Stoke yesterday with Salomon Kalou scoring a hat trick.

Frank Lampard also scored twice, while Daniel Sturridge and Florent Malouda added late goals to give Chelsea a one-point lead over defending champion Manchester United and a goal difference advantage of eight.

Chelsea will win its first championship title since 2006 if it beats Liverpool and Wigan in its last two games.

Stoke goalkeeper Thomas Sorensen was injured trying to block Kalou's second goal. The Danish international was carried off on a stretcher with a suspected fractured elbow.

